Newton celebrates 100 years

MercyOne Newton Medical Center celebrated a remarkable milestone last month. May 30, 2021 marked the 100-year anniversary of the 1921 dedication of the hospital. In a hospital-wide celebration, staff gathered to hear remarks from MercyOne Newton President Laurie Conner, along with several notable guests: MercyOne DesMoines President, Karl Keeler; Board Chair, Jeff King; Board Member and former Chief of Nursing, Lois Vogel and long-time local physician, Dr. Paul Ruggle.

The event also included a special video, available for viewing on MercyOne Newton’s Facebook page, that features more than 100 colleagues sharing one word comes to mind when they think of the hospital. Words most commonly appearing in the video included “family” and “caring.”

Conner said that doesn’t surprise her, saying that hospital colleagues do everything from painting patients’ fingernails to weeding the courtyard after spending the day in the operating room, all so that the organization can be its best. “I could go on and on about our staff,” Conner said. “They all go above and beyond every single day, every single minute.”
Tracy Hall recognized with The DAISY Award®

Tracy Hall, RN, is MercyOne’s most recent DAISY Award recipient. Tracy, who works in the NICU, was nominated by a patient’s family to recognize the compassionate care provided to both the patient and his parents.

The patient’s family said, “Finding out your child has to be admitted to the NICU is an overwhelming feeling no parent wants to feel. Our fears were quickly decreased when we were greeted by Tracy. She immediately talked us through everything without overwhelming us more. She ensured us that everything will be okay, and she didn’t treat our son any differently after we received his diagnosis. She cared for him as well as my husband and I. Tracey is a hardworking, selfless, high spirited nurse who deserves to be rewarded for her above and beyond care of patients and families. She has shown us the good in the world through her repeatedly kind acts towards our whole family. Tracy is what every nurse should strive to be like.”

Find out more or submit a nomination at MercyOne.org/daisy.

MercyOne Des Moines board member named a 2021 Woman of Influence

The Des Moines Business Record today named Emily Abbas, Chief Consumer Banking and Marketing Officer at Bankers Trust, a 2021 Woman of Influence. Emily is also a MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center board member.

The award celebrates the work of women who have made a difference by blazing a trail personally and professionally for other women to follow, served as role models, and contributed significantly to community organizations through board service.

MercyOne colleagues step up their game for the ‘Fight for Air’ Climb

MercyOne Pulmonary Clinic climbers recently raised funds for the American Lung Association’s outdoor 2021 Fight for Air Climb at Principal Park in downtown Des Moines.

In light of COVID-19, the Fight for Air Climb provided a variety of participation options including the outdoor climb at Principal Park and “Climb Your Way” – a virtual climb program option.

The MercyOne team raised more than $1,500 and the American Lung Association local teams and climbers raised more than $150,000 to benefit the organization’s efforts to prevent and end lung disease and further COVID-19 research.

Photo: MercyOne employees who participated in the ALA 2021 Fight for Air Climb are Deane Baldwin, Chad Vargas, Kelli Gear and Hailey Gear.