

Truman VA Bulletin

Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital, Columbia, MO



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July 4th Fireworks Information



During this year's July 4th "Fire in the Sky"

fireworks presentation, parking will be limited to a portion of Lot A (visitor lot) and all of Lot D (employee lot) for patients, volunteers, employees, their families and guests only. The general public will not be allowed access to hospital parking areas. No tailgating or alcoholic beverages will be permitted. At the conclusion of the fireworks program, all traffic will be

routed east on the "avenue of flags" to Monk Drive south (right turn only). Service Drive will not be open for either entrance or exit. University of Missouri Police Department staff will be operating the traffic lights on Stadium Boulevard. Employees scheduled to work the evening or midnight shifts on July 4 are encouraged to plan for expected traffic delays.

Application Deadline Nears

Hispanic Special Emphasis Program Manager Application Deadline

The Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Committee seeks applications from employees interested in serving as the Hispanic Special Emphasis Program Manager. This collateral duty assignment provides leadership to the Hispanic EEO program and participates in various activities pertinent to Hispanic employees. It is not a requirement for this individual to be of Hispanic heritage, only that he or she desires



to champion the special interests of Hispanic employees. An electronic application is available on the hospital's home page and will be accepted until July 10. For more information, contact **Veronica Ramnarine**, EEO Committee Chair, at extension 56638 or **Sara Hake**, EEO Program Manager, at extension 56316.

Who's Your ADPAC?

ADPACs: Automated Data Processing Application Coordinators

While the title may ring a little antiquated these days, *Automated Data Processing Application Coordinators* (ADPACs) are your service line liaisons with OI&T. Contact your ADPAC if you have any technology problems or questions. To determine your ADPAC, go to the hospital home page. Click on *Service Lines* then *Office of Information & Technology*. Click on ADPACs. Click on *Who is my ADPAC*.

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TEMPORARY LIBRARY CLOSURE

Because of the Learning Organization Service renovation, the Library / Learning Center will be closed for two months. Librarians Mark Fleetwood and Barbara Michael will be temporarily relocated to first floor space in the interim. Anyone needing Library assistance can reach the staff at their present phone numbers and by e-mail. The Library Web page is located at

<http://vawww.columbia-mo.med.va.gov/tabs/page0.html>

or simply click the "Medical Library" link in the left margin of the hospital's home page.

We apologize for the inconvenience. The Library is expected to reopen by September 1.



"My recollections of the trip are so vivid that I feel compelled to share them with you."



Thank You Letter from Local Honor Flight Participant

I was among the 37 veterans of WWII, who were invited to join the first Mid-Missouri Honor Flight to Washington, DC. Even though I have just risen from a very long night of sleep after a very long day of travel and emotion-charged sightseeing, I wanted to waste no time in thankingthe amazing volunteers from Mid-Missouri Honor Flights for the immense amount of planning and work that went into this trip. Further, I wanted to thank the many individuals and organizations whose contributions made this trip possible.

Just as importantly, I wanted to urge veterans who have not seen the war memorials in Washington, DC to apply for future trips. It was my first visit to our nation's capital in many years and I had long hoped to pay my thanks and respect to those who gave their lives or years of hardship to serve their country. I'm sure that other veterans feel that way but, for various reasons, have not listened to what their hearts are telling them.

My recollections of the trip are so vivid that I feel compelled to share them with you. Most powerful are the memories of the sendoffs and receptions here at Columbia, in the airport at St. Louis and at our arrival airport at Baltimore-Washington International. In Columbia, the sendoff and reception were attended not only by families and friends but also by high school and university youth groups and

a military contingent. At the airports, the receptions were organized by our carrier, Southwest Airlines, who urged passengers in the terminal to show up at our arrival gate and welcome us. And did they ever! Cheering and clapping, salutes, balloons! The whole nine yards! I was not the only veteran who had to stop and wipe away the tears before proceeding.

When we arrived at our first stop in the capital, the WWII Memorial, we joined numerous other groups from honor flights originating in other states. On the bus enroute we were shown a videotape that gave us the historical, philosophical, architectural, artistic and gritty political background of the memorial. Even with the preparation, I was floored by the size and magnificence of the memorial. Yet, there were parts of it that visitors could get their arms around - the column dedicated to Missouri's part in WWII, for example.

We veterans were identifiable by the Honor Flight shirts given to us by our volunteer group. I was standing by an inscription reading "In the air, on the ground, and on the sea...1941 to 1945, remembering my two brothers, now gone, one killed in a P-38 off Attu Island in the Aleutians and another, a Marine, who was pinned down for days on the beach at Iwo Jima. And I was remembering the pride my mother and father took in the service flag in our window, with two blue stars and one gold. I was crying my heart



out for the good men and women of America and its territories who gave their all to keep the world from being dominated by Germany, Japan and the other "me-to" nations who supported what we then called the "Axis Powers." Two young women were standing nearby. One asked, "Are you okay, sir?" I answered as best I could, "I'm okay, Miss; I'm just remembering how it was." Without another word, she reached out and gave me a big hug, and I flashed back to November 1945, when after nearly three years with the Army Air Corps, I came home to a welcome much like that. Then the two of them thanked me for my service. I could only respond with, "Bless your heart!" and turn away before I broke down completely.

