



IVH Insights

This issue

1 APRIL 2014

A Message from the Chief Operating Officer -

I've been here now almost 3 months and continue to learn my way around meeting new residents and staff.

A lot of changes are taking place including the relocation of the Open Gym Area and the soon to be completed, Malloy North.

Along with the day to day operations, we continue to look at opportunities for making improvements and changes that enhance the lives of residents. At the same time we are trying to also be good stewards of our resources. One of our focus areas has been working on issues of safety. Many have been involved in Fire Drills where we are asking staff and residents to participate and practice evacuations. Safety comes with practice and repetition so that responses are automatic. We really appreciate everyone's assistance as we continue to learn, with each drill, how to be more effective and timely.

IVH is a special place and those who work here and live here are special people. I am happy to be a part of this organization.

Mike Jarrell



Commandant's Corner

We have a great partnership with the Federal VA, as many residents know by the great care provided at the VA hospitals and clinics. On March 12, the new Director of the VA Central Iowa Health Care System, Judith Johnson-Mekota, was here to learn about IVH. I gave her a walking tour of our buildings, and we talked to residents along the way. She was impressed with the size of our facilities, and I was able to brag about our staff and volunteers. Director Johnson-Mekota began her career with the VA in 1992 at the Iowa City VA Medical Center.

The VA was here March 11-14 for the required annual survey. This was an opportunity for us to showcase the great care and services we provide to residents. As with any inspection, there are always things to improve. I'm proud of the courtesy shown to the survey team by all at IVH. I want to thank all the residents who took time to answer questions from the team. I want to thank our staff for the great care provided every day, not just on survey days.

The VA also provides 65% funding for new construction or renovation projects, with the state of Iowa providing the additional 35%.



Jodi S. Tymeson

Chaplains Corner on Being Thankful by Angela Doty

Being thankful is a spiritual practice. It opens our hearts to understanding, empathy, healing, and offers us a positive view of the world. Gratitude reminds us that we are all connected and in some ways, responsible for each other and all living things. With the signs of spring all around, take time to appreciate all the gifts that the season has to offer. As we live and work together at IVH, take time to appreciate the gifts of each person you encounter. Think back over your life and give thanks for the people and events that have helped shape you into the person you are today. And by practicing thanksgiving, we come to realize that gifts of gratitude show up all around...in unexpected places, through ordinary people, and in the mundane routines of our days. Allow the words "thank you" to freely and spontaneously celebrate these connections.

At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us. - Albert Schweitzer



- Heinz-Hall P.2
- Welcome New Employees P.2
- Retirements P.2
- Facilities Management P.3
- Resident Spotlight P.3
- Central Iowa Today P.3
- Upcoming Events P.4
- St. Patty's Style P.4
- How Sweet 16 it is P.4
- Purple Up / Memorial Day P.5
- Quality & Compliance P.5
- IVH Volunteer Coordinator P.6
- Longevity & Taps P.7
- Veterans Affairs P.8
- All★Vet State P.9
- Employee Spotlight P.9
- IVH Recognition & Visits P.10
- Palliative & Hospice Care P. 10



Welcome New Employees by Wayne Pierson

Heinz Hall Update By Margie Button

The Heinz Hall team is to be commended for their deficiency free VA survey. Please let them know how much we appreciate all their hard work. Census in Heinz Hall remains fairly constant at 102-105. We have been preparing the staff and residents on Fire and Weather related emergencies and feel that the education and drills are helping us all to be prepared.

The residents and staff of Heinz Hall are all very ready to say good-bye to Winter and welcome Spring. In anticipation the Recreation staff dusted off the grills and provided a glimpse of what we hope is to come and celebrated the first day of Spring with an indoor picnic.

IVH Insights is a quarterly publication of the Iowa Veterans Home.

