

Illiana News

"Proudly Serving Those Who Served"



Department of
Veterans Affairs

Illiana Health Care System

October 2013

VAIHCS Honors POW/MIAs



The POW MIA Recognition Program was held on September 20th in the Veterans Chapel. Timothy Kohlbecker, POW Coordinator, did the POW roll call. Present were Charles Dukes, Harold "Sparky" Songer, and Alvin Bluhm. Special music was provided by Brian Patterson, Worship Minister, St. Joseph Church of Christ. The Silent Table was read by Randy Van Vickle, VFW Post 728 and Taps was played by Kendal Spicer, Danville High School student.



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Executive Corner

It is a privilege to serve as your Acting Director during this transitional period until a new Director is selected and on board.



I have been the Associate Director for Resources at the Central Texas Veterans Health Care System (CTVHCS) since March 2010. Prior to that I was the Associate Director for Operations at the Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center located in Walla Walla, Washington.

During this period of transition, I will work closely with Ms. Carranza, Dr. Rozario and Ms. Coe to assure our day-to-day operations and decision making continues to go smoothly. My goal as Acting Director is to help any way I can and also provide fresh eyes and a new perspective as we work through the challenges in a large health care system such as ours.

As I have seen in my short time here, VA Illiana Health Care System has always been a leader in VISN 11 with performance measures which confirms the compassion and quality of care that is provided here.

Russell E. Lloyd
Acting Director



Calendar of Events

Columbus Day
October 14

National Boss Day
October 16

National Mammography Day
October 18

World Osteoporosis Day
October 20

National Healthcare Quality Week
October 20-26

National Respiratory Care Week
October 20-26

National Veterans Creative Arts Festival - Reno, Nevada
October 21-27

United Nations Day (1945)
October 24

Lung Health Day
October 30

Halloween
October 31

Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 3

X-Ray Discovered (1895)
November 8

Berlin Wall Opened (1989)
November 9

Marine Corps Established (1775)
November 10

Veterans Day
November 11

Fall of Kabul, Afghanistan (2001)
November 13

World Diabetes Day
November 14

Healthcare Food Service Week - October 7-13, 2013

The supervisors in Nutrition & Food Service are teaming together and providing a “cook-out” luncheon on October 7, 2013 for all Nutrition & Food Service staff as part of appreciation for Healthcare Food Service week. Door prizes are also being done each day of the week.

Nutrition & Food Service staff are available 14 hours/day, 7 days/week to provide 3 meals/day to all Veterans despite weather conditions or other issues happening within VA such as power/steam outages. In addition to cooking, preparing and serving meals, staff also clean all dishes and dining rooms that are used throughout the facility after each meal. Meals are provided throughout the day as requested for Veterans who are admitted, removed from NPO, change in diet, etc.

Nutrition & Food Service staff also provides the following for our Veterans:

- 🎯 Prepare and distribute therapeutic nourishments as ordered by RD
- 🎯 Stock bulk snacks on all CLC/MH units
- 🎯 Obtain select menu choices for all inpatient Veterans
- 🎯 Prepare coffee pots daily for all CLC units for veterans to have coffee immediately upon awakening
- 🎯 Stock food items on Ambulatory surgery, Urgent Care, other outpatient stations.
- 🎯 Provide special birthday menu for all inpatient Veterans
- 🎯 Provide special holiday meals for all Veterans

When you see food service workers in the medical center this week, thank them for the great work they do 365 days/year for our nation’s heroes.

Nancy Allen
Chief, NFS

Congressman Shimkus Tours VAIHCS



Congressman Shimkus received a warm welcome from Tom Morse -- Commander, Danville American Legion Post 210.

While touring our facility, Congressman Shimkus had an opportunity to visit with Veterans.



It's Combined Federal Campaign Time!

The Combined Federal Campaign will run from October 22 through December 31. The goal for our facility is \$30,000; this is your chance to give back to your community!

