

Illiana News

“Proudly Serving Those Who Served”



Department of
Veterans Affairs

Illiana Health Care System

February 2012

Patriot Cafe Re-opens!

The Patriot Cafe re-opened on Monday, February 13, 2012. All of the renovation work except the floor was done by the staff here at VAIHCS. The Patriot Cafe has all new furniture and equipment. There are three large screen TV's for customers to view either news or sports. A new feature is the salad bar for customers to prepare their own salads.

A special thanks to Engineering Service for all the work they did with the renovation.

On behalf of myself and all our Canteen staff we would like to welcome you back into our New Patriot Cafe hoping that you will be pleased with the new look.

Rahif Achour
Chief of Canteen



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Executive Corner

As we embark into the new calendar year, it is time for us to review how we have performed the past year and how we can continue to improve and provide better care this year for our Veterans.



I am very happy and proud to say that the staff has done a superb job in FY 2011 in several programs to enhance not only the quality of care but also expand services. One of our challenges was to implement Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT) at Danville as well as at the community based outpatient clinics (CBOC's). Needless to say, the staff has embraced this concept and worked very hard! I am delighted to say that all the hard work was duly rewarded. Ten of our teams got national recognition for their outstanding performance and the leaders of the PACT team were equally recognized at the VISN and at the national level. With regard to, clinical performance measures – this is a direct measure of quality of care we provide to our Veterans. In FY2011, we met 89% ECF measures and ranked #2 in the VISN. In all other applicable clinical measures we met 92% as compared to national average which closed at 91%. We are committed to data accuracy in reporting the quality of care. Therefore, the leadership debriefs after each External Peer Review Program (EPRP) identifies opportunities for improvement. The clinical service chiefs with nursing and other disciplines are working diligently to accomplish this at VAIHCS. The opportunities we identified are some measures in the management for disease prevention. Even though we met goals for Preventive Index, we still would like to enhance our efforts on vaccination as well as cancer screening. In our PACT metrics we are #1 in the VISN. We will continue our efforts to meet these measures which are the indicators of a successful implementation of the PACT program for our Veterans. The Inpatient Evaluation and Management (IPEC) data as well as the VA Surgical Quality Improvement Program (VASQIP) data show us that we met all expected performance measures that are tailored to measure the processes for providing excellent care in in-patient areas. We truly appreciate all the hard work from all the employees for their care and commitment to provide quality of care to our nation's heroes!

(continued on page 3)

Calendar of Events

Peace Corps Founded (1961)

March 1

National Anthem Day (1931)

March 3

Patient Safety Awareness Week

March 4-10

Army Distinguished Service Medal Authorized (1918)

March 7

Registered Dietitian Day

March 9

Daylight Saving Time Begins

March 11

International Brain Awareness Week

March 12-18

First Medal of Honor Awarded (1861)

February 13

VA Cabinet Status (1989)

March 15

Freedom of Information Day

March 16

St. Patrick's Day

March 17

Operation Iraqi Freedom Begins (2003)

March 19

Spring Begins

March 20

Tuskegee Airmen Activated (1941)

March 22

National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic / Snowmass, Colorado

March 25-30

Doctors' Day

March 30

Executive Corner *(continued)*

With regards to some of the areas that we are currently involved include the following: Danville is actively participating with Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) in the implementation of Disability Benefit Questionnaire (DBA) for the compensation and pension (C&P) evaluations. We are happy to share that the quality of C&P exams as reviewed by Systematic Technical Accuracy Review (STAR) is 100% as compared to nationally at 84%.

According to information published on VA web site only 39% of active duty military use VA services. Therefore, it is our responsibility to ensure that we reach out to all Veterans to serve them. This year we will aggressively work on our outreach efforts especially to reach out to Veterans in rural areas. We are committed and will pay special attention to homeless program efforts in order to help our homeless Veterans

establish a home. Illiana VA hosted a very successful homeless summit on February 22nd with good participation from our community partners as well as from the VISN. We plan to expand our existing tele-health clinics and increase access to all virtual care modalities currently in use. For those employed Veterans who have difficulty making clinic appointments during day time, we may have to extend our clinic hours to provide access and serve them. We will welcome your thoughts and feedback on how to accomplish this mission for our Veterans.