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January NEO - Front (L-R) Kellie McClanahan, Autumn Wardlow, Carla Sankot, Ray Rockingham, Mike Jarrell, Esther Keller, Brittany Barnes

Back (L-R) Hope Harvey, Jordan Roberts, Nancy Purk, Taylor Roseland, Pamela Bowles, Tom Scheidel, Megan Longobardi



February NEO class members were as follows - Seth Alejandra, Lorraine Ash, Eric Bingham, Devoni Cummins, Cindy Davidson, David Eilers, Dalaina Gorbeli, Selena Hansen, Kristi Havens, Windy Hilderbrand, Lisa Hurd, Lana Knickerbocker, Francine Miller-Cox, Kellie Pansegrau, Salenea Phleps



March NEO - Left to Right: Angela Steinback, Priscilla Sletten, Julie Cole, Shawna Brooks, Marsha Ewoldt, Tad Steffensen

The Insights apologizes for not having a February NEO photo available for this edition. You all are important team players in this facility!



Iowa Veterans Home Retirements

*Retirements are a time in our lives that we may decide to spend time with our family, volunteer in the community or have the opportunity to do activities that we may not have had the time to do before. Retirements should be celebrated and not mourned as retirements are a happy period to be enjoyed to its utmost. We are grateful to salute you for your dedication of hard work here at the Iowa Veterans Home! We wish everyone a grateful future ahead after your retirement! May all your coming days be filled with many more rewards of joy and fulfillment. The retiree's listed below had a total of **41 years** of service to the State of Iowa and the Iowa Veterans Home!*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Years</u>
Kathy Shannon	Facilities Management Bureau Chief	32yrs
Nancy Myers	Nurse Clinician (Ulery North)	9 yrs



Malloy north is close to completion and residents will be moving soon into the new space. The punch list inspections are occurring and the contractors are working hard to get any noted items repaired. Planning meetings are taking place to ensure a smooth transition into the space in May. The area looks great, good job to the contractors and the construction project management team! Thanks also to all the IVH Maintenance staff who have worked hard to ensure the contractors received direction and assistance in locating valves, electrical and plumbing lines, and assistance with the HVAC units. IVH staff are also installing restroom items, desk lighting and wiring for DVD players.

The construction of the new Transportation Building is now complete. The staff have moved the buses and vans into the new space.

The boiler project is almost complete. The contractors are still working on some piping installation, but the boiler has been tested and is ready for use.



North Malloy Kitchen

Scott Anderson and Kathy Shannon attended the Sustainability Circle for the past six months that was held by Alliant Energy and True Market Solutions. The goal was to develop a Green Team for IVH (consisting of Scott Anderson, Kathy Shannon, Aaron Polley and Diana Steiner) and to develop ideas for sustainability on the campus. The work with the Sustainability Circle is complete, but the work has just begun in terms of implementing the many ideas the Green Team generated.

With some projects winding up and some still moving along, I have decided it is the right time for me to retire. I want to thank all the Facilities Management staff for the good years we have had together. The Facilities Management staff are all great people with a desire to ensure resident concerns come first. I also want to thank the rest of the IVH staff. Many of you have been a great support to me and have made working here a pleasure. Last and most important, I want to thank the residents for all the kind words you have had for me over the years. You made each day enjoyable and kept me motivated to look for ways I could make the facility a better one for your comfort.



David Vollmer, Alliant Energy, Kathy Shannon, Scott Anderson, Steve Fugate, True Market Solutions

Resident Spotlight by Renee Aker, Dack 3, LBSW, Social Worker III

Ron Shaffer was born on 11/5/43. He shares his birthday with Roy Rodgers, Art Garfunkel and Elke Sommer. Ron and his parents lived in Des Moines. Ron graduated from Des Moines Tech High School in 1962. He was very close with his family. His father passed away when Ron was 13. Ron had a younger brother Bill who passed away when he was in an accident in the 1960's. Ron comes from long line of American Serviceman. He was drafted into the Marines Corps, when he was 21. He spent 12 weeks in boot camp and 2 months in specialized training before he was shipped off.



