

RMC Connection

News from Regional Medical Center

July 2026

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Governing Board of Trustees Update

RMC announces the retirement of Joe Keith from the RMC Governing Board of Trustees. Joe has served our community for nearly 26 years since joining the board on January 15, 2001. Elected as Secretary in 2002, he has been a pillar of leadership for over two decades. As the long-time Secretary, Joe carefully monitored the board's work to ensure clear records and the organization's growth history were maintained. Joe stands as our 3rd longest-serving board member. His dedication was rooted in his desire to ensure RMC remained an up-to-date and well-staffed facility for the area. A lifelong resident of Delaware County, Joe is a retired 7th-grade teacher and coach who is also actively involved in various community organizations. Beyond the boardroom, Joe's consistent commitment to Delaware County is evident in his tireless advocacy for local residents, always championing initiatives that bridge the gap between healthcare needs and community resources. His deep roots and personal investment in the well-being of his neighbors have made him an invaluable asset to our mission. His official retirement date from the board is December 31, 2026. We are profoundly grateful for his unwavering dedication and service to RMC. We wish Joe the very best in his well-deserved retirement!

CEO Update

The State of Rural Healthcare

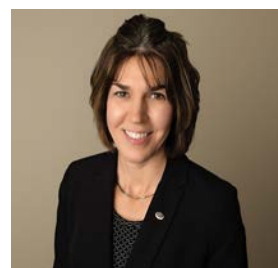
For more than 75 years, it has been our privilege and mission at RMC to serve our rural communities through professional and personalized care. Healthcare in rural communities is not just a convenience; it is an essential service. It ensures access to care for those who have difficulty traveling a distance to larger facilities. It serves as a significant economic engine by employing local residents and sustaining rural businesses and communities. Most importantly, it provides life-saving care through Emergency Room and Ambulance services when time is of the essence.



Despite its importance, rural healthcare faces mounting financial pressure. New legislation that reduces Medicaid payments will significantly affect RMC and hospitals across the state. Additionally, the rising cost of providing care is exceeding the reimbursement rates from government and private payers, which tightens our financial margins. To ensure we remain a strong community resource for the next 75 years, RMC will need to adapt strategically. A key part of this strategy is our focus on surgical services. The new surgery addition, scheduled to open in August, represents a vital investment in maintaining local access to these procedures. We are honored to host 15 specialized surgeons in areas including General Surgery, Orthopedics, OB/GYN, ENT, Urology and Ophthalmology.

Our RMC team is truly thankful for the daily support of our community. Together, we are committed to ensuring RMC remains a cornerstone of health for generations to come.

Danette Kramer, CEO



Bob Holtz Conference Room



The spirit of giving that defined the life of the late Bob Holtz continues to leave an incredible mark on RMC. Bob's philanthropic support has touched nearly every corner of the hospital. Thanks to a generous gift from Bob, RMC has completely renovated our largest meeting space, formerly known as Veterans Education Center. As a U.S. Army veteran himself, it is a fitting honor for a man who spent his life dedicated to both his country and the well-being of his neighbors. We are proud to announce that this transformed, modern space has been officially dedicated as the Bob Holtz Conference Room. This room will serve as a vital hub for staff collaboration, education and community gathering. While Bob is no longer with us, this dedication ensures that his lifelong commitment to RMC, his profound generosity and his deep love for our community will continue to sit at the heart of our daily operations.



OPEN HOUSE

You're Invited!

Join us for an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at our new surgery addition. This open house is free and open to the public. During the event, you can take a guided tour of our brand-new operating rooms and recovery suites, meet our expert surgical team and learn firsthand about the advanced surgical care options. Light refreshments will be available.