I like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Tom Mattice on behalf of the QUAD and all the employees for his leadership and support since January of this year. At the same time the QUAD and the staff are delighted to welcome Ms Emma Metcalf as our New Director, effective March 18th.

Nirmala Rozario
Chief of Staff

Quartet Performs for Veterans

The Servant Quartet was formed in 2006 out of a larger singing group called, "The Singing Men of Radio WGNN". The group's leader Jim Gunther, baritone, was looking for an original sound like the barbershoppers of the past. First came Lonnie Medlin, a deep bass, then David Langendorf, a second tenor, who sings lead. The youngest and very talented, Vic Christman, has a smooth high tenor voice and also sings lead. They sing an array of gospel, both old and new, and patriotic songs.

Servant has performed all over Illinois and eastern Indiana, including the Rosebud Dinner Theatre, Virginia Theater, Krannert, and U of I Assembly Hall and Memorial Stadium, and at various churches and community events.



Teresa Ard
Chief, Voluntary Service



RTLS Coming Soon To Equipment Near You!

VA Illiana Health Care System is participating in a VISN 11 Collaborative to pilot a Real Time Location System (RTLS) solution at our facility. RTLS is a type of local positioning system used for tracking the location of objects in real time. Using simple, inexpensive tags attached to the objects, web based computerized readers receive transmitted wireless signals from these tags to determine their locations.

Our RTLS implantation will concentrate in the following areas:

- Asset Tracking Capability
- SPD Automation Capability
- Automated Temperature Monitoring Capability

The benefits of an RTLS include:

- Asset/Inventory Management allowing for right sizing inventory, eliminating unnecessary equipment expense and reducing the high cost of asset loss.
- Increasing patient safety by quickly locating necessary patient equipment.
- Increase staff productivity by reducing the time searching for equipment allowing staff to focus on activities that effectively add value to care delivery.

Key dates for the RTLS project are:

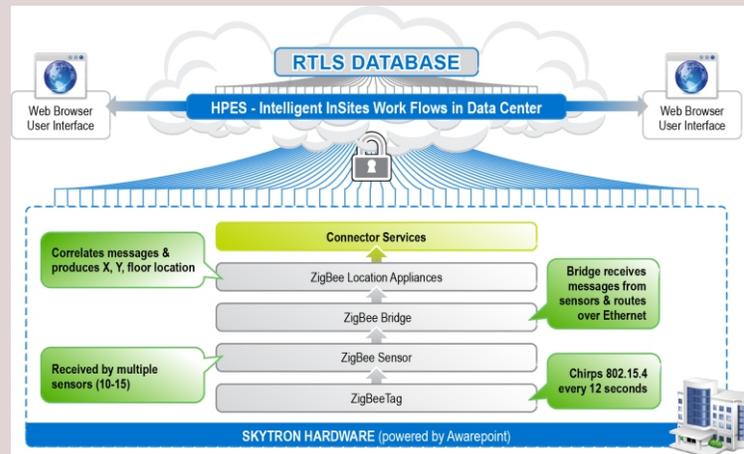
- On-Site Survey: 3/5/12 – 3/8/12
- Implementation: 5/16/12 – 5/28/12

VAIHCS has formed a multi-disciplinary team to aid in educating staff and to assist with the implementation of RTLS. The team members are as follows:

Diana Carranza, Associate Director – Senior Leadership Sponsor
Jonathan Hall, Systems Redesign Coordinator – Project Lead
Gerry Richardson, Chief, Materiel Management Section – RTLS Subject Matter Expert
Sam Ganti, Biomedical Engineering Supervisor – RTLS Subject Matter Expert
Frank Jackson, CIO – RTLS Subject Matter Expert
Harminder Chani, MD – Team Member
Ray Cheek, Chief, SPD/RME Service – Team Member
Shawn Harper, Physical Security Specialist – Team Member
Debbie Hesse, AFGE President – Team Member
Earl Lee, HR Labor Relations Specialist – Team Member
Abiodun Raimi, Chief Nurse ACS/AC/MH – Team Member
Jeannine Stonebraker, Ancillary Testing Coordinator – Team Member
Kimberly Tegenkamp, Dietician – Team Member
Kristi Weir, AO, Surgical Service – Team Member
Vickie Winters, AA, Ambulatory Care – Team Member
Carl Wise, General Foreman – Team Member
Keith Worley, Clinical Pharmacy Specialist – Team Member

