Starting Jan. 1, 2017, DEA will only send out one renewal notification to the “mail to” address for each DEA registrant approximately 65 days prior to the expiration date. No other reminder will be mailed.

Second, online capability to renew DEA registration after expiration date WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE. You will have to complete an application for a NEW DEA registration if you do not renew by midnight Eastern time of the expiration date. The original DEA registration will NOT be reinstated.

Third, paper renewal applications will NOT be accepted the day after the expiration date. If DEA has not received the paper renewal application by the day of the expiration date, it will be returned to the registrant and they will have to apply for a new DEA registration.

December 2016

Physician Relations introduced this segment in the January Mercy Physician Newsletter as a way to further recognize physician leaders in our community. Leadership starts with the physician, and our aim is to highlight those who exhibit leadership and work to lead Mercy’s positive growth…

Gary Schweiger, MD, has been a member of Radiology Consultants of Iowa (RCI) since 1999. He is a boarded subspecialist in abdominal imaging and a longtime member of RCI’s outstanding Women’s Imaging Team, performing all types of imaging procedures including ultrasound-guided and stereotactic breast biopsies. He is a great asset to the Women’s Center at Mercy with his personable and caring way of interacting with patients; he treats them with respect and kindness and regularly receives notes of thanks from grateful patients.

Several years ago, Dr. Schweiger took on the difficult responsibility of revising and maintaining the Mercy Medical Staff bylaws. As chairman of the Bylaws Committee, he continues to work closely with other physician and administrative team members to review and revise those bylaws as needed today.

Dr. Schweiger was elected to Medical Staff leadership in 2014 and has progressed along that path to Medical Staff president. When the past president resigned mid 2015 due to a move out of state, Dr. Schweiger stepped up without hesitation and took on the responsibility six months earlier than anticipated.

Dr. Schweiger is a highly respected member of RCI. His opinions and his involvement are sought for many special projects and he willingly gives his time to improve patient care and to streamline processes to improve patient experience.

Dr. Schweiger was involved in the selection of our last CT scanner, paying attention to cost, radiation dose reduction and ease of use. He is always concerned that the correct CT scan protocol is being performed and was involved in working with the ED providers to develop an algorithm for CT scans involving oral contrast to help reduce the time the patient spent in the ED.

Thank you, Dr. Schweiger, for your unwavering dedication and leadership within our medical community!

If you know a physician leader and have a story to share in this segment, please send it to Jessica Coppess at jjcoppess@mercycare.org.
Mercy has released its annual report to the community, showcasing a summary of our financials and achievements from fiscal year 2016. It outlines a year of accomplishments and, most important, reflects the success of your hard work and our commitment to providing exceptional care to our community. Visit www.mercycare.org/annual-report to view the full report or stop by Marketing for a printed copy.

Penny Glanz Assigned Vice President of Outpatient Operations

As Mercy continues to identify opportunities to improve our internal structure and better align services in support of excellent patient care, an opportunity to coordinate surgical services, outpatient hospital services, and the new Hiawatha campus was identified by assigning a Vice President of Outpatient Operations. Penny Glanz transitioned to that role effective Oct. 30. Penny was Operations Director in Patient Care Services for seven years and has been with Mercy for a total of 36. Her demonstrated commitment to operational excellence during this time has contributed greatly to Mercy’s quality care, and she’ll no doubt carry that same commitment into this vice presidency role. Penny’s clinical leadership supports outpatient and ambulatory goals, including the new surgery center. She keeps her current direct reports and assumes a direct report for Mercy Medical Center Specialty Clinics and the new Director of Emergency Department. Penny reports to Dr. Quinn but continues to work very closely with Mary Brobst as Chief Nursing Officer, maintaining critical ties to nurses and reinforcing our quality and patient safety. Please help us welcome Penny to this new role.

