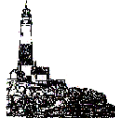


# Partners in Care

Dunes Family Health Care ~ Reedsport Medical Clinic ~ Lower Umpqua Hospital

Fall/Winter 2010



• Issue 23 •

## Doc enjoys community involvement

“One of the benefits of being a family physician in a small town is getting to know your patients on many different levels,” Dunes Family Health Care Physician Dr. Robbie Law says. It means not only seeing them once a year for a physical or in the office when they are sick but also running into them at the grocery store, being seated at a table next to them at restaurants, having your kids play on the same teams.

“I like this kind of practice,” Law explains, “the continuity, the community...some people want anonymity when they’re off the clock, but none of us at the clinic have unlisted phone numbers. I feel connected. This year’s graduating class [at RHS] is my first crop of babies I delivered here. I’m getting the reward of deeper, richer relationships with my patients.

That kind of community involvement is exactly why Dr. Law and his wife Tricia chose Reedsport, back in 1990. They both grew up in Astoria and were familiar with life in a small coastal town, so when LJ Fagnan recruited the young doctor and his family, bringing them from OHSU to Reedsport was an easy sell. Despite heavy recruitment from larger practices, it was meeting the other physicians on board (John Crocker, Michelle Petrofes and Dale Harris) and going to a local football game that convinced the couple this was the place for them. “It was the year we went to championships, and I love any kind of sports...”

Through his 20 years of higher education, Law managed to find time to serve as editor of the Stanford University resident newsletter titled “The Poop Sheet” played inter-mural football, volleyball, basketball and



*Robbie Law, MD*

wrestled at both Stanford and University of Oregon. While working his way through school, back in Astoria, Robbie made spending money by working at the Bumblebee fish cannery, and while at U of O he brought home a check by making burritos at “Rita’s Burritos.”

Robbie and Tricia have been married 24 years, and have three children, Alison, Brian and Duncan. It was important for them to have a rural lifestyle for their family. Tricia has been a volunteer for myriad organizations in Reedsport, including years of working at the schools, starting a pre-school co-op and a childbirth and breast-feeding support group. Despite a full schedule at Dunes Clinic and at Lower Umpqua Hospital, Robbie serves on an incredibly long list of boards and organizations, locally, regionally and

**“...some people want anonymity when they’re off the clock, but none of us at the clinic have unlisted phone numbers. I feel connected.”**

nationwide. Here in Reedsport, he is the doctor who teaches sex education in schools, is the sports teams physician, does sports physicals, gives HIV lectures, speaks on health careers, is the coordinator of “tar wars” and is involved in ASPIRE at the high school. He also participates in the local Economic Development Forum.

Lest you think it’s nothing but work, work, work for this high energy super-doc, remember he is also a rock star. Really, in addition to working with young musicians as the bass player for the “Melody Makers” at Highland Elementary School, he is also the man who lays down the groove for Reedsport’s favorite dance band “PBA and the Hotflashes.”

In future issues, we’ll look at the dozens of honors and awards earned by Dr. Law, and the role he plays in Dunes Family’s relationship with Oregon Health and Science University, where he holds the title of Master Teacher, OHSU Department of Family Medicine.

## Providers & Specialty Clinics

### Reedsport Medical Clinic 271-2119, 385 Ranch Rd.

#### Family Medicine

Susan Sparling, M.D.

#### Internal Medicine

Eva Pradhan, M.D.

Yiyakchu Thapa, M.D.

Doug Johnson, D.O.

Eugenie Haight, M.D., MPH

#### Surgery

Kenneth Lawson, M.D.

#### Orthopedics

Michael Ivanitsky, M.D.

Casey Maul, P.A.-C

#### Gynecology

William Cely, M.D.

#### Pain Management

Bill Croson, M.D.

### Dunes Family Health Care 271-2163, 620 Ranch Rd.

#### Family Medicine

Michelle Petrofes, M.D.

Dale Harris, M.D.

Robert Law, M.D.

Janet Patin, M.D.

Jianming Song, M.D.

Kathy Moon, RN, FNP-C

Lucas Stang, PA

Rio Lion, DO

### Visiting Specialists LUH Specialist Clinic Annex, 271-6330, 385 Ranch Rd.

**Ophthalmology:** Jon Kintner, M.D.

**Podiatry:** William Bennett, DPM

**Ear, Nose & Throat:**

Charles Hurbis M.D.