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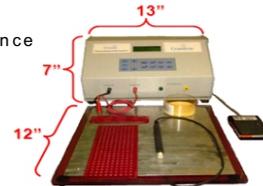
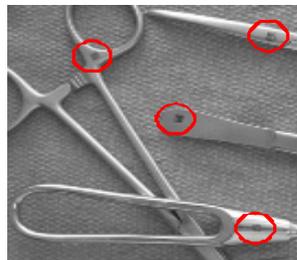
RTLS Coming Soon to Equipment Near You!



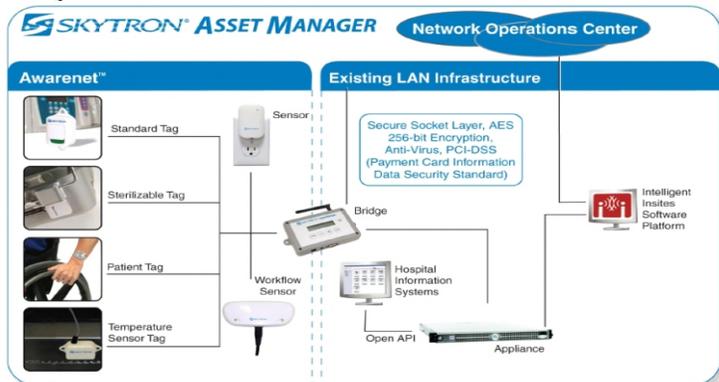
Censis – Surgical Instrument Tracking

How instruments are tagged

- Marking unit footprint is small
- No moving parts means little to no maintenance



Skytron RTLS Hardware



If you have any questions regarding RTLS implementation, please contact Jonathan Hall at ext. 44189 or any member of the team.

National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans



To Honor our Veterans

The Masonic Services Association of Danville recently donated three passing shrouds to the Palliative Care Ward. The Masonic Services Association of North American began this tradition when Corrine Bush, Mason First Lady observed that Veterans who had passed had no special arrangements for their bodies until collected by the family or funeral director. To honor those men and women who have served our county, under the Red, White and Blue, she decided that red, white and blue "passing shrouds" should be sewn and placed over the bodies of those Veterans who passed in a VA hospital.



Teresa Ard
Chief, Voluntary Service



“Eat to live, don’t live to eat!”-
Benjamin Franklin

For centuries food has been on the brain; from the famous painting ‘The Last Supper’ to the modern day movie, ‘Supersize Me.’

This March, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, formerly known as the American Dietetic Association, encourages you to get your plate in shape. Throw out words like “diet” and “restriction” and start enjoying the food you eat. Take charge by getting back to the basics- starting with your plate.

The average American dinner plate is about 12 inches around. Shape up your plate by cutting back to a 7 or 9 inch dish. This encourages healthy portions and it makes your plate look fuller.

Another way to get your plate in shape is to fill half your plate with fruits and veggies. Split the other half into 1 part protein (meat, poultry, fish,

beans, eggs, tofu, etc.) and 1 part starch (potatoes, rice, quinoa, bread, pasta, tortilla).

Round out your healthy plate by adding one serving of dairy such as yogurt or low-fat milk or cheese.

Here are a few more healthy tips to incorporate as part of March’s “National Nutrition Month.”

All fruits count! Buy canned, frozen, fresh, or dried as they all carry important nutrients. Buy canned fruit in 100% juice to avoid excess sugar. Fruit juices should be limited to ½ cup per day.

Choose low-sodium or no-added salt when buying canned vegetables.

When eating out share an entrée or put half your meal in a box for later. (Easy on the waistline and easy on the wallet!)

Enjoy what you like to eat, but eat less! Moderation, portion control, and exercise are the keys to living healthy.

Make half of your grains whole. (Look for words like Whole Grain, Whole Wheat, and 100% Whole Wheat.)