He was stationed in Vietnam, Da Nanag, Fubai, and Dong Ha, for 13 months. Ron had a job he enjoyed back in Des Moines at Firestone and was looking forward to returning. Ron states that he "shopped around" before settling down at age 47. He did not have any children. Ron lost his wife about 5 years after they were married. Ron has a tremendous sense of spirit and sense of humor. Ron is a devout Iowa State fan. His other favorite teams are; Dallas Cowboys and the Green Bay Packers, as well as the Atlanta Braves. Ron loves thin crust pizza and black licorice. Ron is easy to talk with and genuinely cares about others.



Semper fidelis!!

Ron has been at the Iowa Veterans Home since 2008 and reports that he really enjoys being here. Ron is currently a resident on Dack 3.

Central Iowa Today Radio Show

How many employees and residents know that every 2nd Tuesday of the month, KFJB host a show called "Central Iowa Today"? That's right the Iowa Veterans Home is on the air every month talking about what is going on with the Iowa Veterans Home! The segment airs for about 12 minutes as we bring awareness to the community about our mission here at IVH. We have addressed several topics lately such as our Operational Budget, Arts & Crafts, Ceramics, Food Service, Recreational Activities, and Facilities Management. Also, the Commandant, Jodi Tymeson, and the Chief Operating Officer, Mike Jarrell, both have been interviewed with the host of the show, Chuck Shockley who is the KFJB/KXIA News Director. It is our goal to continue to bring awareness to Iowa's veterans and spouses about benefits they are eligible for. We have a great opportunity here to reach out to the local community and educate veterans about our capabilities. We are currently the 4th largest State Veterans Home facility in nation and the largest nursing home in Iowa.



KFJB @ 12:45 pm 1230 AM



Iowa Veterans Home Upcoming Events and Holidays



Date	Month	Time	Event	Location
1	April 2014	All Day	April fool's Day	Holiday
5	April	7:00 pm	Elvis – Eddie Simpson	Malloy LRC
12	April	9:00 am	Pepper Tournament	Malloy LRC
15	April	All Day	Month of the Military Child	IVH (Purple Up!)
15	April	1:00 – 4:00 pm	Resident Computer Class	IVH Conf. Rm 6 & 7
18	April	All Day	Good Friday	Holiday
19	April	1:00 pm	Spring Carnival	Malloy LRC
23	April	All Day	Administrative Professionals Day	Holiday
26	April	10:00 am	Parquettes Line Dancers	Malloy LRC
27	April	All Day	Holocaust Remembrance Day	Holiday
1	May	All Day	May Day	Holiday
1	May	9:30 am	Pella Tulip Festival	Pella, Iowa
5	May	All Day	Cinco De Mayo	Holiday
11	May	All Day	Mother's Day	Holiday
11-17	May	All Day	National Nursing Home Week	USA
14	May	9:00 – 3:00 pm	Jerry's Barnyard	IVH Courtyard
17	May	11:00 – 1:00 pm	Elks Fish Fry	Malloy LRC
17	May	All Day	Armed Forces Day	Holiday
19	May	10:30 – 12:30 pm	Ride to the Wall	IVH Courtyard
20	May	9:00 – 3:00 pm	Oscars Tractor Show	IVH Courtyard
26	May	10:30 a.m.	Memorial Day Program	Malloy LRC
6	June	TBA	D-Day Program	Malloy LRC
12-19	June	All Day	National Nursing Assistants Week	USA
14	June	2:00 pm	Flag Day Program	Malloy LRC
15	June	All Day	Father's Day	Holiday
21	June	10:00 – 12:00 pm	Classic Cruisers	Sheeler Parking Lot
21	June	11:00 – 1:00 pm	UAW Picnic	Malloy LRC

Real Committee serving up it St. Patty's style at IVH

Each year our Real Committee brings the taste of a special holiday to the staff and employees here at the Iowa Veterans Home. In the past they have served meals for all staff and employees (to include all shifts) in support of a particular event or holiday. On March 14, 2014, once again the Real Committee was at it again serving an annual Ice Cream Sundae Social to the staff and employees.