The mission of the Combined Federal Campaign is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all. The CFC is the only authorized fundraising organization allowed in federal work places; in addition, the campaign period is the only time that charities are allowed to come into the work places of military and federal employees to solicit donations. This year marks the 52nd Combined Federal Campaign which was started in 1961 by President Kennedy.

There are several ways to contribute:

1. Online payroll deduction
2. Online lump sum
3. Pledge form payroll deduction
4. Pledge form lump sum

See your CFC Key Personnel for your service/area for pledge forms.

Online Contribution Instructions:

1. Go to: ChicagoCFC.net
2. Select Pledge Online
3. Select the myPay logo in the center of the page
4. Once in myPay select the Combined Federal Campaign under pay changes and follow the prompts

The minimum contribution is \$1 – that is just \$2 a month! Show your heart and do your part; touch a life today and make your donation to the CFC!

***Please contact either Deborah Lewis at 45969 or Kristi Weir at 45452 with any questions.

Kristi Weir



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Combined Federal Campaign FAQ's:

How do I know my chosen charities really receive my money?

- Annual audits conducted by Local Federal Coordinating Committee, a Certified Public Accountant, and the Office of Personnel Management to ensure contributions are collected and distributed accurately and that campaign expenses are justified and in accordance with federal regulations. These audit results are available through the CFC website.

If I designate my gift to a certain agency, does that reduce their general funds by that amount?

- No, designated and undesignated funds are distributed separately.

Why should I contribute to CFC when I don't use their services?

- CFC organizations touch all of our lives every day through human services and environmental causes such as disaster relief, support of Veteran, morale welfare recreation programs, medical research, job training, clean air and water, protection of our resources, pets, and wildlife. This is in addition to providing medical care, food, clothing, and Christmas toys to children and families in need. This strengthens our neighborhoods and communities thereby raising the condition of all. Experience teaches that any of us may be just one misfortune away from needing a CFC agency's help.

Why are these particular charities listed in the campaign brochure?

- Recipient charities must apply and pass stringent eligibility tests and must reapply annually to be considered. Some criteria required is:

- ★ Must be a IRS 501(c) 3 status as not-for-profit, voluntary organization
- ★ Must be eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions
- ★ Must have an active volunteer Board of Directors
- ★ Must report overhead costs with IRS 990 Form and submit to financial audits
- ★ Must provide an annual report that is available to the public
- ★ Local Applicants must have "local presence" which includes office/facility open minimum 15 hours per week, and located in Vermilion County

Isn't CFC just United Way with a different name?

- No. The CFC is a separate campaign running concurrently with the United Way and State Employee campaigns. This is **your** campaign.

Why contribute through payroll deduction?

- Payroll deduction makes it convenient for you to give by letting you spread your contribution across the entire year. Payments on payroll deduction pledges begin on the first pay period in January.



Dementia Education Fair

VA Illiana's Dementia Committee had their first ever Dementia Education Fair on September 18th. The fair was very successful and brought together staff and members of the community to learn more about dementia. One hundred and seventy people participated in the fair including VA staff, veterans, caregivers, and community agencies. Many people shared their struggles with caring for a loved one with cognitive impairment and expressed gratitude for the information they received about dementia and services available.

Fair attendees were able to meet with VA and community agency staff members to learn about the symptoms of dementia as well as available interventions and resources. They learned how dementia is identified and how medical treatment, in-home services, and community outreach programs can increase the quality of life for people and their families dealing with this difficult illness. Furthermore, our dieticians did a wonderful job cooking for all those who attended and providing them helpful tips on food choices to optimize nutrition for people with dementia.

The Dementia Committee would like to thank all those who gave their time and expertise to help our VA and local community learn more about dementia care and VA and local services available. Thank you to CRIS Healthy Aging Center, Alzheimer's Association, McCall Adult Daycare/Key Club, Champaign County Nursing Home-Sunshine Center, Indiana Area Agency on Aging, Alpha Care, Faith in Action, Danville Public Library, Danville YMCA, Home Based Primary Care, Community Living Center, Palliative Care Coordinator, Community Health Nurse Coordinators, Behavioral Health Coordinator, Neuropsychology, Patient Education Coordinator, Caregiver Support Coordinator, Pharmacy, Police, Emergency Management, and Dietetics. We also want to give a special thank you to those departments who greatly supported our committee in getting this fair put together including Recreation Therapy and Voluntary Services, Medical Media, Engineering, Housekeeping, Canteen and Employee Services.