Limit intake of sugary beverages as they can be loaded with calories and provide little nutrition. Examples: sweet tea, soda, juice, sports drinks, and coffee drinks.

Jennifer Mast

Dietitian

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Patient Safety Awareness Week

Hospitals and healthcare organizations across the globe will join the National Patient Safety Foundation in celebration of National Patient Safety Awareness Week, March 4th-10th. Patient Safety Awareness Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness and encourage the engagement of patients, families, health care providers and the public, in safe healthcare systems.

The theme for 2012 is *Be Aware for Safe Care*, reflecting the need to involve everyone—from patients to providers—in ensuring the safety of our health care process. This year's theme highlights the need for everyone to understand the importance of patient safety and to recognize the range of efforts being made to improve health safety in the US and worldwide. Moreover, the campaign seeks to make patients, providers, and the public aware of the ways they can participate in these efforts and partner to improve patient safety. While efforts of the past decade have brought improvements, recent studies indicate that much work remains to be done—and can be done most effectively through the involvement of all parties. Be Aware for Safe Care emphasizes the fact that safety issues impact everyone. Now more than ever in health care, a focus on empowering patients and strengthening patient-provider communications are seen as paramount to reducing errors. We all need to Be Aware for Safe Care.

The goal of the Patient Safety Program here at VAIHCS is to prevent harm to Veterans seeking health care. We accomplish this through a non-punitive approach to reporting patient safety concerns (Close Call), conducting Root Cause Analysis (RCA), and through patient safety initiatives and education. In celebration of Patient Safety Awareness Week, you will have the opportunity to participate in several activities including; a Patient Safety Fair, Patient Safety Jeopardy, and Patient Safety Bingo. In addition, there will be a Patient Safety Suggestion Box in the HUB and CBOC for you to share your concerns about patient safety. More details will be provided as the date approaches.

Sandy Hart
Patient Safety Coordinator

Social Work Month

March is Social Work Month! This year the social workers at VA Illiana Health Care System have planned some activities that will benefit our Veterans and local community partners. This year's activities include:

March 9: Jeans Day sponsored by the Employee Association. The proceeds will go to two local charities, The Salvation Army of Danville and Crosspoint Human Services. These agencies were voted on by social workers as having the most significant positive impact on the lives of our Veterans.

March 14: Advance Directive Day will be held in the SAR from 9am-3pm and is open to all Veterans and staff. Social workers will be available to discuss what an Advance Directive is and assist in completing the documents.

February 21-March 9: A Food Drive and Diapers/Wipes Drive will be held throughout the medical center. All donated items will be given to our Veterans and their families. Donated items will be distributed to our Veterans on March 14th in the SAR from 11am-1pm.

Becky Catron, LSW

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Veterans in Peoria, IL, Losing Weight and Improving Their Health with MOVE!

The Bob Michel Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Peoria, Illinois, part of the VA Illiana Health Care System has an active MOVE! program (weight management program) available to Veterans with group and individual follow-up care. Three Veterans have lost 160 pounds combined by making small changes to their lifestyle! Randall Wolcott, Nathaniel Schultz, and Cynthia Dutlinger have been working with the MOVE! program to set goals and change their lives.



Picture left to right: Nathaniel Schultz,
Cynthia Dutlinger,

Nathaniel Schultz has lost 55 pounds by making changes to his diet. He states, "I've cut out the regular soda, started packing a lunch most days for work, and the weight just came off." He's also been able to lower his cholesterol and blood pressure with losing weight. He's been active with walking, running and playing softball. He has seen big results from diet and exercise changes and has lost nearly 18% of his starting weight!

Cynthia Dutlinger was coming to MOVE! group for a number of months and found a lot of support from the group setting. She was very knowledgeable of her diabetes and the diet she should be following. Cindy has lost 31 pounds in the last few months by applying the knowledge she had to her diet and lifestyle. She first realized the health impact of her weight loss when she was able to go up a flight a stairs with no knee pain. She states, "I now ride a bike, go for longer walks, and do stairs just for fun." Cindy has found motivation from other peers in the MOVE! group. She states, "We get positive feedback from the staff and they've helped us learn ways to achieve our goals."

