

The Volunteer's Heartbeat

"Service for Service"

Volume 3, Issue 5 July/August, 2011

Auto Show to be the Largest Yet!

The 2011 Hines Auto Show is scheduled for August 20 (raindate August 21) from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. More than 400 cars, tanks, jeeps and motorcycles are scheduled to be on display.

The show will be held in the Minnesota lot (on the north side of campus, right along Roosevelt Road). For the first time, the show will be held in conjunction with the Welcome Home event for returning combat Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Activities for children will include face painting, a jumper, and games. A variety of food items such as roast pork, hot dogs, pasta, and hamburgers will be available for purchase. Musical groups will perform throughout the day.

All proceeds from the event will go to support programs for Veterans at the Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital. There is a \$20 fee for displaying a car (no pre-registration necessary). The event is sponsored by Thunder Road Productions 708-478-1377.

For information about the event or to volunteer, contact Voluntary Service at 708-202-2523.



**Edward Hines Jr.
VA Hospital**

5000 S. Fifth Ave.
Hines, IL 60141
Phone: 708-202-2523
FAX: 708-202-2246
www.hines.va.gov

Mission of Voluntary Service:

*To provide a structured
Volunteer Program under
the management of VA
compensated employees in
cooperation with
community resources to
serve America's Veterans
and their families with
dignity and compassion.*

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MEMORIAL DAY 2011



Barb Hunt, Chief of Voluntary Service, and Rose Lobb, VFW Auxiliary Representative, celebrate Memorial Day with thousands of others at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.



Members of the Memorial Squad present the colors at the ceremony. Flags of all five branches of the military were presented.

Abraham Lincoln and his wife Mary Todd Lincoln are annual visitors to the ceremony. Other dignitaries this year included Senator Richard Durbin.



Help Spread the News

What Our Veterans Need:

Canteen books for haircuts and shaves (remember when you spend \$100 in the Canteen, a portion comes back to Voluntary Service)

Movie passes and bus passes

Maternity bags (filled with baby care items)

Underwear and socks

Individual toiletry items (shampoo, shaving cream, deodorant)

DVD and flat screen tv's for patient education and also in patient waiting areas

Chaplain Service would like donations of rosaries and saints medals.

We are still looking for volunteers to serve as sitters for inpatient Veterans who need to be monitored.

For more information about the needs list or volunteer needs, look at the website at www.hines.va.gov or call us at 708-202-2523. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Voluntary Service to be Remodeled

Within the next few months, the Voluntary Service office will be remodeled so that it will be accessible to Veterans and visitors in wheelchairs. You will notice easier access to the office, a fresh paint job, and new furniture. We should be ready for your visit at the beginning of October.

Voluntary Service Calendar

August 5 and 6, Stand Down

August 20, 3rd Annual Car Show (rain date August 21)

September 5, Labor Day (office closed)

September 17, quarterly VAVS meeting

October 10, Columbus Day (office closed)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like your name removed from the hard-copy mailing list, e-mail Barb at barbara.hunt@va.gov.

Construction is everywhere!!!! Work on the front of Building 200 (the tower building) has begun. As a result, a tunnel is being built from the street into the front of the hospital. Each day the traffic flow seems to change as contractors work to prepare the area for the actual construction. When completed in 2013, there will be a beautiful, functional entrance way with coffee shop, information desk, and cases displaying historical items from Hines.

In addition...many of the parking lots will be resurfaced and restriped this year. Engineering Service has guaranteed that no more than 100 spots will be out of service at any given time. Be careful when following directional signage.

Work to remodel the Canteen kitchen is progressing faster than expected. The kitchen will provide state-of-the-art food production equipment. Expect to see new food items when the Canteen gets back into full swing within a couple of weeks.

EXCITING EVENTS AT HINES.

Singer Rockie Lynne held a concert for Veterans and employees on Friday, July 15, in the Auditorium. More than 160 people attended the concert.

On May 3rd, a ceremony was held for the stitching of the National 9/11 flag. Part of this huge flag flew over the Twin Towers on 9/11/2001. Now it is on tour of all 50 states as pieces of other flags are stitched to it to symbolically link our nation together.

