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Mercy Air Care Celebrates 25 Years Of Service & Almost 9,000 Flights

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Posted: May 05, 2012 8:59 PM CDT
Updated: May 05, 2012 8:59 PM CDT

More Local News

NW Iowa Man Gets GED Diploma At The Age Of 74

By Tanya De Jesus
tdejesus@kcautv.com 74-year-old George Klein is a successful business man in Ashton, IA with a realtor and broker's licence. So you will probably be surprised to know that 58 years
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Mercy Air Care Celebrates 25 Years Of Service & Almost 9,000 Flights

By Staci DaSilva
sdasilva@kcautv.com They're not called "life flights" for nothing. And Mercy Air Care has done nearly 9,000 of them since May 1987. In a rural, tri-state area like Siouxland, it was
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Sioux City Celebrates In Cinco De Mayo

By Staci DaSilva
sdasilva@kcautv.com It's May 5th and you know what that means: Cinco De Mayo! Sioux City celebrated today at the 11th Annual Cinco De Mayo Festival. More than thirty vendors took part
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Comic Book Lovers Unite For Free Comic Book Day

By Staci DaSilva
sdasilva@kcautv.com Comic book fans and newcomers united today in Sioux City. ACME Comics & Collectibles took part in the worldwide "Free Comic Book Day." Readers got their hands on
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By Staci DaSilva

sdasilva@kcautv.com

They're not called "life flights" for nothing. And Mercy Air Care has done nearly 9,000 of them since May 1987.

In a rural, tri-state area like Siouxland, it was realized back then that a quicker approach to emergency care was needed to get folks to a hospital and fast.

And it took only 2 years for the new program to be put to the test. When Flight 232 crashed into Sioux City in 1989, Mercy Air Care was called into action.

Flight 232 Capt. Al Haynes said, "For the critically injured, it was absolutely essential. They made 3 or 4 runs and then by then everyone else could be transported by ambulance but the air care was essential for those that are really critically hurt."

Captain Al Haynes saw almost half his flight die in that crash but says it if weren't for Mercy Air Care that number would be higher.

Capt. Haynes said, "Appreciate all the work they do. Every time you see that helicopter fly over, don't just see the helicopter. Think about what they're doing."

And Mercy Air Care continues to help those who are critically injured.

Take, 12-year old Alex Ramirez for example, who nearly severed his arm while working on his boat with his grandfather last November.

It was Mercy Air Care that got him to the hospital and as a result his arm is still in tact.

Alex Ramirez said, "I'm just thankful that they were there on time and they were there for me."

Or, Tiffany Zermeno-Lopez whose daughter Esmerelda was just 8 months old, when she contracted a serious virus and a lifeflight EMT hand-operated her respirator.

Zermeno-Lopez said, "That was her form of breathing so without that she wouldn't have been able to breathe. If it wasn't for them, and getting her to Omaha, she wouldn't be here."

So Mercy Air Care, here's to 25 years and hopefully, many more.

**Riverview Ball Park
Opening Day**

By: Jessica Rae
jrae@kcautv.com It was opening day at the Riverview Ball Parks in South Sioux City, Nebraska. Almost one year ago these fields were submerged underwater; today, they were reopened to
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**UPDATE: Possible
Kidnapping in Cherokee
County**

The Cherokee County Sheriff's office is investigating a complaint of a possible kidnapping on Friday morning. While officials in Cherokee County can't comment, the Sioux County Sheriff's office has released
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**Blue Zone Project
Announces Final Four
Iowa Cities**

By: Hollie Hojek
hhojek@kcautv.com It may be a small city, but its got a lot of heart. That's what the mayor of Spencer, Iowa told me, after his communities was selected as one of Iowa's Blue Zone Demonstration
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**Tornado Confirmed Near
Primghar, IA - Severe
Storms Across Siouxland**

Click here to watch local radar
http://www.kcautv.com/global/Cc=102084&nav=menu110_3
Today's Severe Weather Outlook
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/produ>
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**Damage Assesement at
Gavins Point Dam Next
Wednesday**

By: Channel 9 Eyewitness News news@kcautv.com
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, will conduct damage assessments on Wednesday, May 9, of the spillway slabs at Gavins Point Dam. The
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**Newell, IA Man Dies in
Farm Accident**

A 73-year-old Newell, IA man died Friday while working at his farm. According to the Buena Vista County Sheriff's Department, Kenneth Bond was working on a pressure tank in a well pit when the tank ruptured
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