



June 2014

For Employees, Volunteers and Veterans of VA Roseburg and our Community Clinics

Inside this Issue:

*Understanding
Ambulatory Surgery
Complexity*

*More about Home
Telehealth*

*New Veteran ID
cards ...what you
need to know*

Much more...



From the Chief of Staff ²



Understanding Ambulatory Surgery

Throughout the course of this last year, I have answered questions from hundreds of Veterans and met with numerous Veteran groups to talk about their health care and the services VA Roseburg Healthcare System (VARHS) offers. One question that frequently surfaces is about the change in our hospital's surgical complexity level, and what ambulatory surgeries the VARHS Roseburg facility currently performs.

Understanding VA hospital surgical complexity levels can be challenging. There are two guiding VHA directives; one for inpatient surgical complexity and one for ambulatory surgical complexity and they are complicated documents to read and understand. In the table below, I have outlined the different levels of surgical complexity with some context to provide a mental picture of the infrastructure necessary at each site.

Inpatient Surgical Complexity	Ambulatory Surgical Complexity
<p>Standard – This is the level at which VHA Roseburg was operating prior to Summer 2013.</p>	<p>Basic – This is the surgical complexity level that our infrastructure supports and is where we have been operating since Summer 2013.</p>
<p>Intermediate – Boise is the best example of a facility in our VISN with the infrastructure to support intermediate surgical complexity such as total joint replacements.</p>	<p>Advanced – When completed, the Eugene CBOC will perform Advanced Ambulatory surgeries. The difference is the ready availability of vascular surgery consultation in Eugene while Roseburg is just outside the 60 minute window for a vascular surgeon coming from Eugene.</p>
<p>Complex – Large medical centers, such as Portland and Seattle, have the infrastructure to support complex surgical cases such as cardiac and neurosurgery.</p>	

When operating under Standard Inpatient Surgical complexity, we performed some procedures that we no longer perform under Basic Ambulatory Surgical Complexity. The most common surgeries that we no longer perform include appendectomy, gallbladder surgeries, repair of ventral (middle of the abdomen) hernias, and transurethral resection prostate (TURP).

Under Basic Ambulatory Surgery, we still do all of the cataract surgeries, all the inguinal (groin) hernia repairs and all of the orthopedic surgeries that we had been doing under Standard Surgical Complexity. Because of the number of these procedures done each year we can say that we will be able to perform 97% of the procedures done in our facility before moving to our current Basic Ambulatory Surgery Complexity.



**For All Emergencies
Dial *35
Off Hospital Campus dial 911**

VA Roseburg Healthcare System Safety Salvo

June 2014



National Electrical Safety Month

AT HOME: The statistics are staggering. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), electrical failures or malfunctions were factors in an estimated 46,500 home fires in 2010. These fires caused 420 deaths, 1,520 injuries, and \$1.5 billion in property damage. Here are a just a few ways to reduce risk of electrical hazards in the home: **Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters (AFCIs)** – An AFCI is a new type of circuit breaker which recognizes fire hazards and immediately shuts off the power. **Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs)** – GFCIs are special outlets that have saved thousands of people from electrocution over the last three decades. If GFCIs were installed in older homes, experts suggest that 70 percent of the electrocutions that occur each year in the home could be prevented. **Tamper Resistant Receptacles (TRRs)** – Tamper resistant receptacles feature an internal shutter mechanism to prevent small children from inserting foreign objects into them. These specialized outlets have been so effective in preventing injuries to children that the National Electrical Code requires that tamper resistant receptacles be installed in all newly constructed homes .