Some of us wanted to see the Vietnam War Memorial. I did, very strongly, because even though I hated that pointless war, I honored the men and women that misguided politicians and arrogant generals sent there and wanted to let those who served know that we survivors of a much earlier war understood and appreciated their sacrifice and would never have shunned them as happened when they re-

turned. One of our volunteer "Guardians" had lost a brother there and we found his name inscribed on the polished black granite of that heart-wrenching monument. I touched his name and murmured, "Rest in peace, Brother" and waited aside while she communed and cried.

The volunteer organizers of the group had a hard choice to make. Rain was moving in, and they knew that a visit to the Grave of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington would expose us veterans, some in wheelchairs, to rain, so they set aside a planned visit to the Korean War Memorial and rushed to get us to Arlington National Cemetery in time to see the "Changing of the Guard" ceremony. Our tour guide on the shuttle was most informative and we got to see a wreath laid on the approach to the monument. Also, we were treated to a special Q&A session led by a sergeant of the honor guard, a very tall and fit young man who was most respectful of us and who exemplified the attitude of

the "best of the best" among those who serve.

Sure enough, a pelting rain moved in just as we reached the shelter of the Welcome Center for the cemetery. Our volunteers rushed out to our bus and brought back disposable plastic ponchos to keep us old guys dry. At this point, I must add that not a single woman from WWII was among our 37, which isn't surprising, when you think about it. The age range in our group was from two weeks short of 82 to 90 years of age. Numerically, there weren't nearly as many women in the nurse corps, WAACs, WAVEs and Women's Auxiliary Service Pilots as there were in the Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and Seabees. And the Navy veterans in our group outnumbered all the other services, which again, isn't so surprising. Toward the latter half of the war, the Navy was allowing 17-year-olds to volunteer.

Let me end on a note of reassurance to veterans who are wavering about attend-

ing a future honor flight. First off, we weren't allowed to pay for a thing. Transportation, food and fees were waived. Guardians were supplied for those who needed physical help and they saw to it that our every need was met. Forethought was evident in everything we did and in every trip we took. The trip management was beyond professional. I've been on a number of recreational tours and was never treated with this level of care, consideration and, above all, respect.

Lastly, my sincere thanks to the Missouri Honor Flight Volunteers, to KOMU, to Southwest Airlines, the Harry S. Truman Veterans' Hospital and to those who wrote the many delightful letters of thanks that were distributed at "Mail Call" aboard our return flight. I can't speak for the other 36 aboard our honor flight. I can only speak for myself and I want to say to all of you, I salute you!

J.W.



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OI&T Computer Corner - Configuring a Special Tab in VistA Imaging

Create a special tab to display PFT and other Clinical Procedures reports in VistA Imaging. The special tab makes these reports easier to find by separating them from other images like radiology reports or scanned documents. Follow these steps:

1. Open **VistA Imaging**
2. Click **Options**
3. Click **Image List Filters**
4. Select the **Clinical All** tab
5. Check the box beside **CP**
6. Click the **Save As** button
7. In the **Save as Private Filter Name box** enter "**Clinical Procedures**"; click **Save** button
8. Click **OK** button

A tab labeled "**Clinical Procedures**" will be added to the Image List window

Select the Clinical Procedures tab to view a list of available PFT reports or other Clinical Procedures reports. Follow these steps to create special tabs for Notes and Radiology exams. Separate tabs are timesavers.





Enjoy Your Freedom? Thank A Veteran!

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We're on the Web!

<http://www.columbiamo.va.gov>



Welcome: Front Row, Left to Right: **China Collins**, Nurse Aide (PS), **Katherine Lenz**, Student Nurse Technician (PS), **Shauntel Garr**, Program Support Clerk (FIN), **Sondra Klaus**, Medical Support Assistant (PC), **Kelly Reffitt** LPN Camdenton CBOC (PC), **Karen Hoffmaster**, Medical Support Assistant (PC), **Ashley Brown**, Program Support Clerk (Research), **Lindsey Bramon** Student Nurse Technician (PS), **Cara Wynia** and **Christina Skouby**, Physical Therapists (CS)

Back Row, Left to Right: **Anthony Wilson**, Health Systems Specialist Trainee (DIR), **Rozanne Buckwalter**, LPN Camdenton CBOC (PC), **Richard Gobel**, Food Service Worker (VCS), **Sue Brajner**, Medical Support Assistant (PC), **Taleb Khairallah**, Psychology Intern (BH), **Eric McCarty**, Student Nurse Technician (PS), **Michael Aro, MD**, Radiologist (CS), **Amanda Forshee**, Student Nurse Technician (PS), **Leigh Simar**, Medical Support Assistant (BH), **Jennifer Ramirez**, Medical Support Assistant (PS), **Julie Riley**, Medical Support Assistant (PC).

Farewell: (Not Pictured) **Tiffany Acton**, LPN (PC), **Willis Farless**, Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist (BH), **Else Fox**, LPN (PS), **Kristopher George**, EKG Technician (PS), **Bonnie Wakefield**, RN, PhD, Investigator (Research)