Gary Sinese and the Lt. Dan Band performed at Cantigny Park on July 16 to raise funds for Operation Support our Troops. On Sunday 7/17, Gary hosted Veterans and Wounded Warriors at the Chicago Cubs baseball game.



On Friday, July 22, Hines hosted a reception for six Medal of Honor Recipients who also visited Veterans on the medical units.

AMVETS Auxiliary Is Recognized for Its Contributions

At the AMVETS Auxiliary Department Convention in Springfield, Illinois, on June 11, 2011, Hines volunteers were awarded the top awards in the State.

Ted Knusman Auxiliary #13 has been volunteering at Hines along with their Post members for over 60 years. The Auxiliary was awarded the Department of Illinois Hospital Award for the most outstanding Hospital program in the State.



Kim Rusiecki , Voluntary Service; Marge Green, Jean Brennan and Karen Schroeder-Dukla, members of Auxiliary #13



Hospital Chair and Deputy VAVS Representative Jean Brennan was awarded the coveted “Auxiliary Member of the Year Award” for her Hospital service, as well as her service as Child Welfare Chairman for Auxiliary #13 and her loyal service to the Auxiliary.

Joann Wallace, AMVETS Auxiliary Deputy VAVS Representative, was awarded the “Illinois AMVETS Auxiliary Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year Award.” Joann can be seen at Hines with the Welcome Wagon and the Coffee Cart.



Birthdays, a Time to Celebrate

Here at Hines, we love to throw parties for our patients. Did you know that throughout the year, Recreation Service holds parties for our Veterans in both the Residential Care Facility (RCF) and the Community Living Center (CLC)? Once a month, our Veterans in RCF and CLC are treated to a special birthday celebration which includes pizza and cake. These parties give us the opportunity to tell our Veterans happy birthday and more importantly, gives the Veterans a chance to celebrate. Many service organizations and community members sponsor these special lunches by donating \$150.00 and by taking part in the celebration. Table tents acknowledging the organization's donation are placed on the tables at the luncheon. We have had a fantastic response from organizations and there is only one spot left to sponsor, September 29th in RCF. If you or your organization are interested in sponsoring one of these meals, please contact Julia Talamonti at 708-202-2941.

Donations Come in Different Shapes



Carmella Markovich MOPH presents \$1500 check to Voluntary Service Specialist Julia Talamonti

Alyce Deakin, Laboratory Service, displays her prize at the 3rd Annual Night at the Races. 27 friends of Voluntary Service attended the event, which raised almost \$300 for Veteran programs.



Someone You Should Know...

Chanda Johnson is the My HealthVet Coordinator at Hines. She has been at Hines for only a few months but has already done a great job in promoting My HealthVet. She wrote the following article so you would know more about this tremendous Veteran and non-Veteran benefit:

Hines is proud to offer our patients the use of My HealthVet, the VA's award winning online Personal Health Record. This exciting program offers 24/7 access to trusted, secure health and benefit information, as well as the ability to track and record personal health details.

Launched in 2003, My HealthVet is the gateway to web-based tools that empower Veterans to become informed partners in their health care.

Some popular features of My HealthVet allow Veterans to refill prescriptions online, view prescription history, view VA appointments, see lab results and communicate non-urgent issues to their health care team with Secure Messaging.

Although My HealthVet is primarily used by Veterans as it directly connects to a Veterans individual VA health record for enhanced features, My HealthVet is also open to non-Veterans who can use it to track, research, and record health information in one convenient location.

Sign up for My HealthVet in two easy steps:

Step 1: Complete an online registration form at www.myhealth.va.gov

Step 2: Visit Hines or a local Hines community clinic to upgrade the account by completing In-Person Authentication (*Available to Registered My HealthVet users who receive care at the VA*)

For more information on My HealthVet at Hines, please contact Chanda Johnson at 708-202-5633 or see the clerk in your primary care clinic.