Randall Wolcott has been consistent with keeping food records and it has proven to be a valuable tool. Randall has lost nearly 75 pounds and kept it off! He says, "I've been watching what I'm eating and taking smaller portions." Randall has been walking daily too and has much less pain now after losing the extra weight. Randall states, "I've even had to buy smaller clothes, which is encouraging."

These three Veterans started out with a small goal of losing 10% of their initial weight. This amount of weight loss has shown to reduce the risk of heart disease, heart attack, stroke, congestive heart disease, and certain types of cancer. A 10% weight loss is also associated with a reduced risk of developing diabetes and better control of blood sugars in those who have diabetes. These three Veterans have seen many of these benefits to their own health. We would like to congratulate these three Veterans on their success!

Beth Peralta
Dietitian



Keynote Speaker J. David Reeves

VAIHCS Celebrates Black History Month

The month of February is known to many as love month, to some it is known as marriage month, however to most in the African American community in the United States is known as Black

History Month. It was a vision of an individual that has become a national celebration. It was 1926 that Dr. Carter Woodson a black historian from Kentucky proposed that the month of February should be designated as black history month after a long struggle for recognition and admiration of black pioneers.

Having the month of February to celebrate and rejoice with black individuals that have contributed and achieved great accomplishments in their chosen fields has allowed most Americans to see and know the relative meaning of inclusion and what diversity could mean to a country like ours. As that popular black musician said, "Black and Proud", the month of February is a month that has allowed most African Americans to be proud of themselves and most importantly, it has afforded them the opportunity to assess and know that what they have done, or doing or going to do and contribute to the society will never be forgotten by the society.

If we look at every segment of our society, we shall discover that each section has something to offer for the betterment of the entire nation. Though Black History Month is to celebrate those African Americans that have contributed or are still contributing to the development of our nation, people like Oprah, Michael Steel. . . the month could also be used to re-assess our race relations and diversity and inclusion in our work environment.

The sacrifice has been made by those that have gone before us. It is our time to look at ourselves and begin to think on how to improve on what they have done for us to have the type of society that we are having today. Our society and work environment is better today than what it was in 1926. We have more educated and talented African Americans working in different working environments. They are in our schools teaching and educating the young ones, they are in our hospitals taking care of those that are sick or struggling with their health. Other areas that have seen increased number of black Americans are the technology industry, computer industry and entertainment industry.

The global interpretation of this development is that our society is more open and more willing to accept others regardless of their race and social background. We can all use this month to assess and evaluate ourselves on how we see each other and the contribution each other is making for the advancement of our environment, most especially our working environment. Diversity is about tolerance, acceptance, adaptation and growth. It is highly important that we all learn how to tolerate each other, respect each other and value each other's contributions. Diversity could also mean that we are more accepting and adaptive to any human condition. If I can adapt, I should be able to accept you, for what you are. Finally, diversity could be used as a mechanism for professional growth and development, because when we take time to listen, to communicate and understand each other, we are indirectly and directly increasing our knowledge of each other. We are taking time to understand each other's culture, beliefs and values, which has the potential to contribute to our professional understanding of our co-workers and those that we serve; the Veterans.

In conclusion, as we celebrate Black History Month, use this month to know more about your co-workers, your neighbors and yourself. Take time to find out more about that person that you met at school, the grocery store and inside the bus for the first time. Find out how they get to where they are and what they might need from you. Promoting a unified and peaceful working environment is every one's business. Let us begin to work on this today by greeting each other, smiling and laughing, rejoicing and celebrating each other's successes. Happy Black History Month to everyone!

Abiodun Raimi
Chief Nurse Acute Care

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Acting Director Thomas Mattice is pictured with Latajah Graham, 2012 Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Recipient.



Always a favorite! The VA Choir

American Recovery and Restoration Act Project Update

We are seeing progress on our American Recovery and Restoration Act (ARRA) stimulus funded project to replace the central boiler plant. In locations spread around the core of campus, four (4) brick and mortar buildings are being erected. The buildings are phased to bring each one on line one at a time. Even the Chapel is having its heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) upgraded.

Within the next few months, the Chapel will be having its carpeting replaced, bathroom and foyers renovated and the new equipment installed. We should be testing the Chapel's new HVAC system for readiness and occupancy by Spring.



