

Tomah VA Medical Center 2009 Annual Report



Dear Veterans, fellow employees, volunteers and friends:

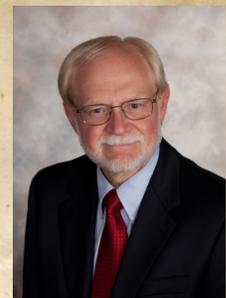
I welcome you to our 2009 Annual Report. In the past year, we have been working hard to connect Veterans with the VA benefits they have earned and deserve. I am proud to say that this report is full of examples highlighting our successes in 2009.

The quality of care we provide to Veterans continues to rank at the top of the Nation. At our VA, we understand that quality of care comes, in large part, through the richness of the relationships we have with one another and the Veterans we serve. We share a strong commitment to the mission of the 21st century VA that is Veteran-centric, results-driven and forward-looking.

In 2009, we have opened an outstanding VA staffed Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Wausau and will open another in Wisconsin Rapids in 2010. We have begun several important construction projects in 2009 that will come to fruition in 2010. We began planning for the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in 2009 and will host it in La Crosse in 2010. The future for the Tomah VAMC is filled with exciting times and high expectations. It is truly my pleasure to serve with you.

Sincerely,

Jerald D. Molnar
Medical Center Director



2009 Operational Objectives:

- ◆ Bring Services closer to Veterans
- ◆ Improve and expand Mental Health Services
- ◆ Make Community Living Centers more home-like and expand services
- ◆ Reach out and meet the needs of returning Veterans

Inside this issue:

Service Area	4
Customer Service	5
Veterans Services	6
Mental Health	7
NVCAF	8-9
Community Living Center	10
Recreation Therapy	11
Outreach	12-13
The Brag Sheet	14
Special Events	15



Veteran Centric - Results Driven - Forward Looking!

Toll-Free 1-800-872-8662 www.tomah.va.gov

MEDICAL CENTER DIRECTOR } Jerald D. Molnar
 ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR } Sandra Gregar
 CHIEF OF STAFF } David Houlihan, MD
 ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR }
 PATIENT CARE SERVICES } Lynda Everson, RN MS

Mission

The VA Great Lakes Healthcare System, Tomah, Wisconsin provides outpatient and hospital care for eligible veterans through patient-centered primary care, rehabilitation, extended care and a full continuum of mental health services including tertiary care.

Vision

Our staff will provide high quality patient-centered care. Staff will feel pride in providing services that are courteous, timely, informative, and responsive to the individual's physical and emotional needs. We will continue to be a center of excellence in the provision of long term care, mental health, and primary care services.

Philosophy

We are dedicated to fulfilling our mission and achieving our vision using the fundamental principles of quality, customer satisfaction, access, efficiency, patient safety and performance Improvement.

We Value

- First and foremost, our patients.
- Our staff, their skills, knowledge, and caring potential.
- Patient and family involvement in healthcare decisions.
- Dignity and individuality of our patients.
- Safe and caring environment.
- Excellence, continually improving what we do.
- Teamwork, collaboration, and communication.
- Trust, compassion, and commitment.

James Theres
Public Affairs Officer

Graphic Design/layout
John Renda

Photography
Michael Mickelson
Laura Bishop

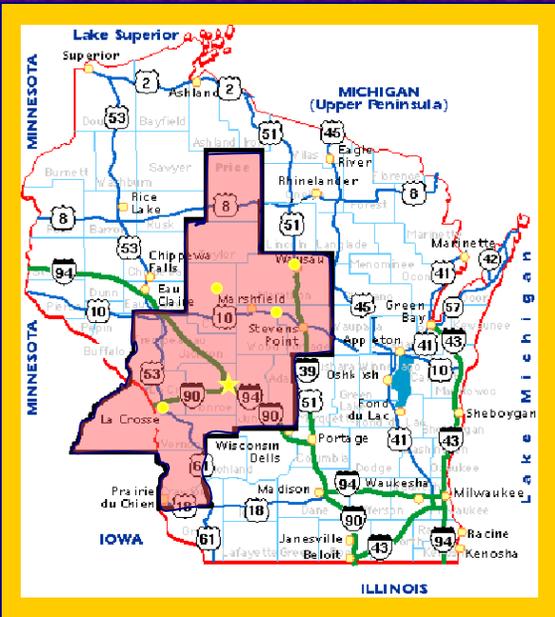
Produced by the
Tomah VA Medical
Center.

