



Good News!

Secretary Shinseki approved KCVA's acceptance of donated space for a **HOMELESS DROP-IN CENTER** from Catholic Charities (St. Michael Veteran's Center). The Drop-In Center will provide services for our homeless Veterans to include counseling, showers, and a kitchen.

KCVA EVENTS

Memorial Day
May 27th, 2013

Virtual Medicine Day
5/29 10am – Noon
KCVA, Hall of Heroes

JCCC Veteran Job and Info Fair
5/30/13 11am – 2pm

Capitol Federal Conference Center, room
101 of the Regnier Center at Johnson
County Community College
12345 College Boulevard, Overland Park

Heart of America Stand Down
5/31 7am – 2:30pm
6/1 7am - Noon
Scottish Rite Temple
1330 Linwood Blvd

Cancer Survivor Day Program
6/3 10am
KCVA Gazebo

Armed Forces Family Day & Vet Rally
6/8/13 10am – 4pm
18th & Vine
KCMO

World Elder Abuse Day
6/14 1pm – 8pm
6/15 8am - Noon
Sylvester Powell Jr. Community Center,
6200 Martway , Mission, KS

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week of May 12th – 18th as *Police Week*. KCVA held a ceremony in the front circle on May 15th. Deputy Chief of Police for KCMO spoke at the ceremony, as well as Mr. Hill. 20 different law enforcement agencies were in attendance. Bagpipes played Taps while the flag was lowered to half-staff. Police vehicles parked in the front circle turned their lights on in honor of the fallen law enforcement officers. KCVA thanks our law enforcement staff for all they do.



KCVA Chief of Police, John Carney

Project Updates

Over the next 2 – 4 years KCVA will have the following new, expanded, and upgraded programs and services:

- New Dialysis Unit
- New Acute Psychiatry Unit
- New Ambulatory Surgery Unit
- New Medical/Surgical Unit
- New restrooms
- New Elevators
- New Emergency Room
- New MRI
- Transitional Nursing Care Unit
- Outpatient Clinic Annex (Honor)
- Outpatient Clinic (Johnson County)



Lab Staff "Make it Work"!

Medical Technologists (MT) are laboratory professionals working in all areas of the clinical laboratory. They perform a full range of laboratory tests and are responsible reporting findings to pathologists and providers. The information that a MT gives to the provider influences the medical treatment a patient will receive.

Although MT's do not often interact directly with patients, their work directly impacts patient's lives. A MT assists doctors and nurses in choosing the correct lab tests and ensures proper collection methods. Once they receive the specimens, they analyze them, interpret and report results. A Pathologist may confirm a diagnostic result, but often the MT is responsible for interpreting and communicating critical results to the provider.

Every April, KCVA celebrates laboratory staff. National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week provides an opportunity to honor the contributions of pathologists, MTs, and technicians in the diagnosis of illnesses and the treatment of disease.

To celebrate this year, the lab department had activities such as "Pathology Specimen Look-alike" where lab staff had to come up with an edible dish that resembled a pathology specimen. They had "Open Mike", giving staff the opportunity to share their talent by either singing or acting in a skit. They also had their version of the TV show Project Runway: "Laboratory Runway". Each department was given a disposable lab coat and had to decorate it by using supplies only found in the lab. Besides decorating the lab coat, someone had to model the lab coat on the lab runway, to the song "I'm too sexy for my shirt"!



Edible Lab Specimen Look-alike

In the end, this celebration was a way to have fun and boost morale at work. Thank you to all KCVA Lab Professionals and the work you do for our Veterans.

By, Evelyn B. O'Bryan, MT (ASCP)



Lab staff show off their fashions

KCVA Opens New Sleep Disorders Center

The KCVA Sleep Lab is now open! The new lab saw its first patient on May 20th, 2013. The Sleep Disorders Center offers the capability to diagnose and treat various sleep disorders that may affect Veterans. One of the most common Sleep Disorders is sleep apnea. In most instances sleep apnea requires an overnight study. The next morning a machine is issued to the Veteran to assist in breathing at night. A referral from a VA provider is required for testing and treatment. Clinic hours are available with trained personnel, specializing in Sleep Medicine. We have over 50 years' experience in treating all forms of Sleep Disorders.

MAY ICARE VALUE OF THE MONTH

EXCELLENCE

"Surpassing Ordinary Standards."

ICARE Connection

What am I doing to ensure our Veterans have an excellent experience at the Medical Center?

Kansas City VA Medical Center

816-861-4700

www.kansascity.va.gov

Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255



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