



# IVH Insights

1 July 2012

## Facilities Management

By Kathy Shannon



Activity seems to be happening all across campus as the summer construction season is upon us. IVH Maintenance staff have completed the replacement of the Dack sunshade and built-in seating. The city is conducting storm drain and sanitary sewer repairs on the south edge of campus. Contractors are replacing sidewalk in several locations across campus, including a new access to the Korean Memorial. Contractors will also be digging out old fuel tanks on both sides of the Dack building beginning June 25<sup>th</sup>. Last, but not least, the replacement of the Whitehill Ramp is currently out for bid. Whew! This is just the beginning. Stay tuned for more excitement!



## this issue

- Heinz Hall P.2
- Welcome New Employees P.2
- Music Therapy P.2
- Speech & Hearing P.3
- Hospice Care P.3
- IVH Respiratory Care P.3
- Upcoming Events P.4
- Announcements P.4
- Employee Spotlight P.4

## Commandant's Corner

The end of June and beginning July means many things here at the IVH. It is the official start of summer and the beginning of a new Fiscal year. This year has brought us to one of the hottest summers in recent history. I encourage everyone to be cautious as they spend time outside. Please cover your skin and stay hydrated. Help look out for each other so we don't have any heat injuries. We will close out FY12 very well and our budget is sufficient as we move into FY13. I want to thank all the leaders for their help in improving this area of our operations. As we move into FY 13 we will continue to seek ways of increasing revenue and lowering costs. July brings about many things. On the 14<sup>th</sup> there will be a

recognition ceremony for all the Korean War veterans. The IVH will send a group of veterans to the ceremony in Des Moines and we are putting together an event here to recognize all those Korean War veterans who won't make the ceremony on the 14<sup>th</sup>. I want to thank everyone who participated in the veterans' parade this past Saturday. Grand Avenue was lined for over a mile with people thanking all veterans from every era for their service. The IVH was well represented by residents and some staff who've served our country. The city of Marshalltown also sent a group to the parade. It was a great way to thank all veterans.

*Commandant David Worley*

## IVH Pharmacy by Kelli Grabau

Happy summer to everyone from the pharmacy! If you are not a nurse, maintenance staff, basement dweller or hard core walker, you may not know our location. Pharmacy can be found in the Dack basement, with staff available from 7AM until 5:30PM, M-F between Heinz Hall tunnel and Dack elevators. Our main purpose is to serve our resident population by enhancing their care and to work closely and in cooperation with nursing staff as effectively as possible. To move us toward our goal, our techs and pharmacists currently process about 8100 med cards monthly, we deliver completed meds to nursing units, complete monthly Med Regimen Reviews on each resident (Heinz Hall quarterly), maintain ER boxes and contingency cabinet, process/fill daily orders, prepare IVs and compounded products and answer med questions. We also print med sheets and IRCC sheets for all units, organize and oversee a Drake Pharmacy student program, prepare pre-admission med screenings, provide on-call pharmacist services, monitor all purchases for contract pricing, switching to generic meds when possible. We hope to save close to \$100,000 yearly with the next change made to generic meds.

Pharmacy is facing two BIG changes - we will be purchasing/implementing new pharmacy software within 6 months AND changing to a 7-day dispensing cycle mandated by CMS (Medicare), all by the end of Dec, 2012. Opportunities to be creative! Please be patient!! In the meantime - we are privileged to work with an exceptional group of employees from all departments at IVH! We ALL play a part in the bigger picture!



## Heinz Hall Update by Margie Button

As the summer heats up, so do the activities in Heinz Hall. As you drive by the front entrance to HH please note the hard work of the residents and staff in the beautiful landscaping. The garden plots are full of soon to be produce, and many hours are spent by the residents keeping the weeds at bay.

We continue to experience change as we adapt HH to meet the needs of the residents living here. We now have an automatic front door, we have adapted many of our shared bathtubs to be an easy step in, the clean linen room is now open, and the sidewalks are being repaired. In the last three months we have welcomed many new residents to HH, as well as new staff. In addition to making the new residents feel welcome we are also working with residents to transition successfully into the community. Currently we have three HH residents participating in the Cottage Program.

We are in the process of having all of our resident rooms cleaned and waxed by ABM, and personal property is now assisting us with the storage of items that are unable to be kept in residents room as well as assisting with new admits. We appreciate the help.