Eric Voss Named Director of Emergency Department

Eric Voss transitioned to the Director of the Emergency Department on Oct. 30. He has been with Mercy for 30 years, having joined the organization in 1986 as a respiratory therapist. Eric advanced his career through the years and served in multiple managerial roles, including Senior Director of Cardiac/Pulmonary Services for six years. Most recently, as Senior Manager — Clinic Operations, Eric’s leadership has contributed greatly to the growth of Mercy’s specialty clinics. As Director of Emergency Department, Eric reports to Penny Glanz, Vice President of Outpatient Operations, and leads the hospital’s Emergency Department, along with project plans for new services at Hiawatha Medical Park. Please congratulate Eric on his new role.

Sue Hawn Announces Retirement

President of the Mercy Medical Center Foundation, Sue Hawn, has announced plans to retire Feb. 28. When Sue took the leadership reins in August 2007, she committed to enhancing the mission of philanthropy that Sister Mary Lawrence Hallagan put into place when she established the foundation in 1977. Sue and her team have instilled a culture of philanthropy within our organization, a culture in which every employee understands how “generosity heals.” Mercy is grateful to have had Sue’s passion for charitable giving at the helm of the hospital’s fundraising programs these many years. A search is currently underway for the next foundation president to ensure the next leader carries the same level of commitment to healthcare philanthropy and best-practice fundraising philosophies as our foundation has always had — the cornerstone of its outstanding reputation. Plans are underway for a reception and will be announced soon.

Mercy Dialysis Earns Four-Star Rating From CMS

Mercy Dialysis Center has earned a four-star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) based on the quality of patient care it provides — the only dialysis center in the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City area to earn this level of distinction from CMS. The CMS star rating shows how well a dialysis center delivers care on average, based on Medicare data. Each dialysis center receives a rating between one and five stars. The star rating is part of Medicare’s work to make data on the quality of patient care easier to understand and use. Congratulations to Medical Director Dr. Fadi Yacoub, his partner Dr. Anwar Ahmed, and the entire Mercy Dialysis care team — another great example of The Mercy Touch in action.

Thankful Patient Notes

John Lancaster, MD — Just a quick note to say thank you for being an incredibly compassionate, thorough, intelligent physician that MercyCare Center Point is very fortunate to have. May God bless you!

Glenn Hammer, MD — Dr. Hammer was very personable and very thorough. He listened to my previous history and tried other tests/areas not checked before. He really seemed to care — as did all the staff we met. Thank you.

Imran Hassan, MD — Dr. Hassan was wonderful!! I had absolutely NO PAIN after surgery — NO PAIN all the time I was in the hospital! He saw me twice a day!
On Dec. 5, Hands Up Communication will begin providing Mercy Medical Center with ALL face-to-face foreign language interpreters. Mercy will discontinue its contract with Humble effective Dec. 16. Other foreign language translation services (i.e. MARTTI and Language Line) are still available as outlined below:

Certified medical interpreters are available and should be contacted to assure accuracy, even when the patient requests a family member provide interpretation services. Services are available through:

a. MARTTI: 24/7 video remote interpretive service
b. Hands Up Communication for Face-to-Face Interpreting: (319) 213-9920 effective Dec. 5

If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Cullum or Kindel Dillon.

New Members of the Medical Staff

Kristine Cooper, DO
Internist Associates of Iowa
Department: Internal Medicine

Ann Stroh, DO
HPCC Onc Assoc at Mercy Medical Center
Department: Internal Medicine / Oncology

Michael del Rio, MD
PCI Heart & Cardiovascular Surgery
Department: Thoracic Surgery

Roberto Amado-Cattaneo, MD
PCI Heart & Cardiovascular Surgery
Department: Thoracic Surgery

Mary R. Wendt, MD
Hospitalist Medicine Physicians of Linn County, PLC
Department: Hospitalist / Internal Medicine

Linda D. Hodges, DO
Mercy Pulmonology Clinic
Department: Pulmonology

Kristin Gisselman, DO
MercyCare Vernon Village
Department: Family Medicine

James R. Singer, DO
Iowa Retina Consultants
Department: Ophthalmology