Your VA Roseburg Healthcare Safety Team

Jose Hernandez, Safety Officer.....Ext. 40087
Atticus Lamoreaux, Safety Specialist.....Ext. 40144
Ryan Binford, GEMS Coordinator.....Ext. 41319

SAFETY HOTLINE: 44000

CBOC's Facility Safety Representatives
Eugene: Wendy Powell.....Ext. 47522
Kim Cooley.....Ext. 47416
North Bend: Nick Long.....Ext. 48022
Brookings: Janet Hinds.....541-412-1842

AT WORK: Every year in the United States, workplace electrical incidents result in more than 300 deaths and 3,500 injuries. While electrical hazards are not the leading cause of on-the-job injuries and fatalities, they are disproportionately fatal and costly. For every 13 electrical injuries - a worker dies. Most of these electrically-related fatalities and injuries could be prevented. Awareness of workplace electrical hazards and knowledge of best practices are critical to reducing these staggering statistics. Best practices include:

- Arc Flash Awareness
- De-energizing of power sources
- Lockout/tagout procedures
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Test before touch

Source: Electrical Safety Foundation International

PLEASE POST

Events



All Employee Meetings and Barbecues

BHRRS- All Employee Meeting- June 12 10:00 a.m.
Employee Barbecue

Roseburg- Employee Barbecue June 13 10:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.
All Employee Meeting- June 16 12:30 p.m. (Includes Awards)
All Employee Meeting- June 17 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.



Eugene- All Employee Meeting- June 20 10:00 a.m.
Employee Barbecue following meeting

North Bend- All Employee Meeting- August 7 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Employee Barbecue following meeting

Brookings- All Employee Meeting- August 8 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Employee Barbecue following meeting



More Events....

Hiring our Heroes Event- June 4, 2014 at the Roseburg National Guard Armory- 111 NW General Ave. Roseburg, OR. For Registration questions, please contact hiringourheroes@uschamber.com or call 202-463-5807

Veteran Death Benefit Seminar- June 26- 3:30 p.m. at the Roseburg VA Auditorium and hosted by the VA National Cemetery Administration (NCA)



feds feed families

June 1 - August 29

Please bring non-perishable food items and place them into a designated collection box located in your Federal workplace.

Since the campaign began in 2009, Federal workers have donated and collected 15.2 million pounds of food and other non-perishable items to support families across America.

All Federal agencies, including Field components, are asked to participate in the campaign. The field agencies can share their collections with their local food banks.

If you would like to be a Point of Contact for your service please contact Jennifer Stolburg at 40312.

Worklife Improvement Team (WIT) June Competition



WIT Pie Competition

June 13th

10:30 – 12:30

In the Auditorium

Pie will be sampled by employees and volunteers and the winner will be selected by popular vote. Bring your pie entries to the auditorium at 10:30 to compete for a chance to win!

Prizes-Choice of:

- **parking spot for the month of July**
- **59 minutes off (59er)**

A Day of Celebration for Military & Veterans: "Flags & Families"

Come join Operation Informed Warrior &
The VA Roseburg HCS OEF/OIF/OND Program for a
fun filled day with food, information, and great people.

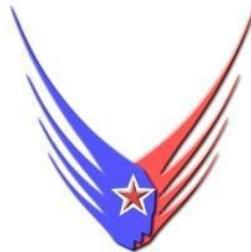
*Resources for Veterans, Service Members, and Families
plus activities for kids.*

LOCATION: Ferry Road Park, North Bend, Oregon

DATE & TIME: Saturday, June 14th from 1-5PM

CONTACT INFO: Operation Informed Warrior on Facebook

Or Email: operationinformedwarrior@gmail.com



OPERATION INFORMED WARRIOR



Home Telehealth

*Your Care Coordinator
is here for you!*

Home Telehealth is growing at VA Roseburg Healthcare System and you can be a part of it! Home Telehealth is designed to help you with your health care needs from the comfort of your own home. By using simple in-home technology a Registered Nurse will be able to assess and monitor your health and well-being. These nurses serve as a link between you and your VA health care providers. If you are interested in improving your health, quality of life and becoming a more active participant in your healthcare, then this daily program may be for you!