In addition to wonderful education the fair also provided several door prizes thanks to the donations of Voluntary Services. We would like to congratulate our winners!

Lael Dixon	Chaplain Service	Fighting Illini T-Shirt
Diane Macready	Mental Health Service	Fighting Illini T-Shirt
Alex Sanchez	Nutrition & Food Service	Self-Care Gift Basket
Lindsey Betout	Nursing Service	Fishing Pole & Pastime Gift Basket
Amy Noble	Geriatric & Extended Care	Self-Care Basket
Joann Hillsman	Canteen Service	Alpha Care Food Basket
Sudha Uppuluri	Mental Health Service	YMCA One Month Free Membership

(continued on next page)

Dementia Education Fair *(continued)*

The Dementia Committee would also like to thank all those who took time out of their very busy schedules to attend the fair and increase their knowledge on dementia. As the chair of the committee, I would like to acknowledge and thank our hard working committee members who worked so diligently to make this fair possible: Cheryl Rome, Suzanne Brandon, Casey Lorenzen, Angelika Hustedt, Shaun Cox, Morgan Lincicum, and Latasha Hampton. We will continue to work diligently to increase awareness and knowledge about dementia. We welcome services to contact us if they feel their employees could benefit from additional training on dementia or as a resource for patient care.

***Bridget Tribout, PhD.
Clinical Psychologist***

Highlights of the Dementia Education Fair



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013 Breast Cancer Awareness Walk



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ICD-10: What Is It and Why Is It Being Implemented?

In 2003, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) named ICD-9 as the code set for reporting diagnoses and hospital inpatient procedures in electronic administrative transactions. The purpose of the code set is for the classification of patient morbidity and mortality information for statistical purposes.

As of October 1, 2014, the United States will begin using ICD-10 codes. Why?

It is believed that the ICD-9 code sets have become too outdated and are no longer workable for treatment, reporting and payment processing today. ICD-9 has been used in the United States since 1978. The World Health Organization (WHO) endorsed ICD-10 in 1990 and many countries have adopted versions of it. The age of ICD-9 indicates it does not accurately demonstrate all of the advances made in medical technology and information. Some chapters do not allow for the addition of any more codes,

which means a diagnosis may be assigned to a chapter of a different body system. Codes may be difficult to locate and may be assigned inappropriately.

Another reason to replace ICD-9 is that ICD-10 provides for increased specificity. More specific data will provide better information for identifying diagnosis trends, public health needs, and epidemic outbreaks. More precise codes also provide for fewer rejected claims, improving benchmarking data, improved quality and care management, and improved public health reporting.

The implementation of ICD-10 will be very task driven and will cause a significant burden on health care agencies and their providers. However, the benefits gained from the change will be worthwhile. Training will be provided to involved staff and will require significant changes in the way we are conducting business associated with the assignment of codes for our services.

An ICD-10 Steering Committee has been developed and is working on tasks and strategies to prepare our facility for the eventual implementation.

Julie Wahls, RHIT



New Patient Orientation

Starting October 9, 2013, New Patient Orientation will be held every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. CST at the Danville Campus in Building 98, room 2006 (Medical Appointment Room) and also every Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. CST at the Peoria CBOC. The Mattoon, Springfield, Decatur and West

Lafayette CBOCs will be able to participate via video teleconference by connecting to the Peoria CBOC each Friday.