Date: Tuesday, July 28th

Time: 3-6PM

Location: Parking Lot 1, Entrance A
RMC River Ridge Pavilion

Growing, Learning & Thriving *Pediatric Therapy*



At RMC Therapy Services, we love helping our youngest patients reach their milestones by making therapy inviting, fun and motivating in our dedicated pediatric playroom! Is your child struggling with daily tasks, speech or movement? Our specialized, family-centered care focuses on three key areas to help them thrive:

Occupational Therapy: Helps kids master writing, playing, dressing and feeding. We also offer specialized care for Tethered Oral Tissue (tongue/lip ties), pediatric feeding and sensory needs.

Speech Therapy: Focuses on the everyday ways kids communicate. We help with speech sounds, late talking, understanding language, expressing wants and needs and overcoming feeding difficulties.

Physical Therapy: Helps children overcome physical obstacles, recover from injuries and maximize their movement so they can get back to being active kids.

Contact RMC Therapy Services at 563-927-7322



Lifelong Skeptic to Biggest Advocate

For some, a hospital is simply a place one may go to for a checkup, or even just a building you drive past every day. For Manchester native, Mike Peyton, healthcare was something to be avoided if at all possible. Known by his family as a fiercely independent and beautifully stubborn man, Mike was never one to willingly visit a doctor or step foot inside a hospital. Two and a half years ago, following a major car accident, a chest X-ray revealed a spot on Mike's lung. What followed was a standard monitoring process, which eventually led to a lung cancer diagnosis. While most of his initial intensive treatment took place out of town, it was during his final days that Mike truly discovered the heart of his local community hospital. When emergency complications left Mike unable to breathe, the family relied on RMC's Emergency Department. The care he received completely rewrote Mike's perspective, shifting a lifelong skeptic into one of the hospital's biggest local advocates. The trust grew exponentially when



Mike was admitted to the Med-Surg (inpatient) floor and met his nurse, Jen Janssen. Mike, who famously showed his affection by giving people a hard time, met his match with Jen, who gave it right back to him. This genuine human connection, and what the family calls an "empathetically direct" partnership, allowed Mike to feel safe, valued and fundamentally in control of his final days. **"In a world of screens and AI," his son, Mitch, expressed. "The human component we had here was incredible. It was just very human."** When it became clear that Mike's time was drawing short, RMC's team seamlessly pivoted from standard clinical protocols to profound family hospitality. Over an emotional weekend, the Peyton family accommodated upwards of 25 family members and close friends who stayed around the clock in Mike's room. Even his grandchildren slept on the floor



while dedicated nurses carefully stepped over them at 2:30 in the morning to check on Mike. **"The care wasn't just for Dad," his daughter, Molly, shared. "It was for all of us. He would never have received this level of care anywhere else."** Mike Peyton did things his way until the very end – even mapping out the final arrangements and telling his family exactly what to do. Before Mike passed, his son Ryan sat by his bedside and asked his dad what he wanted to do with his memorial funds. Mike's final directives were explicit, clear and full of his trademark conviction. **"This is a good place to give it," Mike told his son, pointing to the nursing staff around him. "I want it to go to the people that took such good care of my family."** By choosing to direct his memorial funds to start "The Village Legacy Fund" at RMC, Mike ensured that his final act was an investment in the local hands who turned a difficult end into a graceful, memorable transition. Mike Peyton lost his battle, but in his final days, he gave his family and his community a beautiful reminder of what truly matters. As Mike beautifully summarized on one of his very last days: **"I never realized how truly blessed and fortunate we are to have RMC in our community."** The Peyton family's story is a beautiful testament to RMC's core philosophy, providing excellence in healthcare, wrapped in unmatched local compassion, close to home.



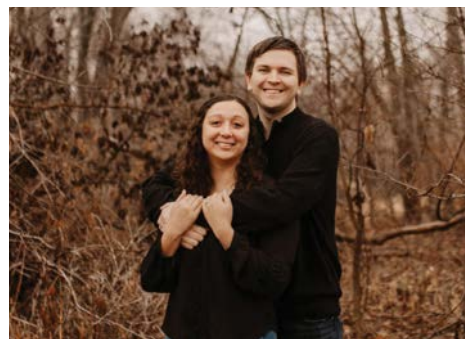
"I never would have thought that the end would be so graceful and memorable. We are all sitting here so grateful that RMC took care of Mike in his final days." – Deb Peyton

Welcome Dr. Samantha Fitzgerald

In April 2026, RMC and Regional Family Health (RFH) welcomed Samantha Fitzgerald, MD, MPH, to their medical team. As an OB and Family Practice provider, Dr. Fitzgerald is currently accepting patients at both the Hopkinton and Manchester (Team II) locations.