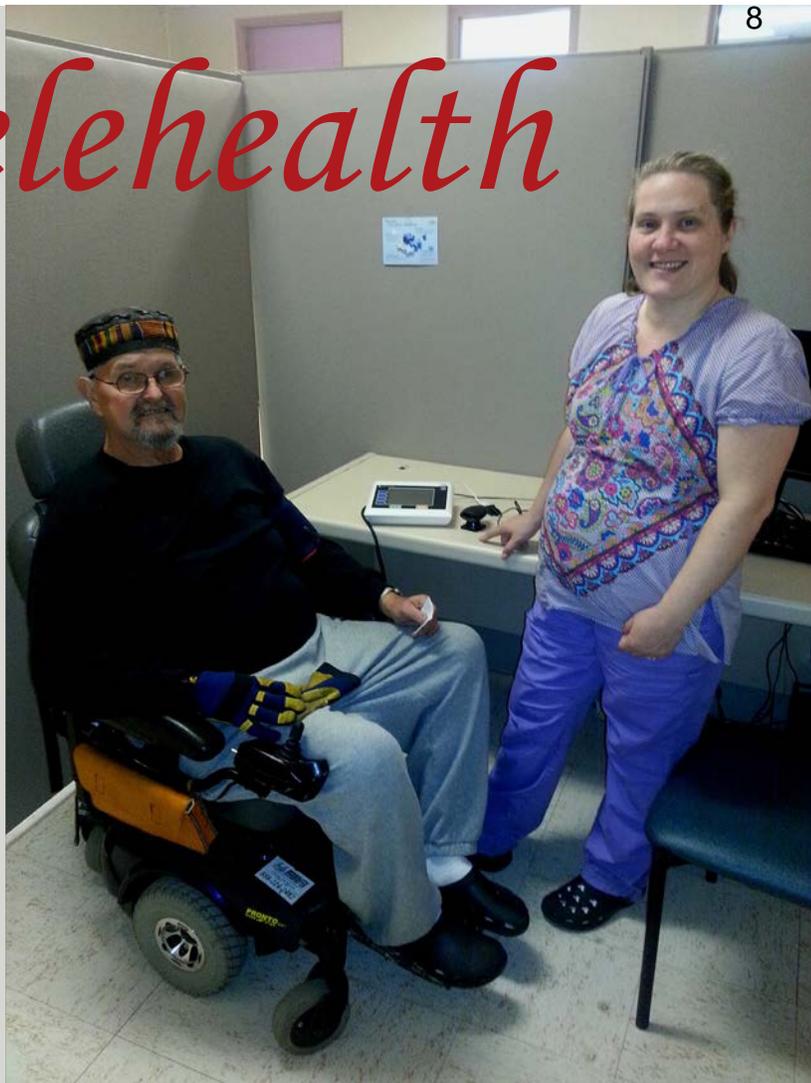
Local Veteran Denny Costello uses the VA Roseburg Telehealth program and explains, "Home Telehealth is a great program. It saves me lots of time, and keeps me involved in my health care and the staff is excellent!"

Home Telehealth Care Coordinators can help you with management of the following chronic diseases: Heart Failure, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Diabetes, Hypertension, Depression, Anxiety, Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Substance Abuse, or Obesity.

Some of the benefits of participating in Home Telehealth include:

- You will become an active participant in your own health care.
- You will have more frequent follow-up of your symptoms and treatment plan progress.
- You will learn to better manage your disease with education and information.
- You will benefit from more timely help to avoid hospital or ER visits.

You will work with your Care Coordinator to set goals and help create a treatment plan that is specific to you. To participate you must have a VA provider and a land line or cell phone. Please contact the Home Telehealth office 541-440-1000 ext 44473 or your Primary Care Provider for more information or to enroll.



Dennis Costello has been using VARHS Home Telehealth for his healthcare monitoring.

Kudos

Catch a Star
Making the Difference

Shining Star: Teresa Miller

Is Receiving Recognition for: Going the extra mile to help me with a TMS problem. She not only helped solve the problem, but gave me some pointers that will help me better utilize this.

Recognized by: Debbie Wheeler

Catch a Star
Making the Difference

Shining Star: Justin Bewley

Is Receiving Recognition for: Justin consistently goes above and beyond to ensure that the correct consults are done when Veterans are sent to non-VA ER's. This ensures that the VA is in compliance and ensures proper VA payment for this care.

Recognized by: Dawn Shumack

Catch a Star
Making the Difference

Shining Star: Elizabeth Jesch

Is Receiving Recognition for: One of our residents was quite upset because he wanted a phone card, but was unable to leave the facility. Elizabeth opened the canteen up just for him to get a card. The CLC Veteran felt special.

