



TRUMAN VA BULLETIN

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS—COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

VOLUME 2010, ISSUE 18

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS

Tia Hudson, Program

Support Assistant (HAS) – Employee of the Month (August)

Kathy Karl, LCSW, Social

Worker (PS) – Customer Service Star of the Month (June)

Suzanne Opperman, RN,

Clinical Nurse Specialist (PS) and **Kimberly Scott, LCSW,** Social Worker (PS) – Torch Awards

Kathleen Kormann, RN,

Infection Control Practitioner (PI) – Good Catch Patient Safety Award

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WELCOME HOME OEF/OIF VETERANS!

At Truman VA, we are committed to “Welcoming Home” all OEF/OIF Veterans in an atmosphere of “seamless transition.” Our fourth annual Welcome Home event – to reinforce and emphasize the message that recently returned combat Veterans need to know about and access the benefits that they have earned in service to our nation - is scheduled on Friday, Aug. 27 at the Holiday Inn Select. This community support and outreach event is taking place in conjunction with the Harley Owners Group

(HOG) Rally scheduled in Columbia. Information will be available regarding:

- Enrollment applications for health care
- Eligibility information
- OEF/OIF Program services
- Federal Employment Opportunities
- Education
- Women Veterans Program
- Minority Veterans Program
- Behavioral Health services

- Suicide Prevention
- Homeless Veterans Program

The event is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Besides the important information available, Veterans should check out the door prizes and gifts! For more information, contact **Stacey Dennis, LCSW, OEF/OIF Program Manager,** at extension 56639.



PROJECT CHILD SAFE

VA medical centers have partnered with the Department of Justice and the National Shooting Sports Foundation to promote gun safety and awareness for Veterans and their families. Gun safety is an increasingly high priority as more and more service members have returned from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. While no one is better trained than these individuals in the care and use of firearms during a deployment, many of these men and women may not have previous experience in the care and storage of guns in the home. Many of

these Veterans have young children that are at risk of gun accidents when there are unlocked firearms at home.

In an effort to promote gun safety and awareness, Truman VA is participating in Project ChildSafe, the nation’s largest and most comprehensive firearm safety education program. Gun lock and safety kits are available at no cost to Veterans and their families. Each safety kit includes a cable-style gun locking device, safety brochure and firearm responsibility information. These free gun safety kits are available

at the VA Police office in room D102. Please share this information with Veterans and their family members.

For questions about the safety kits or for any information about responsible firearm care and storage, contact the VA Police at extension 56320.



OI&T CORNER: “DRAG AND DROP”

Are you familiar with the “drag and drop” method of moving files from one location to another? Click and hold the LEFT mouse button on the file you would like to move and drag the file to the new location. This process actually moves the file; it is no longer in the “old” location.

Try something a little different the next time you need to drag and drop. Instead of using the LEFT mouse button, use the RIGHT. Drag the file to the new location, release the button and see a menu with 4 choices:

1. Copy Here: Leaves the file in the old location AND creates a copy of the file in the new location.
2. Move Here: Same action when using the LEFT mouse button to drag and drop. The



file is removed from the old location and moved to the new location.

3. Create Shortcut Here: Allows you to create a shortcut to the original file.
4. Cancel: Cancels the operation leaving everything as it was.

Let’s look at a quick example when using Create Shortcut Here, option #3. A Word document on your H:\ drive is used on a regular basis. You would like to keep it on your desktop for easy access, but realize it could be lost if the computer suffers a catastro-

phic problem. This is because the desktop means the document is saved to the PC’s hard drive versus the network, which is routinely backed up. By creating a shortcut to the file, you can have the best of both worlds. Just RIGHT click and drag the Word Document from your H:\ drive onto your desktop. Release the mouse button and select Create Shortcut Here from the menu. You can now open your Word document by double clicking the shortcut on your desktop but the file is still safely stored on your H:\ drive.

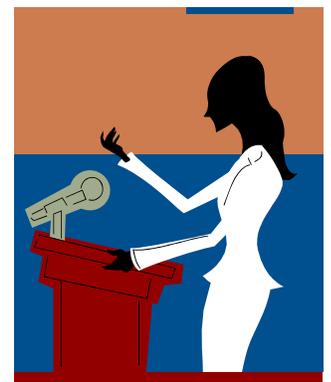
Maybe you’ve always used the Create Shortcut Here option. If so, help someone else do the same. If this is new to you and you would like to try it but are afraid you might mess something up, give OI&T a call or stop by.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNIZED AT VA E-HEALTH CONFERENCE

Congratulations to **Kay Strom, RN**, Informatics Nurse at Truman VA! Last week at the national conference of the VA eHealth University (VeHU), she received “Best in Category” recognition for her patient safety poster entitled “Zeroing in on Missed Medications.” This poster showed how intense interventions decreased our facility’s missed medications from 830 to zero over nine months, which were held to zero for the ensuing seven months. Also, she was designated as VeHU Faculty and received a “Blue Ribbon” for

the Lunch and Learn session, one of only six presented at the conference.

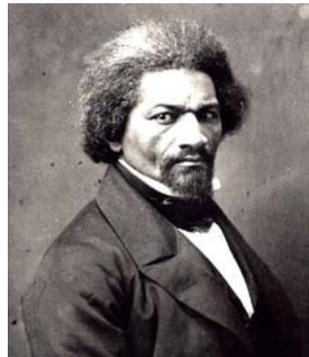
Other Truman VA team members attending the conference included **Karla Bradley**, HIMS Chief (HAS); **Richard Burns, MD**, Primary Care Provider (PC); **Nancy Dietz, PharmD**, Inpatient Pharmacy Supervisor (Pharmacy); **Sarah Fehling**, Clinical Applications Coordinator (OI&T); **Steve Koepfel, RN**, Clinical Nurse Specialist (BH); and **Andrea Wiggins**, Communications Specialist (COS).