In 2022, Dr. Fitzgerald graduated from the University of Iowa. She then completed her residency in 2025 at the Sioux Falls Family Medicine Residency Program in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Her arrival brings a significant boost to RMC's obstetric services, as she possesses specialized training to perform c-sections.

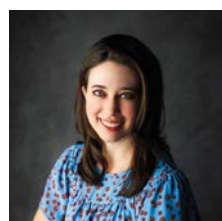
A native of Springville, Iowa, Dr. Fitzgerald was inspired to pursue a career in rural healthcare by the diverse clinical opportunities it offers. Outside of her clinical work, Dr. Fitzgerald treasures quality time with her husband, Ryan, and their two dogs, Loki and Nova. She is an avid reader and also finds joy in playing board and video games, and spending time with friends and family. A former collegiate swimmer, Dr. Fitzgerald remains active and has even participated in RAGBRAI excursions and triathlons.



Exceptional OB Care

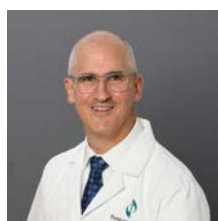


We are committed to delivering excellent healthcare to expecting families. During your pregnancy and birthing experience, you will have the option to work with our team of specialized OB providers.



Jessica Hein
PA-C
Dermatology

*Dermatology Clinic
of Iowa*



Thomas Richardson
MD
Urology

*Physicians' Clinic of
Iowa, P.C.*



Jessica Whitmore
DNP, AGNP-C
Urology

*Mercy Urology
Clinic*

New! Visiting Specialists

The RMC Specialty Clinic is a place where visiting specialists come from all around the region to care for our patients right here in Manchester. We recently welcomed three new visiting specialists to our team. To learn more about the RMC Specialty Clinic, the visiting providers or to schedule an appointment, call our RMC Specialty Clinic team!



Contact RMC Specialty Clinic
at 563-927-7301

regmedctr.org/specialtyclinic



Inside Look at *Radiology Renovation*

The transformation of our Radiology Department is officially complete, marking the end of a project dedicated to creating a more comfortable and efficient setting for our patients and staff. The updated department now features a state-of-the-art mammography suite, two updated ultrasound exam rooms and a dedicated bone density suite, significantly increasing our diagnostic capacity and improving patient flow. Our visitors now benefit from a large, redesigned waiting room area and updated restrooms. To better support our dedicated team, the project also included a specialized radiologist reading room and a new office hub for better care coordination. Additionally, this renovation provided a refreshed break room, staff restrooms and modernized linen rooms. Every detail of this remodel was designed to streamline our operation while ensuring a welcoming, modern environment for everyone who walks through our doors.



SCAN QR CODE FOR A VIRTUAL TOUR

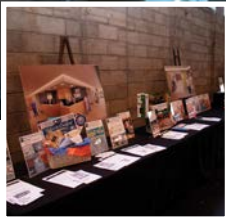


Ed-Co Volleyball Hits Donation Milestone **Over \$107,000 for Breast Cancer Support**

The Edgewood-Colesburg (Ed-Co) volleyball team continues to prove they are stars both on and off the court. Ed-Co is one of the several generous local schools, including Starmont and West Delaware, who raise funds for breast cancer support at RMC. With their most recent **donation of \$15,000**, the team has reached an incredible lifetime total of \$107,790 dedicated to supporting local breast cancer patients. Since 2016, these dedicated student-athletes have organized community-wide fundraisers, including their "Pink Night" volleyball games and the "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" night at the Annual Edgewood Rodeo, all to ensure those battling cancer in our community never have to walk alone. These generous funds directly support RMC Radiology's "pink support bag" program. Assembled by our Radiology team, these bags are filled with comfort items and gift cards, then distributed to newly diagnosed patients as they begin their journey toward healing. This long-standing partnership with these teams provides more than just financial support, it offers a heartfelt message of solidarity and hope. We are grateful to the players, coaches and the entire Edgewood-Colesburg community for their tireless commitment to making a difference for our patients.