For the new boiler buildings, the one that is furthest along and scheduled to be the first one on line is located near the Canteen's loading dock. It will be servicing building 104. This building has walls erected with its roof, floor slab, and doors installed. In addition, this building has even received the first three (3) boilers of the project. Over the next few months, we will see this building nearing completion. We will also see some construction activity inside of building 104 as it receives some steam piping infrastructure upgrades that will connect to the new boilers.

The next boiler building scheduled for completion is south of the Chapel and this new boiler system will be servicing buildings 98 and 103. It too has its walls erected with its roof, floor slab, and doors installed. It is receiving its boilers this February.

The third boiler building in the schedule is between buildings 102 and 104. This building's walls are going up now. Its boilers will serve building 102 and any future growth to that sector of the campus.

The fourth and final boiler building in the series is located in the parking lot behind building 58 and the kitchen's dock at building 104. This building's foundation is being built, and its boilers will serve buildings 58, 101 and 125. Before next Fall, the entire project should be completed.

Craig McCarthy
General Engineer

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Clothing Room - Extreme Makeover

To better serve our Veterans, the Clothing Room received an Extreme Makeover!

Utilizing Five S concepts (Sort, Simplify, Standardize, Sweep and Sustain) - volunteers along with the help of Brooke Heckerson, Systems Redesign and Howie Montegerard of Engineer Service, the work flow was observed and measured and a new floor layout developed. Additional storage shelves, hanging racks and shoe racks were purchased with the assistance of the Homeless program.



Clothing room volunteers (front to back): Paula Conder and Kim McCabe

The room was completely emptied while Environmental Management cleaned the room from ceiling to floor and the paint shop gave the room a fresh coat of paint. Volunteers sorted clothing according to type and sizes, restocking the shelves, hanging racks and shoe racks. Two new garbage cans are used to store socks. Clothing is easy to locate when a Veteran has a need and you can tell by the smiles on the faces of the volunteers how happy they are with the new arrangement! Everyone involved work quickly - the room was closed for just one week. thanks to all those who helped make this happen!

Teresa Ard
Chief, Voluntary Service

Thanks to a job well done

On January 30, 2012, the Joint Commission Surveyors arrived on station for a week long triennial survey. The survey team consisted of qualified staff that review the care provided to the Veterans within the hospital, long term care, ambulatory care, mental health and home based care. They had the privilege of visiting with Veterans and staff at the main facility and several Community Based Outpatient Clinics.

The Surveyors made special mention of services and programs they were impressed with. These include the Pain School, the Safe Day Call and the Healing Garden. They were also excited to visit the Freedom and Liberty Homes. The surveyors also praised staff several times on the quality of care provided to the Veterans and the dedication of the staff.

As with any survey there are always opportunities for improvement. These include three Direct Impact and 16 Indirect Impact Requirements for Improvement. Many of these findings were either resolved or in the process of getting resolved prior to the surveyors departure. All of the Requirements for Improvements must be corrected by the end of March to be submitted to Joint Commission for approval.

It is through the dedication of all the staff at the VA Illiana Healthcare System that Veterans continue to receive safe and effective quality of care. Surveys conducted throughout the facility reaffirm that commitment to our nation's heroes. Thanks again for your ongoing support and the practice of continued survey readiness.

Quality Management Staff

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Planetalk about Planetree

Spring has Arrived at VAIHCS and so has CHANGE!

As spring approaches, we are excited about the prospect of fresh, new changes. We are also budding with excitement as we see many Planetree transformations sprouting up all around us at Illiana.

In this article, we are going to talk about just a few of them and tell you about some amazing opportunities that you can take advantage of and be part of that change. If you have not been to building 98 in a while, or if you have not used the stairs across from the elevator, then you are truly missing something worth taking the stairs for. The first of two murals has been painted on the landing of the stairwell located between the 2nd and 3rd floors. Notice how the light fixture has been incorporated into the painting while the overall image gives a sense of taking a peaceful journey. The next mural will be between the 1st and 2nd floors of the same stairwell. When the project is completed, music from the CARE channel will drift through the area. With the future relocation of the PACT teams, this will become a Wellness Stairwell that will encourage employees and Veterans alike to utilize the stairs.



