MARCH 04, 2016 | VOLUME 16 | ISSUE 09

MERCY AND IOWA HEART CENTER PHYSICIAN HONORED FOR SERVING FROM THE HEART

Please join in congratulating William Wickemeyer, M.D., longstanding member of the Des Moines area medical community, for being recently named as this year’s recipient of the From the Heart Award, presented by the American Heart Association. Dr. Wickemeyer has been practicing with Iowa Heart Center since 1980.

The From the Heart Award recognizes an individual in central Iowa whose achievements, advocacy, philanthropy and civic efforts have improved the lives of Iowans and Americans. The award was officially presented at this year’s Des Moines Heart Ball on Saturday, Feb. 27.

“Dr. Wickemeyer is a stalwart in the medical community,” said Bob Ritz, Mercy president, who nominated Dr. Wickemeyer for the award. “He is viewed by numerous esteemed colleagues as being a highly accomplished and major contributor to the ongoing battle against heart disease.”

Throughout the years, Dr. Wickemeyer has made countless contributions to improving access and treatment of coronary artery disease and heart failure. His recent clinical expertise has been focused in the area of advanced heart failure and has pioneered programs, services, and clinical interventions to improve the longevity and quality of life for individuals suffering from the condition.

Once completing his medical education, residency and fellowship, Dr. Wickemeyer quickly turned his attention to improving the quality of life and reducing the mortality and morbidity of individuals experiencing heart disease. He has contributed immensely to programs and services consistent with the mission of the American Heart Association while at the same time serving as a quiet, yet effective leader of Iowa Heart Center. He has also served on numerous boards of directors and has provided significant publications and contributions to the contemporary management of heart disease and congestive heart failure throughout his long and successful career.

CREATING THE REMARKABLE MERCY EXPERIENCE

Kudos from Kaitlyn

I was just released from Mercy Hospital on 6th Avenue in Des Moines. I was there for three days due to pneumonia. The whole stay, I was made to feel as comfortable as possible – every nurse and nursing assistant would check on me regularly and they were always so sweet. When I went home, I wish I could’ve thanked them all personally. They made it as easy as possible to be in the hospital, even though I was sick. Amazing staff! Keep up the great work!
In an effort to help prospective parents find hospitals that deliver quality, affordable maternity care, Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield announced Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines and Mercy Medical Center – West Lakes have been designated among the first hospitals to receive the Blue Distinction® Center+ for Maternity Care designation, a new designation under the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program.

Nearly four million babies are born in the U.S. annually, making childbirth the most common cause of hospitalization. Blue Distinction Centers’ for Maternity Care – an expansion of the national Blue Distinction Specialty Care program – are hospitals recognized for delivering quality, affordable specialty care safely and effectively, based on objective measures developed with input from the medical community. The program also evaluates hospitals on overall patient satisfaction.

“For more than 120 years, Mercy has been privileged to welcome the youngest Iowans into the world,” said Patti Anderson, director of Mercy Birthing Services. “We are honored Wellmark has designated both Mercy Des Moines and Mercy West Lakes as a Blue Distinction Center+ for Maternity Care. From birthing doulas and midwifery, to innovative care for women experiencing challenging pregnancies and highly specialized care for premature infants, Mercy will continue to deliver quality maternity services to every family we have the privilege to serve.”

**Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa is an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.**

**What’s Up?**

**Free Estate Planning Seminar Offered for Mercy Staff March 23**

Human Resources has collaborated with Mercy Foundation to develop an informative program for Mercy staff and volunteers – “Taking Care of Yourself and Those You Love through Your Estate Plan.”

The seminar will be offered twice on March 23 in the East Tower Auditorium at Mercy central campus, one from 1-3 p.m., and again from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Important topics to be covered include:

- tracking of personal information;
- disposition of your estate;
- revocable trusts;
- calculating your estate’s worth;
- estate and inheritance taxes;
- managing finances for elderly parents;
- funeral planning;
- listing your liabilities;
- financial power of attorney;
- body, organ and tissue donation;
- health care directives;
- and much, much more.

Please contact Paula Moenkhaus to register for this valuable seminar.

**Contact Us**

The Bulletin is published weekly for staff and friends of Mercy Medical Center, 1111 6th Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50314-2611

If you are interested in submitting information to be printed in the Bulletin, send it to PR and Marketing or call 515-247-3050.

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@MercyDesMoenes

**Announcements & News Briefs**

**Be remarkable and let us know what you think!**

Mercy Experience sessions have been in full swing for three weeks now, and we want you to hear what you think of the sessions! What did you like? What are you most excited for? Please send your feedback to mercyexperience@mercydesmoines.org.

**Breast cancer patients benefit from flower sales**

In October 2015, Flowerama stores in the metro area sold special breast cancer awareness bouquets and shared the proceeds of the sales with area cancer centers. Katzmann Breast Center recently received nearly $1,000 from the sales. The money will be used to assist patients who need gas cards to get to appointments or financial assistance covering the cost of cancer medications.

**Katzmann Breast Center relocating during construction**

Construction on the new Mercy Comfort Health Center for Women will begin this spring at Mercy West in Clive. In order to make room for construction, Katzmann Breast Center is temporarily relocating to Suite 330 on Level 3. The move was slated for March 3, but patients are asked to call Katzmann Breast Center at (515) 222-7830 ahead of time to confirm the exact location of their appointment.