A Night of Celebration RMC's Gratitude Gala



RMC is thrilled to share that our Gratitude Gala was a resounding success, raising just over **\$24,000** for our new surgery addition. Held at the beautiful Rustic Creek in Hopkinton, the evening featured a charming “Denim & Lace” theme, blending casual community spirit with a touch of elegance. Guests enjoyed a wonderful meal catered by Fat Chefs and The Bread Basket, and the musical talents of Darrell, Karen and Connie. The event served as a vital fundraiser, proving that when our community comes together, we can make a significant difference in RMC’s future. The evening’s success was a testament to the generosity of our donors, sponsors and volunteers who are a vital part of our mission.

“We are deeply grateful to everyone who attended in their best denim and lace to help make this event so memorable.” - Valerie Lindsay, RMC Volunteer Services and Fund Development Manager

Year	Total Volunteer Hours
2023	3,792.30
2024	4,224.10
2025	6,386.90
2026	2,133.25 & Counting!

Your Community Needs You *Small Acts, Big Hearts*

At our local not-for-profit hospital, volunteers are the heartbeat of the “magic” we provide. From a guiding hand to a shared smile, volunteers’ contributions strengthen the fabric of our community—and we would love for you to be a part of it. Our volunteer family isn’t just dedicated, it’s growing by leaps and bounds! It is truly inspiring to see how our community has stepped up over the last few years. Each hour represented in these numbers is a testament to the compassion of neighbors helping neighbors. Whether you’re a “people person” or a behind-the-scenes organizer, we have a role for you!



Ready to make a difference?

Contact Valerie Lindsay, Volunteer Services & Fund Development Manager
Learn More → regmedctr.org/volunteer

HILLTOP GIFT SHOP

Brighten a visitor's day while helping find the perfect gift.

JERRY'S PLACE PUBLIC DINING

Serve as a friendly cashier for staff and visitors.

PATIENT ESCORTS

Be the friendly face that helps patients navigate their way with ease.

BOB HOLTZ WELLNESS CENTER

Support community health and fitness.

LOGISTICS & SPECIAL PROJECTS

Assist with stocking, special events and life-saving blood drives

563-927-7534

vlindsay@regmedctr.org

LEAVE A REVIEW!
WHAT YOU THINK MATTERS



SCAN THE QR CODE

Regional Medical Center®

709 W Main St
PO Box 359
Manchester, IA 52057



Recognizing RMC Excellence



At RMC, we believe in recognizing and rewarding our team members for outstanding performance and service excellence. One significant way we do this is by honoring an RMC team member who has made a notable impact through the care or service they provide, or through their excellent qualities as a co-worker.

We encourage nominations from everyone in our community, including RMC employees, patients, visitors and providers. Your submitted nomination will be considered for one of the awards presented at RMC.

Nominate an RMC employee for a DAISY or ROSE award. Scan the QR code below. ↓

DAISY Award: The DAISY Award is a program rewarding excellence in nursing. It serves to recognize extraordinary, compassionate care provided by nurses every day.

ROSE Award: The ROSE Award honors RMC employees, outside of nursing, who demonstrate dedication, compassion and commitment to service excellence in their day-to-day duties and responsibilities.

Recognition Celebration: Each honoree for both DAISY and ROSE Awards are recognized at a bi-annual recognition celebration. These honorees will receive a bouquet of their designated flower, a certificate, award pin and sculpture.



NOMINATE & RECOGNIZE AN RMC EMPLOYEE regmedctr.org/nominate