As St. Patrick's Day is celebrated all over the United States, it is primarily celebrated as a reorganization of Irish and Irish American culture; celebrations which include prominent displays of the color green, eating and drinking, religious observances, and numerous parades. One of the largest celebrations that take place is in the Southeast region of the United States in Savannah, Georgia. Savannah will truly paint the town green in honor of St. Patrick's Day, a favorite holiday in Georgia's first city. Expect to see approximately 350 floats, marching bands, local and regional celebrities, area politicians, military units and a crowd of at least 1 million people (estimate from 2013) as they make their regular appearances. You may also get to sample some emerald-colored grits, for a true taste of St. Patrick's Day, Savannah style. The parade which has run nearly every year for almost 200 years will continue to be quite a celebration for years to come! Thanks to the entire Real Committee for your efforts once again!!



From L-R: Rachel Ramirez and Shellee Jordebrek assisted with the serving of ice cream from the Real Committee.



How Sweet 16 it is!!



On Friday, March 28 some 70 dedicated ISU fans gathered for a group photo in front of the Sheeler Bldg to show their support of the Cyclones during their "Sweet 16" game against UConn.

Go Cyclones!!!





The *Led by Choice* initiative we are working on in collaboration with Telligen (the state's quality improvement organization) has included Telligen employees observing the Resident Council meeting in February. They have begun conducting resident satisfaction interviews, they will be making family contacts for completion of a questionnaire, and there is also a multidisciplinary employee focus group discussion scheduled in April. This consumer engagement project is being funded through Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services grant monies. Telligen is working with 25 Iowa nursing homes to collect data. Compilation of best practices will be shared with participating homes at the conclusion of the project in July, 2014.

Telligen endorses the Patient and Family Centered Care (PFCC) concept which incorporates compassionate care where residents and families (and staff) are engaged in collaboration to focus on resident choice in a safe manner. Key elements include:

1. View experiences of nursing home living through the eyes of the resident and family as an experience
2. Co-design processes with resident/family engagement through partnerships
3. Implementation or activation of process improvements to move from the current state to the ideal/defined state

We've been viewing the resident experience by shadowing the professionals who administer the IVH resident satisfaction survey. Shadowing is defined as repeated real time observations of residents and/or families as they move through different steps in their care journey. You can obtain more information about the PFCC methodology from their website at <http://www.pfcc.org>

The Veterans Affairs (VA) survey took place March 11 through March 14, 2014. We await their final written report, but upon their exit they did indicate a few areas that we need to work on. We appreciate the collaborative relationship we have with the VA as we continue to work on improvements for quality resident care.

Month of the Military Child

April is Month of the Military Child! This special celebration is a legacy of former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger – established to underscore the important role children play in the Armed Forces community. The Governor of Iowa has proclaimed April 15th as the "Purple Up! Day" in Iowa. Simply wear PURPLE on April 15th to show your appreciation for military children.



History of Memorial Day

Memorial Day is not to be confused with Veterans Day. Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces, while Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans.

Formerly known as Decoration Day, it originated after the American Civil War and to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in the Civil War. It typically marks the start of the summer vacation, while Labor Day marks the end. The first widely publicized observance of a Memorial Day-type observance after the Civil War was in Charleston, South Carolina, on May 1, 1865. On May 26, 1966, President Johnson signed a presidential proclamation naming Waterloo, New York, as the birthplace of Memorial Day.

On Memorial Day, the flag of the United States is raised briskly to the top of the staff and then solemnly lowered to the half-staff position, where it remains only until noon. It is then raised to full-staff for the remainder of the day. The half-staff position remembers the more than one million men and women who gave their lives in service of their country.





VOLUNTEERING



Bring a Friend... Make a Friend

From the desk of...

Aimee Deimerly-Snyder, Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteering for the first time can be a little intimidating. Bring a friend with you!! So many people are hesitant to make the call to volunteer simply because they don't know what is involved. Help your friend out by inviting them along to a volunteer activity. Sometimes it's just easier to take that first step with a friend... plus it's fun! Just give me a call to get your friend setup and let the fun begin!!