Gift card—Keefer Restaurant, Chicago
 Shelby Campbell's "Almost Famous" Restaurant, Elk Grove
 24 can cooler bag—LinJen Promotions
 Black Dunbrook Letterman Jacket—LinJen Promotions
 Black Holloway Letterman Jacket—LinJen Promotions
 Grant City, Orland Park, 1 free growler and gift pack
 Weekend stay at the Chicago Hilton
 4-prints form Horschgallery.com, sports and city scapes
 Friday or Saturday night stay at the Westin, Lombard
 3 pieces gift set of Rada cutlery from M. Trometer
 Harrison's Brewery, Orland Park, gift certificate
 Fuller's Car Wash, Palos Heights, 10-car full service car washes
 Café 24, Orland Park—2 gift certificates
 4 White Sox tickets for 9/28/11 from www.raymonscannell.com
 VISIO-HDTV 32" LCD-TV from www.LSAV.tv
 11x14 #35 Tony Esposito signed photo
 11x14 #35 Tony Esposito signed photo
 Jonathan Toews and Steve Nash photo
 Signed puck and photo #21 USA hockey
 DVD of David Brown's D-Day: Utah Beach
 15-12" Replogle globes from LinJen Promotions
 Gift card—Volare's Restaurant, Chicago
 Gift card—Volare's Restaurant, Oak Brook Terrace
 Gift card ASICS Sports Shoes
 Foursome with carts at George Dune National Golf Course, Oak Forest, IL
 Gift card—Benny's Chop House, Chicago
 Gift card—Wildfire Steak, Chops and Seafood
 Gift card—Lou Malnati's Pizzeria
 Car Emergency Kit from Lin/Jen Promotions
 Car Emergency Kit from Lin/Jen Promotions
 First aid kits from Lin/Jen Promotions
 First aid kits from Lin/Jen Promotions
 Pet first aid kit from Lin/Jen Promotions
 Brown leather CC/ID case from Lin/Jen Promotions
 Brown leather CC/ID case from Lin/Jen Promotions
 Apron and garden tool set from Lin/Jen Promotions
 Garden tools form Lin/Jen Promotions
 Tony's Italian Beef gift certificate
 Cooper's Hawk Wine Tasting for four
 Abt Electronics, Glenview, IL
 Greek Islands Restaurant, Lombard
 Firestone Auto Care, free oil change, Mokena
 Steve's Segway Tours for 2, Chicago
 Premier Classic Auto Appraisals
 Laugh Out Loud Comedy Theater, Schaumburg (for 4)
 Foursome with carts at oak Hills Country Club, Palos Heights
 Foursome with carts at Big Run Golf Club, Lockport
 Foursome with carts at Old Oak Country Club, Homer Glen
 Fleece wind jacket/reversible, Carl Buddig Meats
 Jumbo light-up mug with t-shirt, Carl Buddig Meats
 Jumbo light-up mug with t-shirt, Carl Buddig Meats
 One night stay at the Hampton Inn, Westchester
 Weber Grill Restaurant gift certificate, Lombard
 4 Chicago Fire tickets versus Chivas
 Rock Bottom Restaurant gift card, Orland Park
 Waters Edge Golf Club—foursome with cart
 Longhorn Steakhouse, Orland Park (3-\$10 gift cards)
 Mimi's Café, Orland Park (10 free desserts)
 Houlihan's Gift Certificates (3-\$10 each)

Car Show Prizes

Your \$5 donation
could win one of
these great door
prizes

Contact
Voluntary Service
for information

EDWARD HINES VA HOSPITAL

Presents its

3rd Annual Benefit Car Show And Welcome Home

OEF/OIF/OND Veterans & Family
(Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2011

Rain date August 21, 2011

SHOW TIME 10 AM – 4 PM

Viewing is *Free*



FOOD - ENTERTAINMENT-DOOR PRIZES

Gift bags for kids — Snow Cones

Games / Balloon water toss

Face painting — Magic Tricks

Forest Park Fire Department will provide

THE BIG RED FIRE ENGINE

FUN

FUN

FUN

FUN

Please R.S.V.P. for Welcome Home activities

For more information and to RSVP

Call OEF/OIF/OND Program Office **708-202-2633**

Show Cars Presented by: Thunder Road Productions

For information about the Car Show

Call Voluntary Service 708-202-2523

Voluntary Service (135)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital
5000 S. Fifth Avenue
Hines, IL 60141

Volunteer to serve
America's Heroes

Contact
Voluntary Service at the
Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital

708-202-2523