

2012

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

REVIEW

NOVEMBER



Your Partner in Health

130 years of partnership and service

Port Huron Hospital opened on November 7, 1882, as the result of the commitment of a group of individuals who created a legacy of partnership and healthcare in the community. You've always told us that you want Port Huron Hospital to be your community hospital. That's why we continue to be an independent hospital and why our strategic decisions are made with input from you. We have always believed our purpose is to be the area's leader in healing and to be your partner in creating and maintaining a healthy community. As a staple in the community, we look to the past with pride. I feel privileged to be part of the current evolution of Port Huron Hospital and, as we mark 130 years, I would like to recognize all of those people who've made this anniversary a reality – our medical staff, our employees, our volunteers and all of you who have shown your belief and confidence in Port Huron Hospital. And I want to assure you that we will continue to shape our future, as we always have, with your vision and support.

Thomas DeFauw, President and Chief Executive Officer

A legacy of partnership and healthcare in the community

The beginnings

In the late 19th century, families cared for the very sick at home. Doctors, if available, would provide care by horse and buggy travel. As Port Huron grew, the community vowed to provide a small hospital facility to maximize the talents of the short supply of caregivers



1882 Port Huron Hospital and Home

Fundraising began and in 1882 the *Port Huron Hospital and Home* opened on White Street. Back then, the hospital was more a place for providing comforting care than cure through outbreaks of cholera and yellow fever.

Early growth, hardships and hope

In 1905, a new era welcomed a new, larger hospital built on Richardson Street. During the next decade the Spanish Flu epidemic ravaged the nation. Through the panic and unprecedented need for medical care, the courage and skill

of Port Huron Hospital caregivers sustained the health of the survivors and the hope of the community. New diagnostic technology, including a laboratory and x-ray equipment, contributed to this hope and fueled a need for expansion.

In 1937 a new hospital opened on neighboring Willow Street. Five years later, a ramp was built to connect the Willow and Richardson Street buildings. During World War II the hospital survived shortages of supplies and human resources, only to face new challenges.

Disaster and survival

In the early 1950s, polio was annually claiming over 20,000 victims, many of them children, in the United States. The hospital met the challenge by converting the Margaret Jenks Pediatric Unit into a treatment unit for polio victims. This unit used state-of-the-art respirators called "iron lungs" and recruited health providers from across the nation. Three years later the hospital met medical needs resulting from two category-4 tornados that touched down within



1953 Auxiliary presented iron lung

three weeks of each other, leaving two dead and 68 badly injured.

The next 50 years brought advanced services in pediatrics and neo-natal special care, critical/intensive care, mental health, orthopedics and groundbreaking concepts in women's health and senior services. With the launch of HealthAccess and Internet access, the hospital reached the community in ways that could not have been fathomed in those beginning years.

The legacy continues

Today, Port Huron Hospital is a modern facility recognized for excellence. Ranked nationally for many years in the top five percent of hospitals for quality of care and patient safety, it recently received an "A" Hospital Safety ScoreSM by The Leapfrog Group. It was also named by U.S. News and World Report as one of the *Best Hospitals in the Detroit Metro Area* in pulmonology and neurology for the third year in a row.



1904 Richardson Street



1950 Margaret Jenks Pediatric Unit



For more information, please visit or contact us at:

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