

Happy Holidays
2011

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Dr. Jill Riffel joins Johnson County Peds

Developing relationships with patients and their families is her favorite part of being a pediatrician, says Dr. Jill Riffel, who has joined Johnson County Pediatrics.

“I adore children,” she says. “Being able to interact with children, developing relationships and helping them grow up healthy is very rewarding.”

Dr. Riffel joins her sister, Dr. Carey Rawson, at JoCo Peds. The sisters grew up with their parents and a younger brother in Manhattan, Kan. Dr. Riffel says her parents are her greatest inspiration.

Dr. Riffel knew from an early age that she wanted to work with children.

“A pediatrician appealed to me because I would be able to care for children from birth to college,” she says.

Dr. Riffel is a graduate of Manhattan High School and Kansas State University, where she earned a degree in nutritional science.

In 2005, she graduated from the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Dr. Riffel was a resident in pediatrics at KU, and was chief resident in pediatrics in 2007-2008. Before coming to JoCo Peds she worked at Heartland Primary Care in Kansas City, Kan.



Dr. Jill Riffel with her husband, Brannan, and daughters, Addison and Elliott.

“A pediatrician should be friendly, caring and interact well with both the child and the parents,” she says. “Parents should feel they can openly ask questions and be involved in their child’s care.”

Dr. Riffel enjoys spending time with her husband, Brannan, and their daughters, Addison and Elliott.

She will be seeing patients in the walk-in clinic and by appointment on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

**SANTA CLAUS
IS COMING TO
JOCO PEDS!**

Santa will be in our
waiting room to visit with
children from 9 to 11 a.m.
Dec. 5th, 12th and 19th.



Holiday Hours



Wednesday, Nov. 23 - 8 a.m. to Noon

Thanksgiving Day - Closed

Friday, Nov. 25 - 8 a.m. to Noon

Saturday, Nov. 26 - 9 a.m. to Noon

Friday, Dec. 23 - 8 a.m. to Noon

Saturday, Dec. 24 - 9 a.m. to noon

Christmas - Closed

Monday, Dec. 26 - 8 a.m. to Noon

Saturday, Dec. 31 - 9 a.m. to Noon

New Year's Day - Closed

JoCo Peds News

JoCoPeds is getting a new look. In the next few months we will be updating our offices. We hope you like the changes!

We have started using an automated system for our reminder calls. You will still receive a reminder call or email about 48 hours in advance of your appointment. If you don't receive a reminder call please let us know at your next visit or by calling 913.384.5500 to make sure your contact information is updated.



We just love all those winter hats that come in on our patients.

To showcase our adorable patients and their hats we will be starting "Hat of the Day" on our Facebook page. Check it out at facebook.com/JoCoPeds.

Please bring your insurance cards to each visit at JoCo Peds. We need them to make sure we submit your visits correctly.

Your co-payment is expected when you check in for your appointment. Your co-pay is determined by your insurance company. Any questions about the amount or necessity for the payment should be directed to your insurance carrier.

Remember to arrive 10 to 15 minutes before your appointment begins.

Thank you to all of the families who have written "Star Slips" for jobs well done by our staff. If a staff member - from the front office staff to a physician - goes above and beyond please let us know!



Nurse Mary Casida retires after 52 years

After 26 years at Johnson County Pediatrics and 52 years in nursing, Mary Casida, RN, is retiring. Many Johnson County Pediatrics families have appreciated her kind care. In recent



years she has often worked as a phone nurse, answering questions and being a liaison between families and their doctors.

She grew up a farm girl, and was the salutatorian of her graduating class at St. Paul High School (in southeast Kansas). She studied nursing at Mercy School

of Nursing in Fort Scott.

The biggest change in nursing in her career has come with technology, Casida says.

"We had only simple x-rays and lab procedures," she says. "No MRIs, CT scans. Some of the lab tests were unheard of then. Observation and assessment of patients were very important for diagnosis. Nurses did all the procedures - there was no physical therapy departments or IV teams or respiratory therapists - we did it all. Housekeeping mopped the floors and cleaned the bathrooms. The rest we did. I could go on and on."

Pediatrics was not her first choice - she was a scrub nurse in the operating and recovery rooms - but it was a good fit when she was raising her two sons.

Her advice to young nurses would be to "study hard, learn something of all aspects of nursing and then decide where you want to be. There are so many wonderful exciting and wonderful opportunities."

Casida plans to have a busy retirement. She hopes to spend time volunteering at her church, reading, knitting, doing embroidery and walking.

"I keep hearing about many more things to do," Casida said. "I don't think I'll not be busy. I may just relax."