Recognized by: Canteen Services

Catch a Star
Making the Difference

Shining Star: Brenda Longoria

Is Receiving Recognition for: Being outstanding at answering questions and responding quickly concerns. She is a most diligent, efficient and knowledgeable HR specialist.

Recognized by: Brandon Jensen, NP

Catch a Star
Making the Difference

Shining Star: Keonna Vercruysse

Is Receiving Recognition for: Her calm and appropriate actions when a Veteran choked in the lodge. She was there in a second to assist, instilling comfort for the family and assuring clearance of the piece of meat. She stayed with him until he was calm and breathing well enough to eat his birthday cake.

Recognized by: Pauline Douthitt, RN



New Employees

VARHS Welcomes:

Alvin T. Comfort
Housekeeping Aid

Susan L. Barnhart
RN

Wayne Cook
Correspondence Clerk

William Joseph Sullivan
Laundry Service

Tamera J. Bambino
Social Worker

Sandra Rodriguez
Medical Admin. Specialist

Mitchell R. Trotter
Social Worker

Tina Phillips
RN

James R. Johansen
ACOS/Ambulatory Care

Heather Forrester
RN

Retired or Retiring Soon

P.J. Unruh

Stuart Anderson

Nancy Fuller

Susan Mason

David Frazer

Dr. Les Garwood

Congratulations!

Veterans Serving Veterans

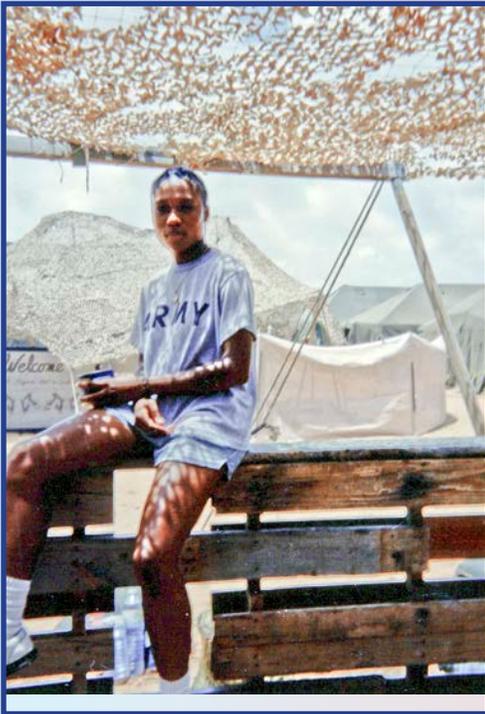
Featuring

Yvette Taylor, Human Resources Specialist

What branch of the Service did you serve in? I served in the US Army Reserve and Regular Army.

What led you to join the Service? After graduating from high school I was not fully ready to attend college so I joined the Reserves. I enjoyed it so I changed over to regular Army so I could obtain the GI Bill to attend college.

What was your Military Occupation Specialty? I started as an Army Reservist as an 88H (Cargo Specialist) in Newport VA in 1990 and then Regular Army as a 91B (Medical Specialist) in 1991 with 261st ASMB in Fort Bragg, NC.



What is your current occupation with VARHS? I started my VA career as a Nursing Assistant (nursing home) with the Fayetteville VAMC in July 1999, later converting to a Lead PSA in October 2003, and then a HR Assistant in October 2006. I then relocated to Roseburg VA in October 2011 as a HR Specialist.

What do you like most about what you do now? I love helping people. In my job I get to do that daily and it's enjoyable when I am able to meet their needs. I work with a GREAT group of people (my office) and enjoy coming to work daily. As a Veteran, being able to assist my fellow Veterans is a great thing because it is the same pride that I know the person that hired me had when they gave me the opportunity. I may not have daily contact with the Veterans but seeing them in my daily outings makes me even more proud to be one of them.... a Veteran.