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!! Volunteers from John Deere Financial and the Heartland Chapter of the Leathernecks, through the Darwin Judge Memorial Fundraiser, presented donations of over \$ 5,339 to the Iowa Veterans Home. Thank you to everyone who helped support these great holiday fundraisers.



WOW!! The Volunteer Advisory Committee put on a fantastic spread with the Foreign Food Fair on March, 15th. Pictured is Norbert and Evelyn Caloud from Clutier. The Calouds are Tama County American Legion and Auxiliary members. Norbert and Evelyn have been volunteering since 1999.



Like Us



Spread the WORD!

We are getting the word out about our need for volunteers.

Things **YOU** can do to help spread the word

1. Make an announcement at church
2. Pick up an application for someone you think might volunteer
3. Tell your coffee or card club
4. Email or Facebook your friends

COMING TO A NEWSPAPER NEAR YOU!

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



The Iowa Veterans Home needs you!

You can help escort residents to various recreational activities throughout the day.

Call 753-4406

Over 600 residents will have a great day tomorrow because you made a phone call today.



IOWA VETERAN'S HOME
Marshalltown

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

The residents of the Iowa Veterans Home need you...



Help residents get to/from activities such as bingo, arts & crafts and recreational activities



Call 641-753-4406 to volunteer today
Iowa Veterans Home, Marshalltown



6 Call Aimee to Volunteer Today—753-4406. We need YOU!

In loving Memory

The Iowa Veterans Home extends its deepest condolences to the loved ones of the following residents who recently passed away. We are grateful for the time that they spent with the IVH family. Their presence will be greatly missed.

Taps (Jan - March)



Spouses

Georgia Jones
Joan Hemphill



If you have questions about the Iowa Veterans Home Cemetery please contact Donnelle Berndt at (641) 753-4218 or email at Donnelle.Berndt@ivh.state.ia.us. You may also view our web page at <http://ivh.iowa.gov> to find information about the Iowa Veterans Home cemetery.

Veterans

Wayne Warmuth
Donald Cram
Betty Row
Max Hodges
David Arends
Robert Quick
LaVern Harder
James Barton
Ronald Swedenburg
Terry Wilson
Albert Fosnaugh
David Swanson
Steven Nadermann
Jack Thompson
Robert Box
Harold Abbas
Paul Humphress
Howard Crane Jr.
Gary Leichliter
Frank Illingworth
Francis Bayliff Jr.
Samuel McDowell
Carl Tilley
Paul Flanagan
Francis Lamb
Richard Francis
Virgil Eickert Sr.
Alfonso Schroder
Richard Levings
Charles Waldrop
Clifford Saboe
Andrew Slycord

Donations

The Iowa Veterans Home is grateful for all donations that are donated and purchased for the residents. Many of these items are a luxury. All items on the list enhance the quality of life that our veterans and spouses enjoy. Your help in obtaining these items will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Note: The home is requesting money in support of the following:

- General Memorial Account
- Special Activities Account
- Funding for gardens & court yard
- Library Support
- Resident Technology Support
- Touch Play Machines
- iPads

Iowa Veterans Home Memorial Fund

The Iowa Veterans Home gladly accepts memorial funds from individuals, organizations and businesses that can be used for our residents and facility. If you are interested in making a donation in memory of a loved one please contact Mike Hines at (641) 753-4309 or e-mail michael.hines@ivh.state.ia.us.

Iowa Veterans Home Longevity Awards (January - March)

5 Years

Amy Accord
Michael Ballhagen
Dex Walker
Kimie Orozco

10 Years

Renee Vogt
Katie Lundberg
Jose Bastidas
Shannon Frye
Laurie Mondragon
Nicole Paxton
Dennis Campbell
Jody Chandavong
Stephanie Knight
Jeff Parks
Tracy Reed
Dawn Troutner

15 Years

Kendal Starits
Janea Lawrence
Lori Reed
Diana Steiner
Sadie Wertz
Lynn Bryngelson

20 Years

Kimberly Baccam
Juanita McDowell
Donneta Hinkle
Fern Steward
Deb Street
Cathy Lamb
Becky Mulnix
Pat Christensen
Melissa Steffensen

25 Years

Richard Younds
Kathy Johnson
Rebecca Vaughn



CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE EMPLOYEES FOR THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE!