“Since I’ve been here it’s really helped me organize my life. People are very friendly. I’m getting great care here.”



Marvin Hill US Marine 1971-73.

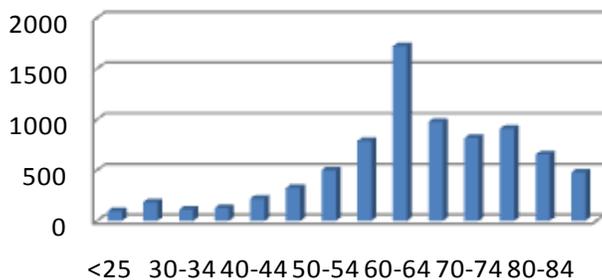
2009 By The Numbers



Tomah VAMC Service area,
VA Hospitals and Community
Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC's)

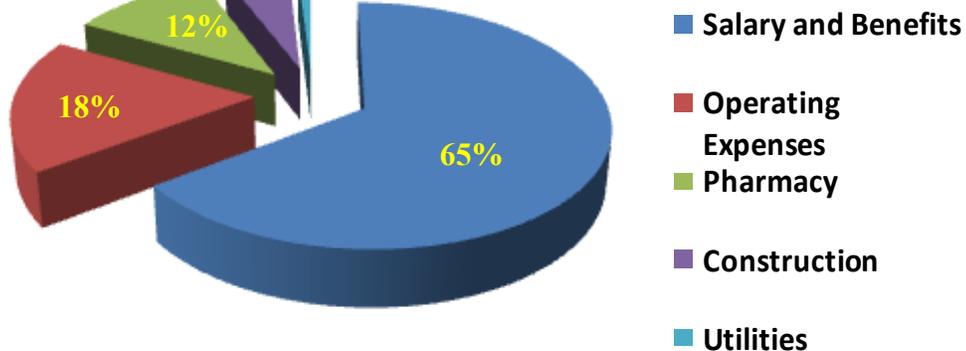
- \$106,369,177** Annual budget
- \$22,246,379** Value of inventoried equipment
- \$12,150,340** Pharmacy
- \$4,948,682** Construction
- \$356,387** Donations to Voluntary Service
- 151,730** Total Outpatient visits
- 39,343** Number of Volunteer hours
- \$29,256** Combined Federal Campaign
- 27,165** Veterans enrolled
- 23,906** Fee basis claims
- 8,816** Pieces of inventoried equipment
- 6,799** Returning Vet Applications
- 2,729** Compensation/Pension claims
- 992** Number of Employees
- 368** Number of Volunteers
- 309** Pints of blood Donated

Veterans by Age Group



Veterans by Gender

	Female	Male
FY02-	394	13,918
FY03-	440	15,534
FY04-	491	16,259
FY05-	557	17,156
FY06-	621	18,217
FY07-	676	18,670
FY08-	691	18,476
FY09-	843	19,290

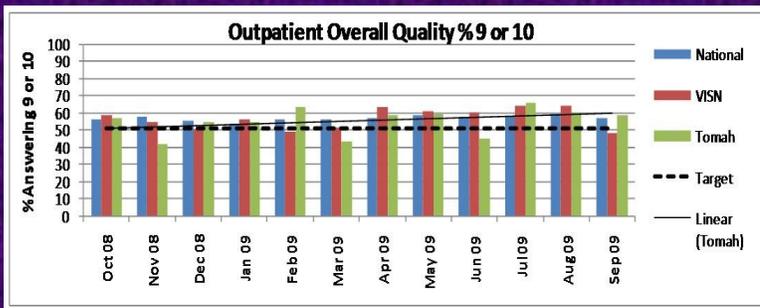


Annual Budget Breakdown

We Are Family Friendly



“ In 2009, we established customer service teams to focus on quality patient centered care. One of the results was a transformation into family friendly waiting rooms to meet the needs of all of our Veterans,” said Deb Thiel, Customer Service Committee Chair.