Do you have any special

military achievement you would like to share? When I joined the military I was sent to Korea for one year in 1991-1992, and I was stationed at Camp Humphreys and later moved to Seoul to work for the Battalion commander. In my first deployment with the military I was sent to Somalia in 1993 during the "Black Hawk Down" era as a Medic and worked with various soldiers for 6 months. I later was sent to Cuba in 1995 to work with Immigrants for 6 months who were allowed to come to the United States. I separated from the Service May 1, 1999. I worked with the Navy, the Marines and Army soldiers.



Summer Survey Soon...



Summer Voice of VA Survey Is Coming June 9-30

Every few years VA employees have an opportunity to make their voices heard about IntegratedEthics[®] and about Patient Safety. This year, in 2014, these two surveys will be administered at the same time as a part of the Voice of VA Summer Survey (VOVA).

The Summer VOVA Survey will be distributed to all VHA employees. Employees will receive an email sent through the public affairs office at the start of the survey. This email will contain instructions about taking the survey. Those responding to this invitation will be automatically routed to either the IntegratedEthics[®] Staff Survey (IESS) or the Patient Safety Culture Survey (PSCS). This is done at random and will not permit selecting which survey to take. Voice of VA Surveys are designed to reduce the survey burden for VA employees, so these two are being combined in this manner.

Patient Safety Manager Jim Call and IntegratedEthics[®] Program Officer Mike Gillespie join together in partnership to encourage all employees to take make your voices heard. Taking the Voice of VA Survey will help our facility assess our ethics environment and safety culture so that we can improve the quality of what we do with the goal of better serving Veterans.

The IE Staff Survey helps facility leadership learn what staff members see as ethical concerns in their work environments. The Patient Safety Culture Survey provides facility leadership and staff with a way to measure their progress in building a culture of safety at their facility. The survey also enables facilities to compare their patient safety culture with other VHA facilities at the VISN and national level and to benchmark with non-VHA hospitals that participate in the AHRQ Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture. VA leaders use the information from both surveys to identify strengths and opportunities for improvement, set goals, and develop quality improvement plans.

Completing the survey is completely voluntary and your help in responding to the survey is very important. By voicing your opinion you can influence your work destiny and assist all of us in making changes where needed.

Here are some important points to remember about this survey:

- Employees will be able to complete the VOVA Survey during duty time
- Participation in the VOVA is completely voluntary
- The VOVA is anonymous
- The VOVA is confidential: The VHA National Center for Organization Development (NCOD), National Center for Patient Safety (NCPS), and National Center for Ethics in Health Care (NCEHC) are responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of the data gathered from the Summer VOVA Survey. No one outside the NCOD, NCPS, and NCEHC teams that developed the instrument will have access to the data for any group with less than ten responses.
- The survey will take 20-25 minutes to complete.

Watch announcements on Newswire for breaking news and for updates about the survey.

We ask for your support and participation to provide us with your valuable input and to make this survey a success. Thanks in advance for your help!

Mike Gillespie and Jim Call

Walks, Rolls, and Donations...2014 VA2K



Pictured: Tammy Kinney, VA2K Coordinator, and Gregg Parenti, Voluntary Chief, (Center) accept a \$760.94 donation from Hearts Across America Ministries, Inc. during VA2K May 21. The donations of clothes, sleeping bags and supplies will go to help homeless Veterans.

Another great job by Tammy Kinney, the VARHS coordinator for the annual VA2K Walk and Roll! This year 163 participated and \$1117.93 was collected in donations. Donated items are provided to homeless Veterans.

Special thanks from Tammy Kinney to all who volunteered and helped to make the 2014 VA2K Walk and Roll a huge success:

Corrine Clifford, Eugene CBOC
 Heather Hurst, BHRRS
 Eunice Werner, Brookings CBOC
 Carrie Boothe
 Gregg Parenti
 Brenda Schiller
 Elizabeth Ruegg
 Robert Boyles
 Joe Mitchell
 Coleen Denny
 Mary Mckain
 Jeanne Rogness
 Dianna Middleton
 Stacy Nielsen
 Gary Oilar
 Lynda Mason
 Jacquie Ball
 Ginger Terry
 Jennifer Stolberg
 Mary Bartels



June

Healthy Living Tips From Your

Be Safe



14



Did you know there are practical tips you can use to be safe from falls?

