The summer construction season is in full swing, bringing changes and improvements to Mercy’s central campus. Next week, construction at the entrance of the West Parking Ramp is expected to be complete, allowing patients, visitors, guests and colleagues to once again access this parking ramp from 5th Avenue.

On Monday, July 9, work will begin to expand the West Parking Ramp to the north, which will add approximately 300 more parking spaces to central campus. Construction of the West Parking Ramp expansion will take approximately 12 months to complete.

During construction, many of the spaces in the West Surface Lot, which is currently used for employee parking, will be unavailable. As a result, designated employee parking areas will be marked with blue striping in the following locations:

- West Surface Lot (accessible from the north entrance only)
- Northernmost area of the North Surface Lot
- West Parking Ramp – third level only
- East Parking Ramp – spaces farthest to the east on each level

During the construction period only, employees with any color parking tag may park in the East Parking Ramp and West Parking Ramp, but only in parking spaces designated with blue striping.

Additional employee parking areas include:

- Two parking lots located north of University Avenue
- North Parking Ramp in areas accessible through the gate off 3rd Street
- Southwest Parking Deck at 5th Street and Laurel Street

NEW WORKDAY HOMEPAGE

Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) is updating the Workday homepage to create a one-stop navigation experience for users. The update, scheduled to take place July 2, will make it easier to find and access important tasks and information, including enrolling in and viewing employee benefits and completing performance evaluations. The readability of the page will also be improved, with all application icons (or worklets) in the same color. To access the Workday homepage, visit InsideCHI and click on the Tools tab.
Mercy is now offering robotic-assisted thoracic surgery using the da Vinci® Xi Surgical System. Board-certified cardiothoracic surgeons at Mercy and Iowa Heart Center are performing minimally invasive lung cancer surgery, as well as lobectomies, anterior and posterior mediastinal mass removals, diagnosis for interstitial lung disease and thymectomies, with the da Vinci robot.

Traditional chest incisions are known to be painful, but with the da Vinci Xi system features, including wristed instruments, 3D-HD visualization, intuitive motion and an ergonomic design, surgery can be performed through four smaller incisions leading to reduced post-operative pain and quicker recovery times. Surgeons use the robotic system to “translate” hand movements of tiny instruments inside the patient’s body. The immersive 3D-HD vision system provides a highly magnified view, virtually extending the surgeon’s eyes and hands into the patient.

Mercy has a dedicated robotic operating room and staff. By performing these procedures, Mercy is positioned to be the leader in robotic thoracic surgery in central Iowa. Patients benefit from reduced postoperative pain, lower risk of infection or other complications, quicker recovery, minimal scarring and shorter hospital stays.

**CHRISTESON RECEIVES IHERF SCHOLARSHIP**

During a special ceremony held June 21, Mercy President Karl Keeler presented McKenzie Christeson, patient care technician, with a $3,500 scholarship from the Iowa Hospital Education and Research Foundation (IHERF), which is supported by the Iowa Hospital Association. Christeson is attending Des Moines Area Community College, pursuing a nursing (ADN) degree. Christeson is among 52 outstanding students from Iowa who received assistance from the IHERF Health Care Careers Scholarship Program this year.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO...**

- Ashlee Petersen, Mercy West Endoscopy, and Brent Flickinger, on the birth of their son, Bodee Wayne. Bodee was born on June 1 and was welcomed home by Lexee, 11.
- Molly Hipp, Clinic Administration, and Jesse, on the birth of their daughter, Frances Ann. Frances was born on June 5 and was welcomed home by Ingrid, 23 months.
- Lisa Fisher, Mercy Home Care, and Brett, on the birth of their son, Lucas Anthony. Lucas was born on June 11 and was welcomed home by Parker, 2.
- Amber Mauritz, ICU, and Jonny, on the birth of their son, Jordy Joseph. Jordy was born on June 16.

**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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