As 2016 marks the 100th Anniversary of the original Sioux Valley Hospital, here is a brief history of the past 100 years...

The efforts to build a community hospital in Cherokee began shortly after 1910 when a group of physicians tried to convince the community of the benefits of building such a facility. Their proposal came up for a public vote but was defeated by a two-thirds majority.

Those in favor of the project then took a different approach and they formed a non-profit organization called the Sioux Valley Hospital Association. In the summer of 1915 they began the task of raising $50,000 to build and equip the first community hospital in Cherokee. They initially raised $36,000 which was enough to begin construction. On July 23, 1916, the cornerstone of the new hospital was laid by Dr. Edward Hornibrook. After the construction was completed in late 1916, and after an additional fund drive to equip and furnish the facility, Sioux Valley Hospital opened in May of 1917. It was billed as the finest and best equipped structure of its kind in the entire state.

Due to an increased need for health care throughout the years, Sioux Valley Hospital continued to expand, including an addition to the original hospital building in 1951, an additional two-story main building in 1965, and adding a third floor to new main building in 1971.

In 1996, the $1.3 million True Medical Clinic was built to provide space for several physicians. The single story medical clinic has more than 12,000 square feet of exam rooms, offices and waiting area. Sioux Valley Medical Associates also opened clinic offices in Holstein, Marcus, and Aurelia.

Hospital leaders also recognized the need for a housing complex that would provide some amenities for seniors who would like to live an independent life minus the responsibilities of caring for a home. In 1999, The Beck independent senior living complex opened its doors.

Sioux Valley Memorial Hospital completed the health care circle when it opened the Wellness Center in October of 2002. This modern facility provides a wide range of activities for people of all ages and fitness levels.

In 2005, Sioux Valley Memorial Hospital officially changed its name to become known as Cherokee Regional Medical Center.

More construction followed with the completion of a new Main Entrance and Lobby, Oncology/Infusion area, Chapel, Conference Room, and updated Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation facilities in 2009. In the fall of 2013, new Emergency Department, Ambulance Garage, and Admitting areas were opened for service. A year later, the expansion and remodel of the state-of-the-art Surgery Department was completed, earning high praise from area surgeons and specialists.

Currently, CRMC serves residents of Cherokee County and the surrounding counties through a 25-bed critical access hospital, four regional clinics, senior housing, hospice, home health, public health, and wellness services.

All this, Cherokee Regional Medical Center is poised to enter its next century as a true leader in rural healthcare. CRMC will continue to reexamine and renew itself to remain timely and true to its mission of providing quality healthcare services to the area for years to come.
The Board of Directors at Cherokee Regional Medical Center and UnityPoint Health announce the appointment of Matthew Johnson, DPT, MHA, as President and CEO of Cherokee Regional Medical Center (CRMC).

“I am very excited to begin this new chapter in my career,” says Johnson. “I am honored to be able to serve the organization and community as the President and CEO of Cherokee Regional Medical Center. CRMC has a long history of providing outstanding care and I know that many more advancements in patient services will continue to take place here in the future.”

Johnson began his career at CRMC eight years ago serving as a staff physical therapist. In 2010, he was named as the hospital’s Manager of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, responsible for the physical, occupational and speech therapy departments. During the past 18 months, he also managed CRMC’s Wellness Center, located on the hospital’s campus.

Johnson is a military veteran, serving in the 4th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army as a Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Operations Specialist and later Sergeant as a Non-Commissioned Officer. During his military career, he was stationed in Colorado Springs, Colorado before a deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Johnson earned his Bachelor of Arts from Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa and a Doctor of Physical Therapy from Des Moines University Osteopathic Medical Center in Des Moines. In addition, he earned his Master of Healthcare Administration from Des Moines University in 2013.

He is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, Iowa Physical Therapy Association and American Physical Therapy Association. Johnson also volunteers with a number of events and organizations in the Cherokee community. He and his wife, Molly, have two sons, Evan and Aaron.

Joyce Lundsgaard, Board Chair for Cherokee Regional Medical Center, says “The Board is pleased that Matt has accepted the position of CEO. The Board and I look forward to working with Matt in establishing the vision and setting the future strategic direction for Cherokee Regional Medical Center.”

“We are extremely excited for Matt on his appointment as CEO of Cherokee Regional Medical Center. We want to welcome him to the UnityPoint Health executive leadership team here at St. Luke’s,” says Lynn Wold, President and CEO at UnityPoint Health – St. Luke’s. “His energy and leadership skills will serve him well in his new position.”

Johnson encourages open communication within the organization and the community alike. If you have questions, comments, or concerns regarding the services provided, or CRMC in general, feel free to contact him at 712.225.1505.
Perinatologist, Dr. Al Fleming, works with CRMC obstetrics physicians to provide high risk pregnancy services locally.

The Cherokee Regional Medical Center Specialty Clinic is pleased to offer the services of perinatologist Dr. Al Fleming. He primarily focuses on the care of women with high-risk pregnancies. Fleming graduated and completed his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology from Creighton University School of Medicine. He sub-specialized in Maternal-Fetal Medicine at the University of Connecticut. He is board certified by the American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology with subspecialty certification in Maternal-Fetal Medicine.

Fleming will work side by side with CRMC’s obstetrics physicians during a patient’s pregnancy. A woman may be referred by her local doctor for various reasons such as pre-natal diagnosis, genetic counseling, expecting multiples, has previously had preterm deliveries, or has a medical condition that may complicate her pregnancy.