New Patient Orientation provides our newly enrolled Veterans valuable information on how to use the available resources within our system including the benefits they are eligible for, copayment information, prescription information, co-managed care and the services we offer throughout VAIHCS. New Patient Orientation is offered to Veterans when they are scheduled for their first appointment (10-10) with VAIHCS but if you know of any other Veteran that might be interested in attending New Patient Orientation, please let Darcie Clauson know.

If you have any questions or would like further information regarding New Patient Orientation, contact Darcie Clauson, Patient Education Coordinator, at extension 45567.

Darcie Clauson
Patient Education Coordinator

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Illiana Safety News

OCTOBER 2013, NUMBER 10

Illiana Safety News will be distributed on a quarterly basis to share safety information with VA Illiana Health Care System staff. Questions or comments should be directed to the Safety Office at 45149.

ACCIDENT REPORTING, INVESTIGATION, AND REVIEW

MCM 132ESS-03 establishes policies, and procedures to follow in the reporting, investigation and review of on-the-job injuries and job-related illnesses that result in lost time, light duty, and medical treatment.

Accident prevention must be diligently followed by all employees in order to reduce injuries/illnesses which may result in lost time, light duty, or medical treatment to employees, patients, visitors, and contractors. The best way to accomplish this is to identify and alleviate the cause(s) of injuries/illnesses which result in lost workdays.

An injury or illness is considered work related if it results from an event or exposure in the work environment.

It is the responsibility of all employees:

1. To report accidents, injuries, and illnesses to their supervisors immediately.
2. To report to Occupational Health in Building 98 for first aid and assessment of all injuries, even if minor. Employees must report to Occupational Health for evaluation of on the job injuries prior to seeking treatment from their personal physician.
3. To submit signed notice of injury through Form CA-1, or of disease of illness on Form CA-2 to their supervisor **IF** there is lost time or medical bills as a result of the accident. If there are neither, then a CA-1 or CA-2 does not have to be initiated by the employee.

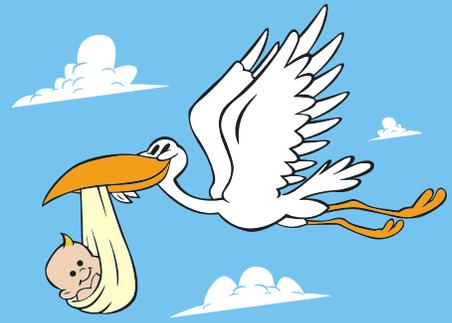
Trivia: The First 6 people to respond with all of the correct answers will receive a “MAKE ZERO ACCIDENTS YOUR GOAL” blanket!

- 1) What is a CA-1 used to report? What about a CA-2?
- 2) An employee is injured at the start of their shift and sent home for the rest of the day, but they return the next day. Is this considered a lost work day?
- 3) How many days does a Supervisor have to complete an Incident Report in ASIST?
- 4) How many days does an employer have to submit a CA-1 or CA-2 to Department of Labor?
- 5) Who are members of the Accident Review Committee meet? How often do they meet?

E-mail answers to David McClintock with the location to send your prize!

BABY SHOWER

The Federal Women's Program and the Department of Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary sponsored a baby shower for the women Veterans here at VA Illiana Health Care System. Expecting mothers and new mothers had the opportunity to do some "shopping" for their new bundle of joy. From Pampers to Pack'n Plays, books and bottles, the room was filled with everything a baby needs! A very special thanks goes out to Doris Hayes, UFW Ladies Auxiliary for organizing this wonderful event.



Jamie Alexander, United States Army Veteran and her son, Solomon.



Joanna Collom - United States Navy Veteran



Randi Kilkenny, United States Coast Guard Veteran.



Rachel Bicha, United States Navy Veteran and her son, Jasper.