SHEP Surveying helps improve Veteran care

An important Tomah VAMC customer service goal is to continuously improve Veteran and family satisfaction with VA care by promoting patient-centered care. Veteran satisfaction with health-care services is measured using the Survey of Healthcare Experiences of Patients (SHEP). The inpatient and outpatient satisfaction measures are calculated from the distribution of responses to questions on the SHEP survey which ask the Veteran to rate the overall quality of the hospital (inpatient) or the ambulatory care received in the past 12 months (outpatient). Beginning fiscal

year 2009, responses are on a 0 to 10 scale, with 0 being the worst rating possible, and 10 being the best rating possible. A response of 9 or 10 to the overall quality question corresponds to a positive score.

Veteran patient satisfaction surveying is designed to promote health care quality assessment and improvement strategies that address patients' needs and concerns as defined by patients. The Veteran satisfaction surveys are aimed at capturing patient perceptions of care on the overall satisfaction with the hospital and with outpatient care. In-patient and Out-patient surveys are mailed out quarterly to a random sample of Veterans who have used Tomah VAMC services in a preceding quarter.



“After my tractor accident, I was in a VA hospital for over three months. I had a broken eye socket, cheekbone, nose and cracked ribs. My jaw was wired shut. I have to thank the VA for saving my life.”



Edward “Bud” Reiber, WWII Veteran 1943-46

• **Wausau CBOC**
Fully Staffed with VA employees



Wausau CBOC Staff

Effective April 6, 2009, VA employees permanently staffed the Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in Wausau, Wisconsin. Since 2002, primary care services for Veterans enrolled at the clinic were provided by a contracted medical provider. The transition to a clinic fully staffed by VA employees was critical in order to provide more continuity in care and possibly expand services.

The Wausau Clinic currently serves approximately 4,000 veterans from Marathon, Wood, Lincoln, Portage and Price counties, but more than double that number live in the area. “A good number of our veterans live in outlying areas, said Jerald D. Molnar, Tomah VA Medical Center Director. “What we want to do is to continue to bring more services closer to them.”



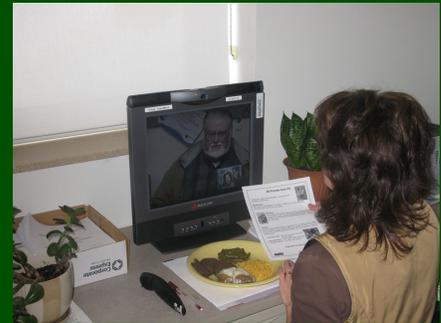
• **Tele-MOVE!**
Group Education Classes Start

“I am thrilled to have this opportunity to receive education closer to home.”

On December 21, 2009, Tomah VA Medical Center began providing weight reduction services via the Polycom Videoconferencing Unit to Veterans enrolled with the Loyal CBOC. Tele-MOVE! Coordinator/Dietitian, Kelly Christen, teaches Veterans remotely from Tomah. Diane Larson, LPN, checks patients in at the Loyal CBOC and distributes class materials. She facilitates the class on her to own

ensure everything runs smoothly. Classes are one-hour in duration and information provided and discussed focuses upon disease prevention. Participants are taught the importance of gradually modifying lifestyle habits to lose weight and to maintain that which has been lost. Said one Veterans “I am thrilled to have

this opportunity to receive education closer to home.”



• **From X-Ray to Medical Imaging**

In an effort to bring more specialty services to Tomah Veterans, the mobile Computed Tomography (CT) scanner (photo on left) arrived on January 1, 2009. The CT scanner conducts about 150 scans per month. The advantages for Veterans include:

- ◆ 24/7 availability eliminating the drive to the Madison VA.

- ◆ Improved Imaging Wait Times (currently CT is 97%, meaning 97% of our Veterans are scanned within 30 days of the desired date. The majority are done the same day if requested).

A mobile **Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scanner** started coming to the Tomah VAMC 1-2 days per week in July 2009.

