

North Chicago VA News



North Chicago
VA Medical Center
3001 Green Bay Road
North Chicago, Illinois 60064

April 2003

North Chicago VA And Hines VA Team Up For Important Research Presentation

Dr. George Lutz, a psychologist at North Chicago VA, and Dr. Ken Conrad, a research psychologist at Hines VA presented a poster at the American College of Healthcare Executives Annual Congress in Chicago on March 19. The ACHCE is a national group of leaders of healthcare organizations. The poster was titled "Psychiatric Care with Representative Payeeship: A Logic Model of Structure, Process and Outcome." The presentation described a three year research project based at North Chicago VA which was funded by VA Health Services Research and Development Services.

There were 184 veterans that participated in the project. These veterans, who are in mental health programs at NCVA, work with a community based money management program called I-PLUS. I-PLUS helps the veterans develop a budget, receives their disability or work checks and pays their bills directly for the. The program is aimed at helping veterans to learn to manage their finances so that they are able to maintain a stable living situation. The end result is expected to be improved quality of life as well as decreased homelessness.

There is one year left to complete the 3 year initiative. If the project demonstrates that money management plays an important role in treatment of veterans with long term mental health problems, we believe that the results will have a significant impact throughout the VA system in planning for the care of these veterans.

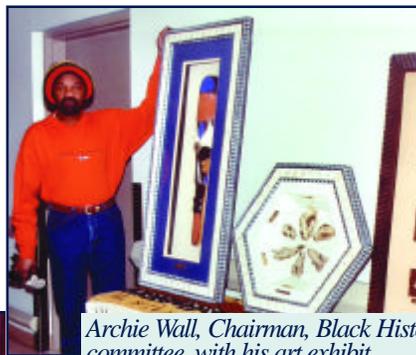
Black History Month Celebration Features Wadell Brooks and North Chicago High School Choir



Patrick Sullivan, Associate Medical Center Director with Wadell Brooks



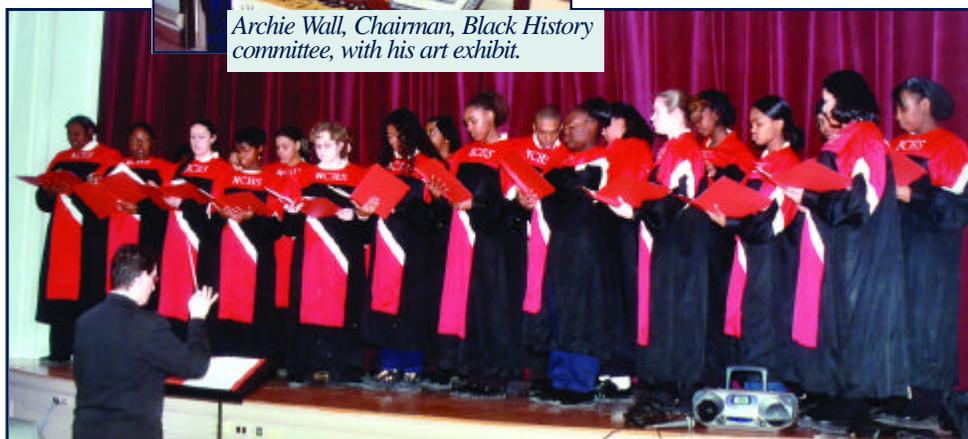
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Archie Wall, Chairman, Black History committee, with his art exhibit.



Black History Committee members ??, Surayyah Wallace, and Kay Caston



North Chicago High School Choir

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North Chicago News is published for staff and volunteers of the North Chicago VA Medical Center. Submissions can be sent to douglas.shouse@med.va.gov
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Dr. Lutz of NCVA and Dr. Conrad of Hines VA Hospital display poster presentation which was presented at the American College of Health Care Executives Annual Congress in Chicago.



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National Salute To Hospitalized Veterans



National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans, celebrated at the North Chicago VA Medical Center during the week of February 9-15 is perfectly timed to coincide with Valentine's Day. The sentiments of caring and sharing match the salute's purpose of expressing honor and appreciation to our veterans. Throughout the week, over 2,500 valentines, cards and letters poured in from classroom students, newspaper readers and others thanks to the initiative started by columnist, Ann Landers and "Valentines for Vets". Local schools



and scout groups visited patient wards to personally hand out valentines and treats. The Girl Scouts Service Unit 710 from Great Lakes (pictured)

decorated special gift boxes filled with goodies for our veterans. Mayor Dick Hyde of Waukegan and Mayor Duane Laske and friends of Libertyville (pictured) visited various wards to personally thank each vet for what they did for our country. Rising Pop Music singer Lucia came here in concert to specifically entertain our veterans. She gave a very energetic and moving performance, which was greatly enjoyed by all who gave her a standing ovation. Pizza parties were sponsored on all the wards by Community Affairs and the VA Voluntary Service volunteers and every veteran received a \$5.00 canteen book to treat themselves with. The veterans also received lots of candy, cookies and snacks. A good time was had by all throughout the week. As a result, Slimfast will be served at future activities!

Day Set Aside to Honor Our Reservist and National Guard at NCVA



Patrick Sullivan, Associate Medical center Director; ??, ??, Dr. Hassan, Medical Center Director and Mary Roseborough, Associate Director, Patient Services/Nurse Executive



Harold Clyman and Jim Brown from North Suburban VFW #7879, sponsors of "Popcorn Night" at our sunday night movies.

Social Work Month



Bottom row: Dan Swichkow, Tanya Ortiz, Kevin Donnelly, Lynn Vaughn, Top row Nancy Gallagher, Sue Regan, Jeff Willgale, Shirley Hoffman, Carroll McShane, Dawn Wallace, Chelsea Ells, Jill Feldman, Joann Carlson, and Cathy Spillner

The theme for the 2003 National Professional Social Work Month campaign is "The Power of Social Work: Preserving Rights and Strengthening Voices." This year marks the 20th annual celebration of the social work profession.

Preserving rights, social workers continue to lead efforts that enhance human well-being. They shape programs and policies that strengthen individual lives and improve the society in which we live. Social

workers also work to empower those who are frequently unheard. They open doors of access and opportunity for everyone. Whether they work in direct practice, administration, education and research, professional social workers are trained to make an impact. Every day, the quality of life for millions of people is improved as they learn to use their own personal power, to build brighter futures for themselves and their families.