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

**Editor**

Michael Hines—Staff Assistant

To submit news or questions, please email:

Michael.hines@ivh.state.ia.us

Call ext. 4309

## Welcome New Employees *by Wayne Pierson*



### *April employees are as follows:*

Front Row (L-R) Stephanie Landt, Shasta Cecak, Amber Mann, Patience Harmon, Rebecca Gizmo, Jamie Miller, Vicki Cushman, Robert Eich

Back Row (L-R) Samantha Stacy, Amber Williams, Dawn Piper, Shannon Dillon, Dennis Campbell, Jesse Gutierrez, Brent Cahill



### *May employees are as follows:*

Front Row (L-R) Glenda Metamoros, Armando Pena, Heather Smith, Kim Thiede, Jose Ibarra

Back Row (L-R) Jack Studebaker, Michael Ahrens, Jessica Cecak, Phyllis Simpson, Ann Bidwell



### *June employees are as follows:*

Front Row (L-R) Jacob Paul, Maria Ibarra, Carmen Zednicheck, May Ann Gelo, Tracy Piatt, Jody Arment, Christine Espinoza

Back Row (L-R) Michelle Morris, Brett Wax, Colten Schwake, Monica Davis, Kimberly Frimml, Lauren Timm, Alex Hall, Kristin Garr, Sarah Marsh

## *Music Therapy* *by Kim Marsh*

There are so many talented residents and staff at IVH that it would be impossible for me to list them all! This summer has been filled with entertainment by our own – staff and residents alike! First we had the **Tone Chime Choir** concert that performed in May; then we had the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual 2012 **Don Laughlin Music Festival** in June; then we ended June with the **IVH Choir** performing hits from 1942 to 2011. The **Tone Chime Choir** is composed of 22 residents from various units around campus. The chimes they use are similar to hand bells, however, they are easier to play and much more durable and longer lasting than hand bells. They are number coded and many folks find them easy to play and enjoy being involved in this musical group. The **Music Festival** involved 15 residents, 13 staff members and 3 close friends of staff/residents – all of who performed – that made it a wonderful show! There were so many volunteers and staff members helping to coordinate also and we want to thank everyone – we had a full house that day and we appreciate everyone's help. This picture is only one of many, but it features Carla Lemberger, our MT intern, who will be finishing the end of June. Good luck to you Carla! The **IVH Choir** involves 17 residents from around campus and they enjoyed performing songs from Motown, the Beatles, Rod Stewart and TV theme songs.



## Speech & Hearing *by Becky Hutchinson*

A glimpse into our past takes us back to February of 1973 when the Soldiers Home initiated a pilot program by the first Speech Therapist, the commandant and the Director of Activities Therapist in order to meet the communication and hearing needs of our residents. This program involved joint efforts with Dr. Kroll, chief of Audiology, Speech Pathology at the Veterans Hospital, Des Moines, and K Brandenburg Sp.T, Jack J. Dack and Amelia Winterfeld (Wolken) at the Soldiers Home.

The future of the program depended on efforts of our team here especially the Sp.T who provided screening, base line testing, therapy, retesting and ultimately, progress. Some residents were driven weekly to the Veterans Hospital by the Sp.T for the therapies as well. Progress was achieved, resulting in continuation of the Speech & Hearing Clinic as is seen today.

Remember the old audiometers used in the school system back in the late 50's and in to the 70s, used to assess hearing. That type was used here in a small room just off the Loftus basement elevator which also functioned as the speech therapy room where objects and flash cards and picture cards, that were a reminder of Norman Rockwell's pictures, were abundant as tools to meet therapeutic goals.

Today, the Speech and Hearing Clinic is comprised of the Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) and the Audiologist. We screen all new residents at the IVH to provide a base line of communication, eating and hearing abilities and are alerted to existing or potential problems. As the SLP, I provide diagnostic consultation, rehabilitative treatment and restorative care treatment for individuals with communication and swallowing deficits. These deficits are indicated by impaired voice, language and speech production as a result of specific motor, sensory, and/or structural disorders affecting speech and swallowing. Communication and dysphagia disorders can be neurologically induced from tumor, TBI, CVA or a progressive disease process.

From austere and humble beginnings to the current clinic with up to date audiometric equipment, computer programming and easy access for video fluoroscopes and strobes as well as the opportunity to learn new therapeutic interventions at conventions.



## Hospice *by Julie Cole & Tammy Haren Co-Chairs Palliative/Hospice Committee*

### **Palliative/Hospice Care updates:**

As our facility moves forward in how we operate, The IVH Palliative/Hospice Care committee is also making changes, according to the Unit Based Team concept. In the near future a new policy will be put into effect that will explain the changes. We as a committee hope to continue to develop new and better ways to provide more support and education to staff that are already providing exceptional care to our residents.

Each unit now has a designated unit based team representative serving on the Palliative/Hospice care committee.

M2N	Andrea Pratt	Amos Fox	Connie Paxton
M2S	Kristy Kelley	Ulery 1, 2, & 3	Tracy Ostrem
M3N	Sadie Wertz	Ulery 4 & 5	Bobby Jo Paige
M3S	Julie Cole	Ulery 6, 7, 8	Melissa Sienknecht
M4N	La Donna Schaack	Chaplain	Angela Doty
D2	Terry Gruetzmacher	Pharmacy	Radhika Kota
D3	Jolene Fredregill	Music Therapy	Kim Marsh
		Vol. Services	Diane Lemker
		Medical	Gladys McIntire

Others who are willing to help: Darcie Lunsford, Joann Grimes, Kelley Oetker, Tammy Haren

### **New Book in the Comfort Haven**

"Peace at Last" Stories of Hope & Healing for Veterans and their Families – by Deborah L. Grassman. There are 2 copies available.