Advantages for Veterans:

- ◆ Eliminates drive to the Madison VAMC.
- ◆ Wait times have improved. Exam was nearing 6 weeks out for an appointment, then another 2 weeks before the report was available.



VA assists with La Crosse County Veterans Courts

Staff at the La Crosse Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) and the Tomah VA Education Department helped develop the new La Crosse County Veterans Court Initiative and training for mentors who will assist Veterans in the legal system.

Partnering with initiative chairman and La Crosse County Circuit Judge Todd Bjerke and several other state and local agencies, any Veteran who has had an incident involving local law enforcement will be assigned a mentor, who

also is a Veteran. The initiative — a group of mostly veteran professionals and nonprofessionals — settled on a trained mentor system after studying other Veterans courts throughout the country. A large number of Veterans suffer from mental health problems associated with their military service, including post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain or blast injury and suicidal thoughts. If diagnosed with a mental health issue, the Veteran most likely would qualify for Veterans Health

Administration benefits, and a treatment plan can be developed. The group chosen for the La Crosse County Veterans Court Initiative Mentors Program attended training on December 7-8, 2009 learning about the court process, available resources, interviewing techniques and the VA system. Beginning on January 1, 2010, training was completed and mentors have been assigned to Veterans in the legal system.



Helicopter Pad - July 09



Tramway Head-house - August 09



Out-Patient Pharmacy - November 09

Construction Updates...

Building 400

- ◆ Urgent Care--Construction drawings for the renovation project complete. **This project has been approved for Economic Stimulus funding.**
- ◆ CT SCAN--The substructure concrete has been poured for the site prep project. The contractor is currently installing masonry and structural steel.
- ◆ Site Prep for Radiology Equipment—Construction project has been awarded.

Building 402-Preventive Medicine and Rehabilitation Services (PM&RS)

- ◆ PMRS area--Construction on the 1st floor of B-402 is continuing. **This project has been awarded with Economic Stimulus funding.**

Building 403

- ◆ 3rd floor--Continuing installation of the ceramic tile, casework and flooring.
- ◆ 2nd floor--Construction is continuing on the project to renovate the.
- ◆ Install elevator--contract has been awarded.

Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCS)

- ◆ Wausau CBOC-- build-out is approximately 95% complete.
- ◆ Wood County CBOC—build out started on November 17, 2009.



Anticipated Completion

- July 2011
- July 2010
- May 2010
- July 2010
- March 2010
- July 2010
- February 2010
- February 2010
- March 2010

We've done it before... Back in 1997

October 17, 1997

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is announcing that the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival will take place in La Crosse, Wis., Nov. 3-10. The annual event is co-sponsored by VA and Help Hospitalized Veterans, with support from The Recording Industries Music Performance Trust Fund.

The festival, hosted this year by the VA Medical Center in Tomah, Wis., culminates a year-long fine arts talent competition open to all veterans receiving medical treatment at

VA medical centers nationwide. More than 80 veterans, who were selected as national winners in music, dance, drama and art competitions, will arrive in La Crosse Nov. 3 for a week of rehearsals and workshops. On Sun., Nov. 9, at 2 p.m., the music, drama and dance winners will stage a gala variety show backed by a professional orchestra at the Viterbo College Fine Arts Center. Artists will exhibit their work in the Center's lobby. Dr. Joyce Brothers will be master of ceremonies for the festival. "In VA medical centers across the country, we have learned that real

healing doesn't always mean taking care of just the physical needs of a patient; it often requires treating the 'whole' person," said Secretary-Designate of Veterans Affairs Hershel W. Gober. "VA's patients benefit significantly from the role creative arts therapy plays in their recovery and rehabilitation."



National Veterans Creative Arts Festival 2010

And we will do it again!