Sterile Processing Service (SPS) Open House

In honor of International Central Service Week (October 13th-19th), VAIHCS Sterile Processing Service (SPS) held a walk through "open house" on October 16th. Over the last year SPS has undergone many improvements, equipment upgrades and changes in processes. These include:

RME/Scope Processing

- Touch screen computer system for tracking the Manual Cleaning of Scopes piloted and developed by Danville SPS (VERC IVN)
- Computerized/Networked Endoscope processors (Medivator)
- Web-based Instrument Tracking/marking system (Censi-Trac)
- Installation of new Washer/Disinfector which reduced instrument processing time from 55 minutes to 25 minutes
- Dedicated Eye Instrument Workstation/Ultrasonic for processing cataract instruments

Work Environment/Staff

- Purchase of lightweight plastic carts to replace heavier stainless steel carts
- Installation of adjustable sinks to allow work to rise to individuals employees height
- Replacement of solid dirty P/U bins with clear plastic bins, allows staff to see if p/u is needed before touching
- Consolidation of liquid chemicals in spill proof cabinets within Decontam



Facility Improvements

- Display of wall mounted PPE cabinet (prototype) initiated and purchased by SPS to replace the blue/yellow ISO/MRSA carts

Melvin "Ray" Cheek
Chief, Sterile Processing Service (SPS)



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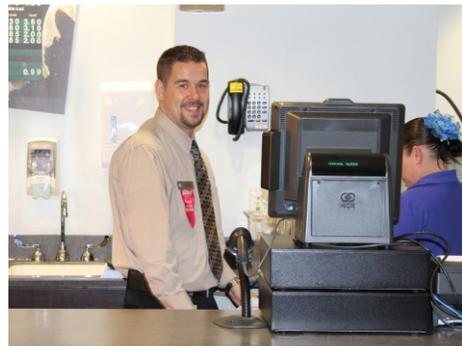
Starbucks is Here!

A ribbon cutting ceremony marked the Grand Opening of the VCS PatriotBrew on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, located in Building 98, Second Floor.

Serving the amazing Starbuck coffee. Frappuccino! Latte! Espresso! And don't forget the many delicious desserts available!

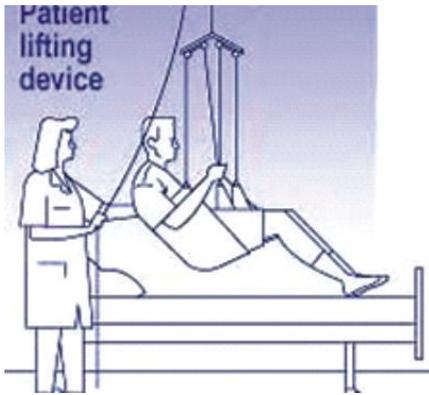


Pictured left to right: Treasa Perez, Veterans Canteen Service; Russell E. Lloyd, Acting Director; Robert Fry, Chief, Veterans Canteen Service; Alesia Coe, Associate Director for Patient Care Services; and Diana Carranza, Associate Director.



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How the Safe Patient Handling Program Has Impacted YOU

Our Safe Patient Handling Program has had some positive effects over the years. Our overall Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 lifting and repositioning injuries are down 25% from last year and 64% from FY11. For this calendar year we have 1 OSHA reportable injury compared to 4 in 2012. Preventative injuries (use of equipment could have prevented the injury) continue to decline and are decreased by 50% of FY12 and 85% of FY11. Overall lifting and repositioning injuries have decreased to 4% of all facility injuries (struck by or against, assaults, etc.); FY11=15% and FY12=6%. FY13 use of fall

recovery lifts has increased by 30% compared to FY12, and 40% compared to FY11.

Amanda Stevens, MSN, BSN, RN
Safe Patient Handling Coordinator

East Central Illinois Heart Walk

AES Update



The AES survey ended on September 30, 2013. VAIHCS completion rate was 49.2%.

We should expect AES results within 8 weeks from survey ending date and at that time will share with Leadership and then each service/work group.

Candi Gregg



Each year millions of people participate in Heart Walks around the country to raise money that will be used to fund the valuable research, education and advocacy efforts of the American Heart Association. VA Illiana Health Care System formed 7 teams and raised over \$1,700.00 for the East Central Illinois Heart Walk, ranking our company in the top 5 supporters.