Orthopaedist, Seth Harrer, MD, is seeing patients at the CRMC Specialty Clinic.

Dr. Seth Harrer joined the CRMC Specialty Clinic last fall. He graduated from the University of South Dakota- Sanford School of Medicine in 2010 and completed his orthopedic residency at Kansas University School of Medicine in Wichita in 2015. He specializes in total joint replacement, knee and shoulder arthroscopy and general orthopedics.

Dr. Harrer and his wife Deanna have local area ties. He was born in Spencer and lived there as a young child until his family moved to Sioux Falls, SD. Deanna is from Primghar originally. They, and their son Ian, currently live in rural Alta. Dr. Harrer works full time at NWIA Bone, Joint & Sports Surgeons’ Storm Lake office.

Since joining the CRMC Specialty Clinic, Dr. Harrer has been holding clinics and operating in Cherokee on Mondays.

Rebecca Mogensen-Kruger, ARNP-C, has joined the CRMC Medical Staff and is seeing patients at Cherokee Regional Clinic.

A native of Cleghorn, Mogensen-Kruger is no stranger to CRMC. She has spent 19 years working as a nurse (16 years at CRMC) in almost every area of acute care including Obstetrics, Med Surg, Emergency Room, and has served in various roles within the community related to maternal child health. She has always had a passion for women’s health, including supervision of pregnancy and breastfeeding support.

Mogensen-Kruger earned her Associate’s Degree in Nursing from St. Luke’s College of Nursing in 1996 and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Chamberlain College of Nursing in 2013. She completed her graduate studies at Creighton College of Nursing in 2015, receiving a Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner.

Since passing her boards and joining the CRMC Medical Staff late last summer, she has enjoyed working within her new role at Cherokee Regional Clinic.

Mogensen-Kruger resides in Cherokee with her husband Doyle and their children, Mason, Mitchell, Raegen, and Brooklyn.

Lemkes Named Aurelia’s 2016 Citizens of the Year

The Aurelia Commercial Club held its annual Kickoff Dinner on Thursday, February 18th. During the event, Pastor Larry and Margie Lemke were recognized as Aurelia’s 2016 Citizens of the Year.

Margie has been an RN at Cherokee Regional Medical Center since the Lemkes moved to Aurelia in February of 2000 when her husband, Larry, became the pastor of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Aurelia. She has worked in several departments during her time at CRMC including Med Surg and currently in Utilization Review.

Congratulations to Margie and Pastor Larry Lemke for receiving this honor in recognition of their service to the Aurelia community. It is well deserved!
**Dates to Remember >>>**

**Vascular Screenings** - April 6 & 20, May 4 & 18, 2016, 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

**CAROTID ULTRASOUND SCREENING**
This test is for everyone who is at an increased risk for stroke to look for abnormal plaque buildup on the artery wall.

Stroke is the third leading cause of death in America and the number one cause of adult disability.

80% of strokes are preventable; you can prevent a stroke!

**ABDOMINAL AORTIC ANEURYSM (AAA) SCREENING**
Ultrasound imaging is an accurate and reliable test for detecting AAAs before rupture. The majority of people with AAA have no symptoms.

Especially recommended for men aged 65 to 75 years who have ever smoked.

Cost for each screening test is $35.00.
Pre-registration for these non-invasive tests is required. Call the CRMC Radiology Department at 712.225.1501 to schedule your screenings.

**CRMC Auxiliary $5.00 Masquerade Jewelry Sale** - April 5th 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Check out the new spring merchandise and support a great cause! Proceeds go to the CRMC Auxiliary.

**Upcoming Educational Classes for Expectant Families** -
- Breastfeeding Class - April 12 or June 14, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
- Sibling Class - April 19 or June 21, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
- Prenatal Class - May 10 & 17 or July 12 & 19, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

All classes are free to CRMC patients. If you would like to register or have any questions regarding any of these classes, please call 712.225.5101 and ask for the OB Department. You may also visit us online at [www.cherokeermc.org](http://www.cherokeermc.org) for a complete schedule of upcoming class dates.

**CRMC Specialty Clinics** - Calendars available online!
Go to [www.cherokeermc.org](http://www.cherokeermc.org) for Specialty Clinic dates or call us at 712.225.1506 for more information.

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“As first time parents, when we learned that uninterrupted skin to skin contact was offered at CRMC following C-section deliveries, it really helped put us at ease. It was a wonderful birthing experience. We would recommend CRMC to anyone!”

-Cory and Shayna Ege

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Choose a hospital you trust when delivering your baby. **Choose CRMC**!

At Cherokee Regional Medical Center we understand that each pregnancy is unique. You will receive the personalized care you and your family deserve during the miracle of childbirth. We offer...

- Highly qualified physicians & nurses to provide expertise, coaching and encouragement throughout your pregnancy and postpartum period
- FREE Prenatal, Breastfeeding and Sibling Classes to CRMC patients
- Certified Lactation Counselors on staff - FREE lactation consults before and after delivery, follow-up phone calls, breastfeeding support group
- FREE 3D/4D Ultrasound provided as a keepsake to CRMC patients
- Uninterrupted skin to skin contact following traditional and C-section deliveries (subject to the delivering physician’s discretion)
- Spacious postpartum suites with modern amenities including private whirlpool tubs, flat screen TV’s, and Wi-Fi access
- FREE “Mommy & Me” in home visit following mom and baby’s discharge

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**CHEROKEE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**
**OBSTETRICS - 712.225.5101**