Each year, one in three adults age 65 and older suffers a fall. Falls are the leading cause of injury deaths and the most common cause of nonfatal injuries that result in a hospital admission for trauma. Statistically, about half of all falls occur at home. Fortunately, falls are largely preventable.

What health outcomes are directly related to falls? Falls account for most fractures among older adults and they are the most common cause of traumatic brain injuries (TBI). TBI also increases the risk of falling. In the year 2000 alone, forty-six percent of fatal falls among older adults were

due to TBI. Additionally, many people who fall even if they are not injured develop a fear of falling again. This fear may lead to them limiting their activity which in turn can lead to decreased mobility and loss of physical fitness. Decreased physical fitness increases actual risk of falling.

There are a few changes you can make that can reduce your risk of falls:

- Use non-slip mats in the bathtub and on the shower floor.
- Install grab bars next to your toilet and in your tub or shower.
- Install handrails and lights in all staircases.
- Wear shoes not slippers inside and outside the house.
- Remove small throw rugs. If you need to use them, use a double sided tape or anti-slip mat underneath the rug.
- Improve the lighting around your house; use brighter lights and reduce the glare by using light-weight curtains or shades.
- Remove items like papers, books, clothes and shoes from stairs and places where you walk.
- Keep items you frequently use in the cabinets that you can reach easily without using a step stool.
- Engage in regular physical activity, especially strengthening exercises which can increase your strength and balance.
- Have your eyes checked by an eye doctor at least once a year and update your eyeglasses to maximize your vision. Consider getting a pair of single vision lenses to use when you are walking.
- Review with your PACT team your medications – both prescription and over the counter to identify medicines that may cause dizziness or drowsiness.
- If you have recently had a fall, or have balance problems, please talk to your PACT team to find out how we can assist you.





June Recipe

Strawberry Flax Smoothie

Prep Time: 5 minutes or less

Serves: 3

Ingredients:

1 cup fresh or thawed frozen strawberries sliced

½ cup nonfat vanilla yogurt

½ cup skim milk

3 tablespoons flaxmeal

½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

Preparation:

Place all ingredients in blender and blend on high speed until smooth.

Pour into glasses and serve.

Delicious!

Nutrition Information

Amount Per Serving	
Calories	110
Calories from Fat	35
Total Fat	3.5g
Saturated Fat	0g
Cholesterol	0mg
Sodium	50mg
Total Carbohydrate	16g
Dietary Fiber	3g
Sugars	12g
Protein	5g
Vitamin C	50%
Calcium	15%
Iron	4%

Not a significant source of Vitamin A

100 Healthy Recipes: <http://www.januvia.com/sitagliptin/januvia/consumer/living-with-diabetes/healthy-eating/healthy-recipes/desserts/index.jsp>

Nurse Practitioners... We Listen... Formulate... Respond!



Submitted by Paula Cramer, N.P., VARHS

It's Killing Me!

What are American's dying from? According to *The Center for Disease Control and National Healthcare Safety Network, (CDC/NHS), National Vital Statistics System*: The top and most current statistics show that nearly 30% of us die from diseases of the heart, 23% from cancers, nearly 7% from Cerebral Vascular diseases. In shorter order 8% die from respiratory illness (including pneumonia and flu), 4.5% from Accidents, 3% from diabetes and 2.4% from Alzheimer's.

What are Oregonians dying from? From Oregon State Population Health Indicators Overall in 2010, Oregon's age-adjusted death rate (723.1 per 100,000 residents) was lower than that of the U.S. as a whole (747.0 per 100,000). The five leading causes of death in Oregon were cancer, heart disease, chronic lower respiratory disease, stroke, and unintentional injuries. Oregon's death rate from chronic lower respiratory disease was higher than that for the U.S. as a whole but the Oregon heart disease death rate was significantly lower.

The CDC and experience show that chronic diseases – such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes – are among the most prevalent, costly, and **preventable** of all health problems. Leading a healthy lifestyle (avoiding tobacco use, being physically active, and eating well) greatly reduces a person's risk for developing chronic disease. Access to high-quality and affordable prevention measures (including screening and appropriate follow-up) are essential steps in saving lives, reducing disability and lowering costs for medical care.