The United States Veterans Affairs celebrates their 25th Anniversary

In 1930, President Herbert Hoover created the Veterans Administration by consolidating three existent organizations—the U.S. Veterans Bureau, the National Homes for Disabled Soldiers, and the Bureau of Pensions—into an organization of 54 hospitals, 31,600 employees, and 4.7 million Veterans, many of whom had served in World War I, others who had fought in the Spanish-American War, and some even in the Civil War.

Nearly 60 years later, President Ronald Reagan signed the Department of Veterans Affairs Act of 1988, elevating the former administration to a cabinet-level Department of Veterans Affairs. President Reagan explained, then, that the “bill gives those who have borne America's battles, who have defended the borders of freedom, who have protected our Nation's security in war and in peace—it gives them what they have deserved for so long: a seat at the table in our national affairs.”

On Saturday, March 15, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of President Reagan's executive action. This year's celebration coincides with our ongoing commemoration of the American Civil War—the most divisive and devastating conflict in our Nation's history. President Abraham Lincoln's charge to all Americans in 1865 has defined America's covenant with its Veterans—“to care for [those] who shall have borne the battle, and for [their families and survivors].”

Today, we operate 151 medical centers, 135 community living centers, 103 residential rehabilitation treatment programs, 820 community-based outpatient clinics, 300 Vet Centers, 70 mobile Vet Centers, 56 benefits Regional Offices, and 131 national cemeteries. We keep faith with Lincoln's covenant by serving those whose lifetimes connect us through the centuries—from the last surviving child of a Civil War Veteran, to those of the Spanish-American War, to the families of World War I, to the “lions” of our greatest generation, to the youngest Veterans of our latest generation.

All of our resources—high-quality and safe health care, disability compensation and pensions, education and training, home mortgages, life insurance, and jobs that allow them to realize the American Dream—are dedicated to honoring Lincoln's charge to serve, without hesitation or equivocation, the 7 percent of Americans, who have safeguarded our way of life. They have earned our unwavering commitment through selfless service and immense sacrifice.

Some additional facts about the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.....

1. The current Secretary of Veteran Affairs is Retired U.S. Army General Eric Shineski. The secretary is appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

2. Consist of a cabinet-level status; it is the second largest department, after the United States Department of Defense.

3. Budget of 78.4 million (2013)

4. The department has 3 main subdivisions, each known as Administrators; each headed by an undersecretary:

- *Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA)*
- *National Cemetery Administration*

5. The benefits provided include disability compensation, pension, education, home loans, life insurance Vocational, rehabilitation, survivors' benefits, medical benefits, and burial benefits.

6. Each county in Iowa (99 total) has a County Director of Veterans Affairs to assist you with veteran issues.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Governor Terry E. Branstad ★ Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, March 18, 2014
Contact: Governor's Office, 515-281-5211

Iowa Designated All★Vet State by U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation

(DES MOINES) – Today, Iowa Governor Terry Branstad proudly announced Iowa is among three states to be designated an All★Vet State by Hiring Our Heroes, a program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

“We are honored to be named an All★Vet State and to be in such good company,” said Governor Branstad. “This designation is a true testament to our unwavering support of veterans and their families. We are dedicated to making Iowa a home for the nation’s returning heroes.”

The [All★Vet States](#) initiative was created to highlight the incredible opportunities, services, and support being offered by states to attract and hire transitioning service members and military spouses. By showcasing the benefits and opportunities important to veterans and their families, a state can help influence a transitioning service member’s decision-making process in bringing their skill sets and revenue to that state.

Michigan and Tennessee also received the All★Vet State designation.