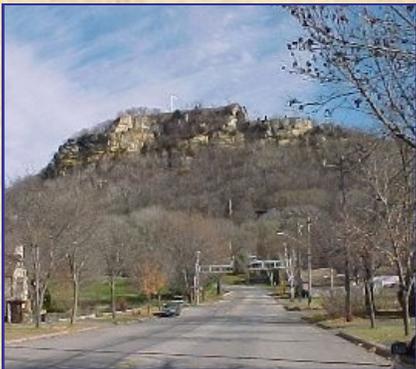


Jean Calhoun
Host Site
Coordinator

Elizabeth Mackey
NVCAF Event
Director

Amy Kimbler
NVCAF Program
Specialist

Jerald D. Molnar
Medical Center
Director



Grand Dad Bluff, La Crosse Wisconsin

2010 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival
La Crosse, Wisconsin
October 18-25

Performance Gala and Art Exhibit
Viterbo Fine Arts Center
929 Jackson Street
Sunday, October 24, 2010
2 P.M.



National Veterans Creative Arts Festival



"I first entered the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival competition in 2005. I was surprised to learn I took a first and went to Denver. It was the first time I felt really proud to be a Vet."



Robert Hammer, Vietnam Veteran, 1969-1970.

In 2006, VA's nation-wide began a cultural transformation to not only accommodate America's newest returning Veterans seeking long or short term care in the VA, but to identify ways of living different from traditional models. In tandem with the Pioneer Network, an advocacy group for aging, the VA focused on resident-centered care. Terminology was one of the drivers. Nursing homes became Community Living Centers. Community Living Centers became vibrant hubs of activity with multi-dimensional programming and resident councils to help foster the transformation. Resident-centered care focused on five core elements: Choice, Community, Empowerment, Relationship and Respect.

Aspects of Resident-Centered Care included:

- Natural Light
- Line of Sight
- Varied Artificial Light
- Experienced Furniture
- Pathways
- Control of Equipment
- Gathering spaces
- Natural Smells
- Natural Sights
- Natural Sounds
- Contact with Nature
- Contact between Generations
- Rituals/Celebrations
- Group Size/ Bonding

The Community Living Center is NOT a hospital, but an open, diverse and caring community.

This cultural transformation also required a paradigm shift for staff who needed extensive cross-training, empowerment and education. At the Tomah VA, staff guided by resident councils decided to give each Community Living Center a name that represented an identity, moreover, a home.

Community Living Center's at the Tomah VA

- 400T-Americana
- 402A-Country Inn
- 402B-Sports Center
- 406A-Home Sweet Home
- 406B-Northwoods Lodge
- 408A-Vintage Place
- 408B-Wildlife Haven

In 2009, cultural transformation for residents at the Tomah VA continues. Wood laminate has replaced tile flooring. Residents now enjoy the comfort of quilts, small throw pillows, couches and recliners. Kitchenettes, aromatherapy, garden plots and Internet access are now vital to sensory stimulation.



Recreation Therapy

June Dairy Days, Fall Festival, Senior Prom, Woodstock summer and Mardi Gras are just some of the events that Veterans at our medical center enjoyed in 2009. "Every year it takes a large interdisciplinary team approach to provide quality special events for our Veterans," said Jenna Gilbertson, Recreational Therapy Supervisor.

In 2009, not only did the Recreational Therapy team plan large special events, they also expanded recreation hours, activities and interventions to the tune of over 600 activities per month on the units and in the Victor Center. In addition, they offered Veterans the opportunity

to get out and about at community outings such as county fairs, tractor pulls, concerts and as honor marshals for the Wasilla Fall Festival Parade.

While the Veterans were here at the medical center, Rec Therapy helped coordinate their attendance at the Re-Creation Glamorous! stage show, Memorial Day, Horses for Heroes, POW-MIA Day and Veterans Day ceremonies.

"Hospital-wide events are a wonderful way to get all of our

Veterans and staff together, but we also need to focus on day to day activities for Veterans," said Jenna. To that end, the Rec

therapy team launched several unique programs in 2009. Northwoods Lodge (406B) started a reading club and, along with Home Sweet Home (406A), started a "happy hour" on Friday afternoons which gives Veterans an opportunity to listen to music while drinking non-alcoholic Strawberry Daiquiris, Pina Colodas, Sparkling

Wine and Bloody Mary's. "Many Veterans, who are sometimes reluctant to join other activities, really enjoy this one," said Jenna. "It gives them a chance to relax, sing songs and reminisce."