## IVH Respiratory Care *by Melanie Epperly*

At the Iowa Veterans Home, the Respiratory Care

Department is staffed with specially trained and licensed Respiratory Care Practitioners. The therapists

providing care are Peggy Rohach and Melanie Epperly, and one resident aide, Betty

Bryant. They are able to assist physicians and nursing by providing

diagnostic treatment and management services to residents with respiratory

disease. They provide many services including:

bronchodilator aerosol therapy, oxygen therapy, airway clearance, oximetry monitoring, nocturnal

oxygen trends, patient yearly O2 need assessments,

pulmonary function testing, arterial blood draws and interpretations, management

of CPAP and BIPAP, education and in-services on O2 equipment and topics,

issuing and tracking O2 and nebulizer equipment, and pulmonary rehab.





## IVH Website Calendar

Submit your event information on the IVH website calendar. It's quick and easy and the calendar is available to staff, residents, and the community. Log on to [www.iowaveteranshome.org](http://www.iowaveteranshome.org) and click on "Calendar" to begin.

## Upcoming Events

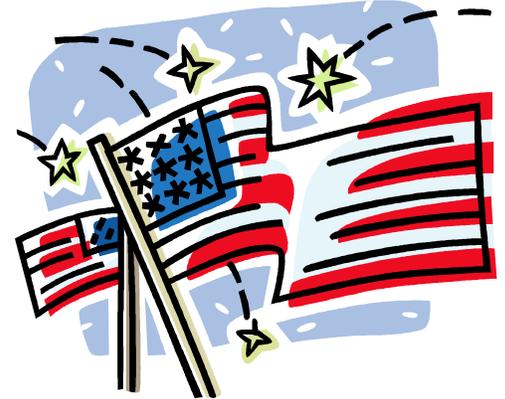
Day	Date	Time	Event	Location
Wed	July 4 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 – 1:00	IVH 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Picnic	Malloy LRC
Sat	July 7 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	Benton County ALA Ice Cream Social	Atha Dining Room
Sat	July 14 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 – 3:00	Korean War Ceremony	Knapp Center Des Moines, Iowa
Sun	July 15 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 2:00	Two Rivers Vintage Motorcycle Group	Dack Courtyard
Wed	July 18 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	IVH Korean War Ceremony	Malloy LRC
Sun	July 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:30 – 12:00	Klassy Kruisers Car Show	IVH Courtyard
Sat	July 28 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Sugar and Spice Music Group	Malloy LRC
Sat	Aug 4 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Tama Co. AL and A Picnic	Malloy LRC
Mon	Aug 13 <sup>h</sup>	6:15pm	Iowa State Fair Parade	Des Moines, Iowa
Sat	Aug 25 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	LeGrand Pioneer Days Parade	LeGrand, Iowa
Mon	Sep 10 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Veteran Day Parade Clay County Fair	Spencer, Iowa
Sat	Sep 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00am	Oktemberfest Parade	Marshalltown, Iowa

## Announcements

The McTV (Marshalltown Cable Television) cable network has been roaming the campus. The local cable television will be airing segments on our services that we provide here at the Iowa Veterans Home. So far we have done 3 segments. The producer & cameraman, Craig Schwartz, has done a magnificent job of promoting what the services are here at the Iowa Veterans Home. Craig, who recently went on the 24 April Honor Flight to Washington DC, has CDs available for Honor Flight participants, guardians and families. We feel that is an excellent way to demonstrate capabilities of the Iowa Veterans Home to the local community and throughout the State of Iowa. We thank the staff of McTV, IVH staff, employees and residents in what they have done to make this a success. The website address for McTV is as follows:

[http://www.ihigh.com/mctv/video\\_907907.html](http://www.ihigh.com/mctv/video_907907.html).

**Peterson Library** has new hours. They are as follows: Mon – Fri 9:00 – 4:00 with **Saturday hours being from 10:00 – 2:00.**



## Employee Spotlight *by Rob Buchwald*

It is my pleasure to feature Don Harvey in this edition of IVH Insights. Don is the Network Administrator for IVH and has been employed with the state for eight years. Previous to IVH, he worked in the information technology field for ING Insurance, McGladrey, and Lennox Industries.

As all departments at IVH can attest to, the design, planning, and move to Fox and Ulery was challenging yet exciting. Don was tasked to coordinate with the various contractors for the implementation of IT related systems. Don demonstrated the technical skills, troubleshooting abilities, leadership and persistence necessary for the successful completion of the project. His thorough and consistent communication of on-going issues to the contractors, project managers, and IVH leadership facilitated the resolution of many complex matters. Don continues to work with contractors, project managers, and IVH leadership on the Loftus, Sheeler, Dack, and Malloy remodels.

For his commitment to IVH's mission, IVH is fortunate to have Don on staff.

Don is a native of Marshalltown and continues to reside in town with his wife Paige, children Mykal, Peyton, and Chase, and dog Ozzy.