At VA Roseburg Healthcare System, we target these top five specific health care prevention and goals to address these killers. Ask your provider what your risks are. What can **you and we** do to reduce your risks if they exist? Be active participants in your health care! Seek to reduce preventable or modifiable risks for premature death.

Find information from the Center for Disease Control and National Healthcare Safety Network at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/>

Important Construction Notice

ATTENTION ALL EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS AND VETERANS Sterile Processing Service Project (SPS) IMPORTANT NOTICE

What: Steel beams are scheduled to be installed for a new Sterile Processing Service to be constructed.

Who: VA Roseburg Healthcare System engineering team and contractors

When: June 4 thru June 12, 2014, after hours and on weekends

Where: VA Roseburg Healthcare System Building 1AC

Details: A large crane will be positioned next to the ambulance entrance of Building 1AC to lift the steel for the SPS Project. During this process the ambulance entrance and loading dock area will be closed off for safety. Ambulances will have a designated alternative route and detour signs will be in place. For your safety, please follow detour signs. We apologize for any inconvenience this may create.

Questions: Mark Rodgers, Supervisory General Engineer at 541-530-7478

Hospice Volunteer Graduates



Congratulations and thank you for volunteering for our Hospice Program! Recent graduates pictured with the VARHS facility director and nurse executive include:

L to R Front Row: Marva Richardson, Nancy Clegg, Rosemary Agee, and Susie Anderson and Fran Smith, VARHS Hospice Program Coordinator. **Back Row:** Tracy Weistreich, Nurse Executive, Kenton Rogers, Ellen Whaley, and Director Carol Bogedain.

Interested in becoming a Hospice Volunteer? The next set of classes will begin September 29, 2014 and will be once a week for 6-7 weeks. Classes will take place on Mondays, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. For questions or to sign up, please contact:

Fran Smith at 541-440-1000 Extension 44495

Education Department

Professional Behavior Tips:

Do accept one's fair share of the workload.

Do respect the privacy of others.

Do cooperate with regard to the shared physical working conditions.

Do help others when requested.

Do keep confidences.

Do work cooperatively despite feelings of dislike.

Do get concerns addressed.

Do address coworkers by their preferred name, ask for help and advice when necessary.

Do look coworkers in the eye when having a conversation.

Do mind your own personal business.

Do repay debts, favors, and compliments, no matter how small.

Do stand-up for the absent member in a conversation when he/she is not present.

Do Praise Publicly.



Veteran New ID Cards 17

The mass reissuance of new VHIC for Veterans who possess the legacy VIC began the last week in May. There are about 3.9M VHIC identified to replace. To add structure and respond to the inquiries we might receive from Veterans during the reissuance, we categorized the cards into Four “Waves”. The cards will be mailed to the permanent address currently in the Enrollment System (ES) during the time of processing for each veteran.

If the permanent address on file is not valid, the postal service cannot deliver to address listed, the address software validation cannot identify the address during processing, or other related issued (e.g., mail delivered to wrong address, mail stolen), the VHIC will be sent to the facility where the veteran receives care. There is nothing Veterans need to do to receive a VHIC.

If a Veteran does not receive a VHIC within 10 business days from the “complete processing” date below, we recommend that you (VHIC System User staff) look through the batch of returned VHIC envelopes to determine if the VHIC was returned to your facility. If the VHIC is not in your batch of returned mail, then please contact the VHIC program team and use your best judgment to determine if you should request a new VHIC.

Note: Veterans do not need to wait for the mass reissuance to request a new VHIC. Veterans can request a VHIC anytime.