"Hospital-wide events are a wonderful way to get all of our Veterans and staff together."



Rec Therapy Team l to r back row: Amy Olson, Jenna Gilbertson, Amanda Weiland, Ann Bissen-Clark, Jen Conzemius, Front row: Dawn Rue, Dianna Schmitz, Helene Stein, Danita DuBord missing: Kathy Garrett and Jean Calhoun



The Tomah VAMC began actively reaching out to service members who were deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) in 2003. Staff launched what would become one of the first de-mobilization processes in the country. This de-mobilization process at nearby Fort McCoy, a primary site for the de-mobilization of Army National Guard and reserve soldiers from throughout the country, has been highly successful. Our staff has been integrated into the process and operates a station at which each returning service members are greeted and assisted in completing

the 10-10EZ enrollment form. Enrollment data is transmitted electronically to the OEF/OIF Program Manager and Enrollment Coordinator at the facility of the Veteran's choice; so the veteran can be registered locally. Each veteran is given the name and phone number of the OEF/OIF staff at the local VA facility, so he/ she may make contact and arrange services immediately, if desired. Over the past five years, our staff has met with and enrolled approximately 20,000 service members demobilizing at Fort McCoy. Tomah VA OEF/OIF program staff routinely attend Post Deployment Health Reassessments, Family

Reintegration Seminars, Veteran's Fairs at colleges and universities, Stand Downs for Homeless Veterans and Project CHALLENG meetings held throughout the region. In addition the Tomah VA OEF/OIF program in conjunction with the Tomah VA Education department has been working with area judges and other court and corrections officials to create Wisconsin's first Veterans courts which it did in December 2009. In the Fall, each year the "Heroes Freedom Run" welcomes home returning service members and their families.

Impact of Outreach on Utilization

- ◆ 70% of OEF/OIF Veterans residing in Tomah catchment area have obtained VA healthcare.
- ◆ 2nd highest Utilization rate in the nation.
- ◆ Over 22, 000 service members enrolled since 2003.



Wisconsin Day De-Mob at FT. McCoy



Heroes Freedom Run

Eight months into his tour, Chet Millard from Cataract, Wisconsin was lying on a stretcher in the Tangi Valley in Afghanistan waiting for a helicopter. A photographer embedded with a nearby infantry company took a photo of him. That photo ended up on the cover of the October 2009 issue of Time magazine. "I was lying there," said Chet, "and this photographer was hovering over me with a camera. He asked if he could take my picture. I said, what for. He said, maybe Time magazine. I said, yea right." An hour or so before the photo, Millard was leading a platoon-size element (30 men and 8-12



vehicles) from the 951st Sapper Company out of Rhinelander and Tomahawk, WI on a supply mission to beef up an infantry company positioned at a COB or combat operations base. The convoy was traveling down a narrow, winding road surrounded by mountainous terrain on either side. One of the vehicles was hit by an IED (Improvised Explosive Device) on the way into the COB. After taking care of the wounded and recovering that vehicle, Millard's unit continued the mission. "We dropped off our cargo, turned around and started heading back down the same road," said Chet. Even though they had cleared that road earlier, it was no longer safe. They would have to clear it again. "The insurgents are very good at what they do," said Chet. "Once you lose sight with a stretch of road, it is compromised. They can set up an IED in a matter of minutes." Heading back toward their FOB or Forward Operating Base, the two lead vehicles in the convoy came around a tight curve without incident. The third vehicle, a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle, following

50 meters behind was suddenly blown into the air catching the brunt of an IED.

"I don't know why they chose my vehicle," said Chet. "Maybe it was because I had the camera."

The blast from the IED was so powerful it hurled the 19-ton MRAP into the side of the mountain.

"We fell right back into the hole," said Chet. "The explosion blew off the whole front end of the vehicle. The mine roller, engine block, everything."

After re-gaining his senses, Millard immediately went into survival mode. His driver and gunner were both injured. The vehicle's radio was destroyed so Millard turned on a radio he carried. That radio was "blowing up" Millard remembers. Other vehicles in the convoy were frantically trying to establish contact with his destroyed vehicle.