Another exciting change can be seen on the walls in the tramways. Wonderful pictures of the different branches of service are proudly displayed. Great comments can be heard about these images while walking down the tramways. One Veteran/employee was explaining to me that he had served on an aircraft carrier just like the one in the photo. He smiled and said "I'm just bragging." He has a right to, as does every Veteran that feels a connection to something in one of those photos. Several Veterans in focus groups had expressed a desire for military pictures of this sort. This was part of the remodeling planned by Engineering Service. Kudos to everyone in Engineering Service for making both of these things happen!



In addition to the progress mentioned above, there are two exciting opportunities for you to be part of this ongoing change. First, the Planetree Steering Committee will soon be requesting your help with initiating additional culture change projects. The process that the Steering Committee will be using to accomplish the many Veteran-Centered changes will be to pull a group of staff together to form a task group. The task group will work on an identified Veteran Centered process (such as Canteen hours on off tours and weekends). Once the project is completed your work is done until you sign up for the next project that you are interested in .

Secondly, there is a national contest opportunity thru VACO where you not only get to submit your creative ideas, but you get to vote for the ideas for Veteran-Centered care that you like the best. As many of you already know, you are the key to achieving change! This is the time to get your ideas out there! What about requiring Wi-Fi throughout every VA? What about patients being able to schedule appointments online?

What would make your work area better for the Veterans? The VA now recognizes that you are the field expert who needs to guide the change for the VA to become more Veteran-Centered. You are the person who can take us from good to **GREAT**.

Rana Shouse
Patient-Centered Care Coordinator

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BRAVO Award Recipients



Ambulatory Care Service

Robert Betts
Lisa Lancaster

Associate Director

David McClintock
Tracy DeWeese
Kendra Crawley

Associate Director/Patient Care Services

Alesia Coe
Cindy Liffick

Chief of Staff

Nirmala Rozario
Tammie Ritter
Diane Grimes

Dental Service

Beth Smothers

Director's Office

Sandy Hart
Michael E. Hamilton
Janice Jones
Doug Shouse

Education & Research Service

Randelyn Talkowski
Andrea Toth

Engineering Service

Sue Auter
Becky Phenicie
Doug Krout
Mike Westfahl

Environmental Management Service

Robert Arellano
Gerald Arnett
Paul Gritton
Ray Hillsman
James Preston
Mark Shepard

Donald Calhoun
James McCrone
Andre Bascom
Max Hand
William Umphenour

Fiscal Service

Deanna Auter
Beth Benjamin
Robert Bialecki
Jenna Grites
Judy Walag

Geriatrics & Extended Care Service

Tom DeTorres

Human Resources Services

Peggy Dreher
Amy Ferree
Debra Lewis
Stephanie Welsch
Earl Lee

Imaging Service

Merrit Spicer

IRM

Richarad Castle

Medical Administration Service

Vanessa Henley
Verna Mitchell
Debra Packnett
Floyd Troxel

Medical Service

Jackie Kennedy Bowman
Mia Leverenz
Linda Smith
Sarah Wilson

Mental Health Service

John Thompson
Susan Old
Amber Wellum
Melissa Mills
Omotola Danmole

Nutrition & Food Service

Patricia Hatter
Valerie Leek

Jesse LeSure, Jr.
Michael Thomas
Joshua Whitney
Peggy Brewer
Alex Sanchez
Charlotte Drude
Magdalene Ilich

Pathology & Lab Service

Eric Sternberger

Pharmacy Service

Barbara Kasper
Keith Worley
Michelle Eckart

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Service

Daniel Hall

Prosthetics

Kirsten Brown

PCS/Nursing Service

Misty Bartgis
John Lupian
Diann Smith
Audry Morse
Tamara Weiss
Abiodun Raimi
Tara Hackerd
Mary Burke
Tamara Stout
Evelyn Carter
Deborah Taylor
Vivian Richards
Richard Robinson
Lynette McCoy
Liz Killingham
Audrey Abbott
Flo Urso
Pamela Van Leer
Linda Rhodes
Helen Hershberger
Tisha Feinstein
Mary Page

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BRAVO Award Recipients

Police Service

Calvin Adams
Aaron Reid

Quality Management

Theresa Hopkins

Social Work Service

Christopher Difilippo
Victoria Dunavan



Surgical Service

Sandy Malan



Reflections of our Past . . .Provide Directions for our Future!

