WEST LAKES CELEBRATES SEVEN YEARS OF STEADY GROWTH AND SERVICE

Over the years, we’ve heard both sides of the debate – metro Des Moines doesn’t need hospitals in the western communities vs. the area needs to have hospitals where the population lives and is growing. On Sept. 8, Mercy Medical Center – West Lakes will celebrate seven years in the community and, through those years, it has proven itself a valuable provider of quality health care for central Iowans.

Mercy West Lakes officially opened on Sept. 8, 2009. The beautiful, state-of-the-art hospital offered the western suburbs a 239,000-square-foot facility set on a 17-acre campus, with space for 146 licensed hospital beds. It was built as a replacement hospital for Mercy Capitol in the eastern part of downtown Des Moines.

A great deal has changed in the health care industry during the past seven years. The Affordable Care Act, economic uncertainty and suburban growth have all had an impact on health care in the community. What has not changed, however, is the need for health care services in our western suburbs. Mercy West Lakes has been, by all accounts, a success, with steady growth and continued popularity in the community.

Between 2010 and today, Mercy West Lakes has experienced a healthy average annual growth rate in inpatient admissions of 3.6 percent and outpatient visits of 4.7 percent. The numbers continue to trend upward as Mercy continues to ensure the health care offerings at that location are designed to best meet the needs of the community and the patients we are privileged to serve.
Let’s chat at the Staff Open Forums

Learn about all the latest happenings at Mercy at Staff Open Forums on Thursday, Sept. 8! The forums will take place at 7:45 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. live in East Tower Auditorium at Mercy central campus and by video conference to Mercy West Lakes Cowrie Conference Room. There will be a free gift for all attendees, door prizes and refreshments!

Help Mercy Cancer Center “Stand Up To Cancer”

If you’ve spent time watching KCCI-TV Channel 8 recently, you may have seen a commercial featuring Dr. Sarah McAvoy, radiation oncologist with Mercy Cancer Center, and cancer survivor Malia Koontz. These commercial spots are part of Mercy Cancer Center’s support of Stand Up To Cancer, a nationwide effort to raise funds for cancer research. You can also view the commercial on Mercy’s Facebook page.

Stand Up To Cancer’s fifth biennial telecast, produced by Bradley Cooper, will be broadcast Sept. 9. The primetime special will air on all major television networks and feature celebrities and musicians such as Ben Affleck, Anna Kendrick, Matthew McConaughey, Eric Stonestreet, Ken Jeong, Danielle Campbell, Niecy Nash, Celine Dion and Keith Urban.

Mercy Cancer Center was also the presenting sponsor for KCCI’s Aug. 27 airing of “Alex Scott: A Stand for Hope 2016,” a special program celebrating the life and legacy of Alexandra Scott and the Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation, which raises funds for pediatric cancer research.

Find out more about Stand Up To Cancer and the 2016 show at www.standup2cancer.org.

Annual Spirit of Mercy campaign coming soon

The 2016-17 Spirit of Mercy Annual Campaign will kick-off on Monday, Sept. 26, with packet distribution. Look through your packet for this year’s incentives for participating in making Mercy the best it can be, and be sure to ‘Like’ Mercy Foundation on Facebook!