Selfless care earns Arielle Hansel Spirit of Mercy Award

In the emailed Daily Prayer, we frequently ask to become the hands and feet of Jesus in our efforts to heal and comfort those in need. Our interactions with patients, families and guests, gives us this opportunity. Spirit of Mercy Award winner Arielle Hansel made this prayer a reality for one long-term patient.

As a nurse on 7 South, colleagues say Arielle constantly lives MercyOne’s core values. They say Arielle took compassion to a new level when she became the guardian of a patient. The Spirit of Mercy nomination shared the story of a patient in her care who was stable for discharge, but unable to make his own medical decisions. Exhaustive efforts for nine months had not located family members or anyone to provide guardianship for his care. This is when Arielle stepped forward, so the man could live the remainder of his life outside of our hospital walls. Colleagues say Arielle demonstrated the core values by treating him as a member of her family. She was able to get him placed in a care facility where she had family living. He received visits and loving care until his death.

Colleagues say this patient was a special part of 7 South, and they were moved by Arielle’s selflessness. She shared her family — including making him part of her family circle — so he did not die alone. They say it also demonstrated the opportunity to be a part of something bigger than themselves.

Thank you, Arielle, for providing us with this powerful example of service and compassion.

Stork Affair

The stork is making another trip to MercyOne! Stork Affair, ideal for expecting parents and couples planning to start a family, will take place in the East Tower from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Saturday, April 6. Admission is free.

Tours will be offered in the MercyOne Maternity & Infants’ Care units on Levels 2 and 3 in the East Tower. The Educational Expo will include a robust line-up of classes offered multiple times throughout the event so attendees don’t have to miss anything. Vendors on site that day will feature MercyOne departments that cater to parents and children, local non-profit organizations and local companies. There will also be car seat technicians available to inspect car seats.

To see a complete schedule of events and pre-register, please visit mercyone.org/storkaffair.
Help us celebrate Children’s Hospitals Week

At MercyOne Children’s Hospital, we’ve delivered care for the children in our community and state for more than 125 years. In FY 2018, our inpatient areas had 7,293 pediatric patient visits. Join us as we recognize our pediatric services during Children’s Hospitals Week, March 18–24.

Did you know that MercyOne has a comprehensive Children’s Hospital right here on our Des Moines campus? In case you aren’t familiar with MercyOne Children’s Hospital, our services include:

- Pediatric Emergency Department with Level II Trauma designation
- Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) with central Iowa’s ONLY pediatric ECMO program
- Inpatient Pediatric Unit with dedicated pediatric hospitalists
- Our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) carries the highest level designated by both the state of Iowa and the American Academy of Pediatrics
- And many others, including general surgery, gastroenterology, neurology, psychiatry, rehabilitation, imaging, sedation and child life services.

What pediatric specialties do we offer?

- Dr. David Hockmuth is Iowa’s only board certified congenital heart surgeon. He specializes in repair of complex congenital heart defects in children of all ages, extending into adulthood.
- Dr. John Gachiani is central Iowa’s first board-certified fellowship-trained pediatric neurosurgeon. He provides a full spectrum of neurosurgical care, from craniosynostosis and hydrocephalus to spinal cord and brain tumors.
- Dr. Samuel Maurice is central Iowa’s only fellowship-trained pediatric craniofacial surgeon. He specializes in cleft lip/palate surgery and other congenital craniofacial anomalies.
- And many others, including general surgery, gastroenterology, neurology, psychiatry, rehabilitation, imaging, sedation and child life services.

Colon Cancer Awareness Month

MercyOne Clive Gastroenterology Care is spreading the word about colon cancer awareness by offering the opportunity to get an up-close-and-personal look at the inside of a colon. An inflatable colon will be on display from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 25–29, in the atrium of MercyOne Clive Health Plaza, 1601 NW 114th St. in Clive. Visitors will have the opportunity to walk through the giant “super colon” and will learn more about their risk for developing colon cancer. Physicians and staff from the clinic will be on-hand at various times to answer questions about colon cancer screenings and treatment options.