**Beaulieu Hearing**

## LUH uniform sales raise \$1351 for local organizations

Lower Umpqua Hospital recently made a donation of \$635.73 to Project Blessing and \$716 to SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) as the result of recent uniform sales. Care Wear Uniforms, Inc, dedicates 15 percent of the total sales from hospital sponsored sales to a local program of the hospital's choice. Project Blessing was chosen to help provide food and supplies needed in the community. The SMART program at Highland Elementary School will use the funds to purchase books and supplies for their program where community volunteers help students learn to read.

Purchases of uniforms, shoes, socks, and other accessories items by Hospital staff, Dunes Family Health Care staff and the public made this generous donation possible.



## Clip & Save

### Dept. Extensions

Administration	206
Anesthesia	303
Business Office	253
Emergency Admitting	222
Aidan Sr. Living	228
Finance	395
Info Technology	399
Laboratory	225
Maintenance	234
Materials Mgmt	249
Medical Records	251
Nursing Services	221
Nutritional Services	237
Physical Therapy	218
Public Relations	283
Radiology	226
Respiratory Therapy	250

## Lower Umpqua Hospital

600 Ranch Rd  
Reedsport

**541-271-2171**

### Direct Numbers

Billing, Insurance	271-6366
Billing, Medicare	271-6327
Billing, Self Pay	271-6384
Dunes Family Health Care	271-2163
Family Resource Center	271-9700
LUH Retail Pharmacy	271-6370
Orthopedic Clinic	271-6377
Paramed	271-3750
Reedsport Medical Clinic	271-2119
Scheduling	271-6379
Specialist Clinic	271-6378

**Save these numbers for future use.**

# Dr. Ivanitsky offering “custom” knee replacement surgery technique

The words “cutting edge” take on a whole new meaning when coupled with “surgery.” But the new technology being employed by orthopedic surgeon Dr. Michael Ivanitsky is truly on the cutting edge of knee replacement procedures. The “Visionaire” system has been available to surgeons only since 2009, but at Reedsport’s Specialty Clinic the technique is used with great results.

The Visionaire Patient Matched instrumentation is changing how knee replacements are done in surgery, using MRI and x-rays before the procedure to create custom surgical parts. Instruments are designed from each patient’s individual anatomy and geometry. In a traditional knee replacement metal rods are inserted into the bones, with cutting guides that are “off-the-rack” so to speak.

The companies that manufacture the parts for traditional total knee replacement offer a many sizes and styles, but for Visionaire, the company actually creates instruments to accommodate each individual. These unique, single-use tools are used to align the bones much more accurately, eliminating multiple steps and decreases operative time. It also decreases blood loss, and risk of infection. The procedure is also less invasive so the recovery is usually shorter and less painful. As an added bonus the system is less expensive to use, despite the term “disposable” since it eliminates the need for sterilization of tools, lowers operating room time, staff time and storage issues.

Visionaire technology received clearance from the Food and Drug Administration in Nov. 2008 and is quickly becoming the preferred method of total knee replacement among many of the country’s best surgeons, including Dr. Ivanitsky.

The technology is designed to create a high-performance

knee, which, due to its nearly “perfect” alignment, will last longer than a knee replacement performed using antiquated instrumentation. Since each Visionaire cutting guide is made specifically for each patient, it allows the surgeon to more precisely align the knee components. In short, it is rather like having a pair of shoes hand-made for you, compared to buying them based on the shoe size.

Before surgery, Dr. Ivanitsky explains the procedure completely to each patient, and uses long-leg x-ray and MRI images of the affected leg with a computer software program that calculates the exact measurements of the knee, then the manufacturing company makes the surgical instruments and guides based on that information. It also maps out specific bone cuts to accurately align the implant to your knee.

“The Visionaire patient specific instrumentation, when combined with high-performance knee designs such as Journey (with nearly normal knee kinematics), or Legion Primary (marketed as the “30-year knee”), allows for the best possible predictable function, comfort, and longevity of total knee replacement,” said Ivanitsky.

“After reviewing all of the available prenavigation systems at the AAHKS Knee Society meeting, this system is unquestionably the best designed and implemented system of its kind. In tandem with my minimally-invasive surgical approach, and our combined multimodal anesthetic program, our patients usually only need to be in the hospital for 3 days, go home (not to a rehab facility), and are off gait aids (walkers, crutches, canes) between 1 and 4 weeks after surgery.”