“Iowa has worked aggressively to be a top destination for our nation’s veterans and military spouses,” said Eric Eversole, executive director of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation’s Hiring Our Heroes program. “We are thrilled to work together through our All★Vet States initiative to help Iowa highlight the many economic and educational opportunities for the men and women who have served our country.” This designation comes on the heels of Governor Branstad’s announcement of the creation of the Home Base Iowa program. [Home Base Iowa](#) was founded to serve as a comprehensive source for job services and information about Iowa for veterans. On March 13, Greene County was designated the state’s first Home Base Iowa Community. To date, Iowa businesses have set a goal of filling 2,900 jobs in Iowa with veterans through the Home Base Iowa initiative.

“Many thanks to the individuals guiding the Hiring Our Heroes program and their hard work in assisting veterans and their families,” said Iowa Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds. “We are so proud to be designated an

Iowa Veterans Home Employee Spotlight by Steve Prall, Iowa Veterans Home CFO

IVH is pleased to present Bobbi Ledvina to our community in this edition of Employee Spotlight. Bobbi is an Accounting Technician II in the Resident Finance Office and has been employed here for 4½ years. She began her work at the Iowa Veterans Home in the Census position, and came from Wells Fargo where she was a lead teller for 3 years.

Bobbi does an outstanding job everyday helping our residents with their finances. Recently, she performed exemplarily when her office was severely understaffed. As always, she stepped up to the challenge and filled in without hesitation. It’s people like Bobbi that make the Iowa Veterans Home a great place. Bobbi loves to spend time with her foster child, Julian and also her nieces and nephews. Not only does she enjoy the company of her family, but also her friends. Bobbi is extremely involved with the Marshalltown community and her church. She is eager to take on new challenges, always with a smile.



Iowa Veterans Home Recognitions and Visits!!



L-R: Vini Soukhavong, Jill Hollander, Rhonda Close, Sarah Bruner, Margaret Schwarck, Megan Harrell are recognized and as they receive their AMS (Applied Management Series) certificates at the February Leadership Forum in Whitehill. Good Job!!



Commandant Tymeson is photographed with the VA Central Iowa Healthcare Director, Judith Johnson-Mekota. The director visited IVH on the 12th of March.



The American Legion Auxiliary National President, Nancy Park-Brown, visited the Iowa Veterans Home recently. She is pictured with Commandant Tymeson.

What is the different between Palliative and Hospice care by Tamyra Haren, RN

From the Palliative and Hospice committee,

One of the most frequently asked question is "What is the different between Palliative and Hospice care?" The definition has been put back into the policy.

Palliative Care:

"An approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing life-threatening illness through the prevention, assessment and treatment of pain and other physical, psychosocial and spiritual problems."
Palliative care provides relief from pain and other distressing symptoms; affirms life and regards dying as a part of the life cycle; intends neither to hasten nor postpone death; offers a support system to help patients live as actively as possible until death; offers a support system to help the family cope during the patient's illness and into their own bereavement, including the needs of the children; uses a team approach to address the needs of the patients and their families, including bereavement counseling if indicated; enhances the quality of life, and may also positively influence the course of a patient's illness.

Hospice Care:

A continuation of palliative care for persons in the last phases of an incurable disease that focuses on comfort measures and relief of symptoms so that the resident may live as fully and comfortably as possible, enhancing the quality of remaining life.

Other changes that have occurred with policy 268 to be alert to:

In the past a doctor's order was not necessary as long as the IRCC team, resident and family were in agreement.

Current policy now requires a physician's order is obtained for "IVH palliative" or "IVH hospice" care initially and with any change.

A referral will be sent by any IRCC team member via the SharePoint database with the initial order and with any change, an email will be sent by an IRCC team member to the hospice nurse.

In the past when families of Hospice residents came staff would go ahead and get a hospitality cart from dietary.

To avoid waste it has been changed to read: After family consultation, units may request coffee, juices and other nourishments from Dietary for family in attendance of the resident receiving hospice care

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask the unit rep or contact Tammy Haren, RN or Kristy Kelley, RN UM co chairs of the Palliative Hospice Committee.