VA / DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP IN 13TH YEAR

Earlier this week, Truman VA and Frederick Douglass High School began the 13th consecutive school year of a very successful “Partnership in Education.” This unique program allows for 10 Douglass High students to spend their entire school day at Truman VA. Half of the day, the students are in class with their teacher, **Stephen Pass**. During the other half, they are in a paid job. More than 100 Douglass students have suc-

cessfully participated in the program since its inception in the 1998-99 school year. This year’s group includes **Evan Dietzel** (Logistics), **La’Tia Floyd** (Recreation), **Brianca Hayes** (SPD), **Kayla Howerton** (Recreation), **Francis Jones** (CLC), **Daffany McDowelle** (SPD), **Jimmy Powell III** (Food Service), **Seth Sanders** (Housekeeping), **Alonzo Stevens** (Food Service – Meals on Wheels) and **Jessica Tabor** (CLC).



CONSTITUTION DAY—SEPTEMBER 17

Did you know that Friday, Sept. 17 is *Constitution Day*? To access important information about the U.S. Constitution and appropriate celebratory activities for Constitution Day, please visit the following website:

<http://www.constitutionday.com/index.html>



WOMEN’S EQUALITY DAY PROGRAM

August 26 marks the 90th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. Truman VA’s Federal Women’s Program and EEO Committee conducted a Women’s Equality Day Program on Thursday, Aug. 19. **Sallie Houser-Hanfelder, FACHE**, Hospital Director at Truman VA, was the featured speaker. Recipients of the

2010 Federal Woman of the Year awards were recognized. This year’s nominees included:

GS-8 and Below:

- ☆ **Machelle Dykstra** (PS)
- ☆ **Deloris Hill**, LPN (PC)

GS-9 and Above:

- ☆ **Jessica Hickem** (DIR)
- ☆ **Cheryl Meisinger** (HAS)

- ☆ **Suzanne Opperman**, RN (PS)
- ☆ **Sharon Rose**, RNP (PC)
- ☆ **Maya Warren**, RN (PS)

Winners will be recognized in the next issue of the *Truman VA Bulletin*.





LEAVE TRANSFER PROGRAM

Kellye McCord (Pharmacy) has been approved for the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. Contact Lena Warren (HR) for information.



WHERE IS IT? (EDUCATION)

Have you been looking for the Hospital Education Calendar on the local web without success? It can be located several ways. Click the "Employee Education" link in the left margin of the hospital home page. Once this page loads in your browser, simply click the link labelled "Calendar" in the left margin. Another idea: Bookmark the Learning Organization Homepage. Web readers, click [HERE] and when the page loads click the "Favorites" Menu option near the top-left of your screen. Then, click "Add to Favorites." The next time you need to access the calendar, open your browser, click "Favorites," and then choose "HSTMVH Learning Organization Service."



Department of Veterans' Affairs—Columbia, Missouri

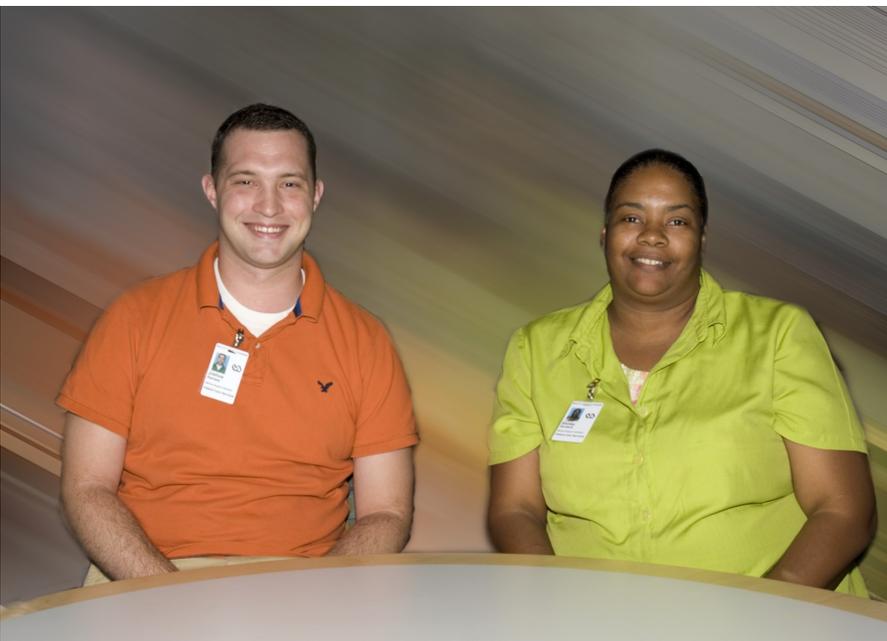
Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital
800 Hospital Drive
Columbia, Missouri 65201

Phone: 573-814-6000

STAFF APPOINTMENT

Congratulations! Patty Komula was selected as the Administrative Officer for Clinical Support Service Line effective Aug. 15.

NEW EMPLOYEES



WELCOME

- Joshua Ramsey, Medical Support Assistant (PS)
Shirley Sanders, Medical Support Assistant (PS)

FAREWELL (NOT PICTURED)

- Suzanne Boren, PhD, Research Health Scientist (Research)
Christopher Manuel, PhD, Research Health Scientist (Research)
Sheila Plaster, Program Support Clerk (PS)
Holly Shryock, Supervisory Program Specialist (FIN)
Michelle Tourville, Medical Supply Technician (PS)
Katherine Wills, RN, Staff Nurse (PS)
Mary Wilson, RN, Staff Nurse (PS)

ENJOY YOUR FREEDOM? THANK A VETERAN!