To schedule an evaluation of your arthritic knee, have your doctor make a referral to Dr. Ivanitsky’s office at Reedsport Medical Clinic, 541-271-2119.

## LUH Retail Pharmacy receives top marks

The Lower Umpqua Hospital Retail Pharmacy recently received world-wide recognition when it was presented with a J.D. Power award for service excellence. The pharmacy was included in awards given to the Health Mart outlets, located across America. Lower Umpqua Hospital Pharmacy has been a Health Mart pharmacy since opening two years ago.

J.D. Power and Associates is a global marketing information services firm founded in 1968. The firm conducts surveys regarding customer satisfaction,

product quality and buyer behavior for a huge variety of industries.

Health Mart rated top marks, with five stars for order/pick-up procedure process, overall experience, and staff.

The LUH Pharmacy accepts most insurance plans and is open 9 am to 1 pm, 1:30 to 5:30 on weekdays. Drive-up service is available for anyone who is disabled or otherwise unable to come inside.

For more information call the pharmacy at: 541-271-6370.

# Doug Johnson, DO joins staff at Reedsport Medical Clinic

Reedsport Medical Clinic is welcoming a new doctor to the staff. Actually, Dr. Doug Johnson isn't a "new" doctor, he graduated from West Virginia University in 1982, and has been in private practice for over 20 years. He is, however, rather new to the area and anxious to learn about his new community and the outdoor recreation the Oregon Coast is famous for.

"I'm especially interested in ATVs" he says, noting that his two grown step-children and his adored grandchildren might want to try out the dunes soon. "And I really want to get into fishing, too." Anticipating some time off, he hopes a visit is on the horizon, from the family and friends still in Michigan, where he lived until recently.

Coming to Oregon was actually a homecoming for the Doctor, who grew up in Portland and attended Portland State University in 1974. At that time he planned to further his education to become a physician assistant or a nurse. "In the 50s, after the Korean War, those who had been medics wanted to continue that kind of work and the PA position got popular." He applied for one of only two schools in the US that offered the training and was accepted to West Virginia University, which he attended for three years before deciding to go for medical school. Financing the expanded degree came in part from a public health scholarship, which meant serving as a physician in a poor area for a year. Unlike many who did their time and then pursued careers in affluent neighborhoods, Johnson felt most needed in the small

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**Patients interested in scheduling an appointment with Dr. Johnson can call Reedsport Medical Clinic at 541-271-2119**

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clinics tending to neighborhoods. After an internship and residency at Flint Osteopathic Hospital, (Dr. Johnson is a D.O. - Doctor of Osteopathy) he was sent to a little hollow in West Virginia, then downtown Indianapolis, a hospital and five clinics... eventually ending up back near Flint, in a suburb called Davison where he opened a practice and stayed for 20 years.

The town needed him. With between 5000 and 6000 residents, Davison had only a couple of internal medicine doctors. Over time the population dwindled, as mills closed and the automotive industry slowed. By 2008 the economy forced the clinic to close, but Dr. Johnson was not ready to retire. He wants to work for another 15 years, and chose Oregon as the place to do it, landing first in Grants Pass at a large clinic and finding it wasn't a good fit.

Reedsport is exactly what the "new" doctor prescribed for himself - a small community with opportunity to make a real difference, both in practice and in



*Doug Johnson, DO*

his spare time. A sports fan, he has already teamed up with Robbie Law, volunteering his time as a team physician for the schools. He also enjoys the arts and looks forward to involvement in any arts, crafts and music event. At the office, he is now taking patients and getting to know the staff at the clinic and the hospital. Since moving to a new state, he must get extended licensing to work in the emergency room, which he is working on now, expecting to take shifts very soon.

Patients interested in scheduling an appointment with Dr. Johnson for osteopath or internal medicine, can call Reedsport Medical Clinic at: 541-271-2119.

## Free monthly Blood Pressure Clinics

Free LUH sponsored blood pressure clinics will be held at the following locations, everyone is welcome to attend.

### Reedsport Senior Center

460 Winchester Ave., 10 a.m. to Noon, third Thursday

### Winchester Bay Community Center

on Broadway next to the Fire Hall, 10 a.m. to Noon, second Wednesday

### Gardiner Fire Hall

208 Marsh Street, 10 to 11 a.m., third Wednesday.