BRAVO Award Recipients



Ambulatory Care Service

Sheri Marx (2)
Larry De Pedro
Ebun Croom-Osaze

Associate Director

Kendra Crawley

Associate Director for Patient Care Services

Janet Lawson (3)

Chaplain Service

Augustine Tufail

Chief of Staff

Steve Collins
Nancy Goodner (3)
Dale Van Duyn

Dental Service

Julie Putman

Director's Office

Jennifer Clark

Engineering Service

Gary Cheesman
George Dudich
Arthur Longoria
Fred Thornsborough

Environmental Management Service

Will Thomas
Daniel McIntyre
Brandon Shaw
Paul Gritton
Dennis Knight

Fiscal Service

Skylar Davis
Audrey Stidd

Geriatrics and Extended Care

Dawn Jenkins

Human Resources Services

Stacie Bartlett
Rebecca Diskin
Earl Lee
Connie Ohl
Janice Phillips
Julie Warner (2)

Imaging Service

Mary Vogel

IRM

Katie Bolser

Logistics Service

Joel Ferren

Medical Administration Service

Leroney Bond
Maria Bryant
Tamara Garrett (2)
Karen Omark
Arnetta Smith (2)
Tina Vinson
Cheryl Wakeland
Lisa Wallace

Nutrition & Food Service

Dean Dombroskie
Alex Sanchez
Stephanie Tuggle
Laurie Van De Walker
Randy Westley

PCS/Nursing

Janetta Brown
Lisa Carroll
Gail Collins
Nancy Conrad (3)
Laura Davis
Robin Gordon
Rebecca Raines
Marcia Selman
Marla Smith
Amanda Stevens
Angela White
Linda Wilkening

Pharmacy Service

Clhoriss Julick

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Service

Michelle Miller
Keith Peoples
Nick Scheuing

Police, Safety & Emergency Management Service

Roger Brushaber
Dave McClintock (2)
Mike Sheltroun

Prosthetics

Marcus Anderson
Amber Davis

Quality Management

Alissa Broderick

Recreation Therapy Service

Casey Lorenzen

Social Work Service

Megan Cambron
Amber Clark
John Jenkins
David Morris
Sarah Nixon
Amber Wellum

Surgical Service

Letitia Link (2)
Kristi Weir (2)

Veterans Canteen Service

Carlos Cunningham (2)

Gains

Michael J. Costa - Physician - Pathology and Lab Service
Gregory A. Osaze - Sales Clerk - Veterans Canteen Service

Losses

Catherine L. Craft - General Engineer - Engineering Service
Rita K. Crouse - Registered Nurse - Nursing Service
Yvette Glenn - Nurse Practitioner - Nursing Service
Matthew S. Hayes - Employee Relation Specialist - Human Resources Service
Carrie L. Helle - Registered Nurse - Mental Health Service
Brett R. Jacobs - Lead Occupational Therapist - Physical

Medicine & Rehabilitation Service
Timothy L. Markowicz - Electrician - Engineering Service
Tamara L. Reynolds - Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor - Social Work Service
Maria J. Shade - Nursing Assistant - Nursing Service
Augustine Tufail - Chaplain - Chaplain Service

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Committee Members
David Boerst
Lisa Hillary
Jaime Kanger
Jennifer Lane
Doug Shouse
Bob Sprouls

Service Pins



25 Years

Steven B. Collins
Chief of Staff

Theodore E. Henrix, Jr.
Pathology & Lab Service

William V. Huffstutler
Engineering Service

Jeffery L. Scott
Nursing Service

Kathy A. Thomas
Social Work Service

20 Years

Randy L. Williams
Nursing Service

15 Years

Thomas G. Detorres
Surgical Service

Timothy A. Graham
Environmental Management Service

Cheryl L. Wakeland
Medical Administration Service

10 Years

Tina M. Duprey
Nursing Service

Vanessa M. Henley
Medical Administration Service

Sherril L. Masulis
Nursing Service

Darrell A. Olson
Pharmacy Service