As a result of the Employee Survey for 2011 . . .

- Six employees from the Engineering (Biomed/Admin/Project) section has completed additional training to enhance their employees development.
- Imaging Service continues to have an open door policy between staff and supervisors.
- Human Resource Service is acknowledging their award recipients at their monthly staff meetings to increase the amount of recognition and praise.
- Nutrition and Food Service, in conjunction with National Nutrition Month, is coordinating an annual gathering for all the CBOC and Danville Dietitians to enhance employee cohesion and job satisfaction.

Just a few examples of the innovative work being accomplished to better our facility in response to the All Employee Survey!

The FY 12 All Employee Survey is scheduled for April 23, 2012 - May 4, 2012.

Mattie Enge

Homeless Summit

The VA Illiana Health Care System hosted its second annual Homeless Veterans Summit in conjunction with the Corporation for Supportive Housing. A multitude of VA and community providers were in attendance. The HUD Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR) reported a 12% decrease in Veteran homelessness between 2010 and 2011. While this is good news, we still have a ways to go. The aim of the Summit was focused on increasing efficacious collaboration between VA and community providers to eliminate homelessness among the Veteran population. Through ideas and practices learned at this training we hope to see an even greater decrease in homelessness among Veterans in the near future.

Timothy Jobin, LCSW

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Gains

- Kelly A. Belinger-Sahar** - Social Worker - Social Work Service
- Janet M. Burns** - Medical Support Assistant - Medical Administration Service
- Theodore H. Butts** - Carpenter - Engineering Service
- Serena Calhoun** - Student Trainee - Voluntary Service
- Laura A. Carlson** - Dietitian - Nutrition and Food Service
- Kevin P. Collins** - Police Officer - Police Service
- Jessica E. Cooper** - Nurse - Nursing Service
- Terry J. Forman** - Food Service Worker - Nutrition & Food Service
- Kevin G. George** - Housekeeping Aid - Environmental Management Service
- Jennifer L. Godwin** - Medical Support Assistant - Medical Administration Service
- Tammy L. Hale** - Medical Support Assistant - Medical Administration Service
- Curtis B. Heldenbrand** - RN - Nursing Service
- Carter E. Henson** - Civilian Pay Technician - Fiscal Service
- Melvin Langston** - Medical Support Assistant - Nursing Service
- Tresa L. Richards** - Medical Support Assistant - Medical Administration Service

- Lawrence D. Russell** - Electrician - Engineering Service
- Ricky Serrano** - HR Specialist - Human Resources
- Ashley L. Strebing** - Medical Support Assistant - Medical Administration

Losses

- Thomas F. Caldwell** - Physician - Ambulatory
- Vicky L. Curtis** - Nurse - Nursing Service
- Caleb W. Davis** - Social Worker - Social Work Service
- Edith K. Dowers** - Practical Nurse - Nursing Service
- James R. Esgar** - Pharmacist - Pharmacy Service
- Vanessa J. Rainey** - Nurse - Ambulator Care
- Mary Beth Rohrback** - Nurse - Nursing Service
- Ashante M. Shelton** - Boiler Plant Operator - Engineering Service
- Carly J. Thomas** - Nursing Assistant - Nursing Service
- Floyd W. Troxel** - Mail & File Clerk - Medical Administration Service

Service Pins

40 Years

Gregory P. Hoss
Engineering Service



15 Years

Sharon F. Buchanan
Nursing Service

Sheila D. Allen
Nursing Service

Daniel L. Freeman

Environmental Management Service

James A. Parker

Environmental Management Service

25 Years

Tammie J. Ritter
Chief of Staff

Michael E. Thomas
Nutrition & Food Service

10 Years

Jason M. Willsr
Nutrition & Food Service

Lisa M. Utkin
Medical Administration Service

Deborah A. Czernecki
Nutrition & Food Service

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Those Who Served*

Committee Members

- Teresa Ard**
- David Boerst**
- Jaime Kanger**
- Doug Shouse**