

# The Health News

Keeping you informed as to the latest developments, advancements, and events at BIRHC

Number 2

www.birhc.org

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## BIRHC Stocks Clot-Busting Drug

Every second counts during a heart attack. Clots in coronary arteries can block blood flow to the heart muscle, depriving the heart of oxygen. Mainland emergency room doctors administer thrombolytics to break up or dissolve such clots, restoring blood flow.

BIRHC recently added the clot-busting drug TNKase to its pharmacy crash cart. It is most effective when used within a few hours of an attack's onset. Clot-busters cannot be used in all chest pain cases, but having the drug on the Island might be the difference between life or death for a patient.

Thank you to Northern Michigan Regional Hospital for agreeing to help us keep our drugs current by switching stock with us as our medications get closer to expiration.

## Forest View

The Forest View Community held its grand opening in July on property east of BIRHC. The six apartments provide affordable housing for seniors 62 years or older or the disabled of any age. See page three for more information.



# BIRHC Is Family-Friendly

As a father of four and a teacher at the Beaver Island Community School, I am very pleased to know that BIRHC is equipped to handle any unexpected medical emergency that arises and that it has such a well-organized relationship with the Beaver Island EMS.

Moving here two years ago was made much easier when my wife and I learned the Health Center had experienced many recent advances in facilities and technology. At that time we had three young children (we now, as you may know, have four!). As anyone with a young family has experienced, the unexpected is to be, well, expected. And we have had more than our fair share of ear infections and middle-of-the-night respiratory scares in the past, so a well-staffed, well-equipped, well-prepared Health Center was a big encouragement in getting us to decide to add ourselves to the community.

We are not the only family benefitting from BIRHC Services either. The benefits are experienced broadly. From pre-season sports physicals to in-season injuries; from

jungle gym bonks and breaks to immunizations and vaccinations, the Health Center handles what we cannot (and ought not) handle alone in our bathrooms and kitchens.

We even had a spate of strep and other maladies run through the school last spring and shut classes down for nearly a week. I am convinced the advice and care we received from BIRHC kept us from an even longer-lasting battle with the illness.

Thank heavens for BIRHC and those who staff and support it. They all – and you all – make life on the Island more practical and comfortable for our families.

*Adam Richards recently joined our board of directors. He and his wife Sheri have four sons. Our services for families and children include pre-natal and post-natal care, well-child exams, immunizations, school sports physicals, and more. For additional information, please check our website at [www.birhc.org](http://www.birhc.org)*

## INSIDE:

- Telehealth
- Fundraising events
- BIRHC receives grants
- Garden project

## BIRHC Staff

Sue Solle, Family Nurse Practitioner  
Chris VanLooy, Physician Assistant  
Donna Kubic, RN, Managing Director  
Betty Hudgins, Service Coordinator

## BIRHC Hours

8:00 a.m. To 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday  
except Holidays

On-call provider available 24/7  
by calling: 231-448-2275