# MARYLAN

UM ST. JOSEPH MEDICAL CENTER



# LTH MATTERS





# TORI& K



### Reverse shoulder replacement gives welder a new grip on life

ou've heard of knee and hip replacements, but did you know that severely worn shoulders can be replaced successfully, too? The Food and Drug Administration approved a unique surgery, called reverse shoulder replacement, in 2003. However, it's only offered by a limited number of orthopaedic surgeons who have mastered the training and have the expertise to perform this advanced surgery.

Timothy Codd, MD

Before Howard
Badders found his
way to orthopaedic
surgeon Timothy
Codd, MD, of Towson
Orthopaedic Associates, part of University of Maryland
St. Joseph Medical
Center, another doctor
told him that noth-

ing could be done for his deteriorated shoulder. Badders, a retired farmer and

welder who could barely use his arm due to years of wear and tear, didn't believe it, so he called UM SJMC's physician referral line for an expert second opinion.

#### A PIONEERING SURGEON

He connected with Dr. Codd, who has performed close to 500 reverse shoulder replacements and helped design the newest surgical techniques, which provide excellent results for patients like Badders.

"This surgery is for patients who have torn their rotator cuff or worn it out," describes Dr. Codd. "We core out the bone and remove the worn shoulder ball. We place a prosthesis ball of the joint where the socket was and vice-versa, which is why it's called a reverse replacement." This produces a more natural range of motion than traditional shoulder replacement surgery.

"I was involved with one of the first FDA studies for the reverse shoulder replacement a decade ago," Dr. Codd explains. "Since then, the technique has been reinvented because the technology and materials have advanced so greatly."



To learn more or to request a physician referral, call the Orthopaedic Institute at **410-337-1777**.



### **NATURAL LOOK AND FEEL**

"The reverse shoulder replacement looks funny on an X-ray, but looks natural from the outside because it's covered with muscle," continues Dr. Codd. "The replacement parts are made out of cobalt chrome, titanium and plastic. I make a cosmetic incision that fits into the fold in front of the shoulder. It's hidden so that patients can wear short sleeves or sleeveless shirts."

## KOREAN SURGEONS VISIT AND LEARN

These techniques are being adopted by surgeons worldwide. Last spring, a group of orthopaedic surgeons from Korea visited UM SJMC to observe and learn about the reverse shoulder replacement surgery from Dr. Codd, who is participating with eight national facilities, including the Mayo Clinic, in a new surgical study, which uses even smaller incisions and spares more of the shoulder bone.

"The surgery gave Howard back the ability to weld," says his wife, Jean. "I'm elated," adds Badders, who is repairing farm equipment for his neighbors again.