Wave	Description	Volume	Begin Processing	Complete Processing
1	Veterans with a VIC who have received health care services in FY14 or who have an appointment scheduled between March 2014 and June 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March – 895,320 records • April – 550,887 records • May – 173,905 records • June – 78,710 records 	1,698,822	27-May-14	6-Aug-14
2	Veterans with a VIC who have received health care services in FY14 but have appointments scheduled between July 2014 and March 2015	84,397	7-Aug-14	11-Aug-14
3	Veterans with a VIC who have received healthcare services in the past (e.g., prior to 2013) but who have appointments in the next 12 months.	203,065	12-Aug-14	19-Aug-14
4	Veterans with a VIC who did not received health care services in FY13 or do not have a scheduled appointment in the next 12 months, but who are verified enrolled and have a permanent address without a "bad address indicator".	1,903,316	20-Aug-14	10-Nov-14

Nurses Day Celebrated

Excellence in Nursing Awards

Left: Debbie Carr, RN
Below: Kayla Allen, CRNA
Right: Jennifer Bzowy, NP
Not Pictured: Nancy Aquilar, LPN at the Brookings Clinic

Congratulations to our winners!



The Excellence in Nursing Awards are decided by nominations from peers, and were presented at the annual Nurses Day Recognition event by Tracy Weistreich, PhD. RN., VARHS Associate Director Patient Care Services/Nurse Executive.

A luncheon, awards, live music, basket giveaways, fresh flowers dressing the auditorium and much camaraderie between the amazing nursing staff at the VARHS was all included in the Nurses Day Recognition event. Dr. Weistreich presented the awards and provided words of recognition and thanks to all the nursing staff for their excellence in service to our Veteran population.



Acting Secretary Dept. of Veterans Affairs

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Sloan D. Gibson was nominated by President Obama to serve as the Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and he was confirmed by the Senate on February 11, 2014. On May 30, 2014, Mr. Gibson was appointed Acting Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Prior to joining VA, Mr. Gibson served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the United Services Organizations (USO), which has been lifting the spirits of American Service members and their families for more than 73 years. During his five years at the USO, net fundraising grew 90 percent, enabling dramatic growth in programs and facilities supporting our forward-deployed men and women, military families, as well as our wounded, ill, and injured Service members, their families, and the families of the fallen.

Before joining the USO, Mr. Gibson spent more than 20 years in banking in Charlotte, NC; Atlanta, GA; Nashville, TN; and Birmingham, AL. In 2004, he retired from AmSouth Bancorporation, a New York Stock Exchange–traded corporation, where he served as vice chairman and chief financial officer. During his tenure as

CFO, AmSouth was added to the S&P 500. Mr. Gibson also has a long history of service and leadership with a variety of nonprofit organizations. In 2002, Mr. Gibson chaired the United Way campaign in Central Alabama, which raised more than \$30 million.

Mr. Gibson is the son of an Army Air Corpsman who served as a B-17 tail-gunner during World War II, later earning his commission in the U.S. Air Force. He is also the grandson of a World War I Army Infantryman who was wounded while serving in the 3rd Infantry Division at the Second Battle of the Marne.

A 1975 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Mr. Gibson earned both Airborne and Ranger qualifications and served as an infantry officer in the U.S. Army. He earned a Masters in Economics from the University of Missouri in Kansas City and a Masters in Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Deputy Secretary Gibson and his wife, Margaret, have been married nearly 32 years. They have two grown daughters, Celia and Laura.

<https://www.facebook.com/VARoseburg>

facebook®

Visit our facebook page.

Join the 600 other fans on our Facebook page and find important information, updates, photos and convenient links to information about programs the VA offers for Veterans and more!

Just in... VBA Coming to Assist Veterans

Veterans Benefits Administration Outreach Event

What: VBA's Portland Regional Office is coming to the VA Roseburg Healthcare System to assist Veterans with their claims.

When: Tuesday, June 24, 2014

8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Where: Building Two, Mental Health Clinic

Want to sign up for e-benefits?

Want to file a Service Connected Claim?

First Come, First Served

FIND US ON THE WEB:

WWW.roseburg.va.gov

Photo Credit:

Veterans Serving
Veterans: Yvette Taylor



The content of this newsletter is provided to employees, volunteers and Veterans for information only. The information expressed in this publication does not necessarily reflect the opinions of, or include support of the Administration Boards, Editorial Staff, or Department of Veterans Affairs.

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Photos by Carrie Boothe
unless otherwise noted.