"That's when the training kicks in," said Chet. "The infantry unit we just left went out and swept the area for any insurgents, but whoever it was just blended in and was gone. They found the detonating device that blew up my vehicle about 800 meters away."

Insurgents use a variety of devices such as pressure plated bombs, cell phone adaptive bombs and common wire detonated bombs to blow up American vehicles. Sometimes a bomb can sit underneath a road for six months or more before an insurgent decides there is an opportunity to kill American soldiers.

"That's most of the pressure," he said. "You never know with this type of warfare." When a unit leaves the security of a FOB, they also never really know when they're coming back.

"Some missions you think are going to be 4 hours long and they turn into 4 days," said Chet. "One mission we went on was a 4 day mission and we stayed out for 27 days."

In November 2009, the 951st Sapper Company returned home after supporting road clearing missions for the 101st Airborne, 82nd Airborne, 10th Mountain Division and the 25th Infantry Division. Soon after Chet Millard turned to the Tomah VA for help with some

post-deployment health issues. "I was not real happy with the VA the first time around," said Chet after seeking help from the VA following his first deployment to Iraq in 2003-04. "I could never get to the right person. I finally gave up." This time around, he is much happier with the support he's getting from the VA. "It's a completely different system," he said. "Things have smoothed out a lot." He now sees providers at the Tomah VA for PTSD, TBI and some other physical injuries due to the experiences he had in combat while deployed in Afghanistan. Despite these injuries, he still sees himself as a Soldier first and will assume another leadership role with another unit soon. "I never thought I would be a PTSD sufferer," said Chet. "I don't know how it started, but one night at home I woke up pouring sweat. Then it happened again, this time my wife was watching me as I lie in bed. She said I was calling out to other Soldiers, barking out orders. I went to the VA to get help."

In his new military assignment, Millard hopes to encourage younger Soldiers to get help if they need it. "There's still that whole sign of weakness thing about getting help, but it's really not," he said. "I have a responsibility for other Soldier's lives, just like in combat. As leaders, we have to make split second decisions. We cannot let our fears control us. One part of you asks, 'Do we want to go down that road—NO, but another part says, 'Do we have to go down that road to support the mission—YES!'"



Tamala Karch- Iraq Veteran

"I'm extremely satisfied with the care I've received since I moved here 7 months ago. Staff are people-centered, friendly and they don't leave questions unanswered."

School At Work Program (SAW)

In September 2009, ten (10) Tomah VA employees enrolled in the first School at Work (SAW) program ever offered at the medical center. SAW is a premier career development system for entry-level workers in the healthcare industry. Over 400 hospitals nationwide have used SAW as part of a career ladder system. Each student was paired

up with a mentor. The SAW class meets each week for 32 weeks to acquire and improve computer, math, reading, people and service skills.

School at Work is a bridge program that prepares employees for better-paying jobs and for entrance to local community colleges.



Audiology Walk-in Clinic

On May 4th, 2009 Tammy Gadbois, Audiologist and Debbie Mayfield, LPN, Audiology Health Technician started an Audiology Walk-in clinic to improve service to the Veteran and improve efficiency. They established walk-in clinic hours (10:30-11:45 am, Mon-Fri) with the goals to eliminate disruptions by having set hours for the Health Tech to do repair work, reduce the number of unnecessary appointments and respond much quicker to veterans needs. They identified staffing, created

color-coded check-in cards and even marketed the new clinic by sending out a communication piece to veterans, putting up flyers around the clinic and working with PSAs to recommend the clinic to veterans with hearing aid trouble. More veterans are being seen and hearing aid issues resolved. In the first six weeks, Debbie has seen 173 veterans and Tammy has seen 84 veterans during the clinic hours. Phone calls to the Health Tech have been reduced



due to the call center routing phone calls first to the PSAs for evaluation. The Audiology Department has received positive feedback from veterans who would rather drop their hearing aids off during walk-in clinic hours and wait for the fix than have to come back several times.

Intensive Clinical Care Management (ICCM)

The Tomah VA Medical Center (VAMC) was selected as one of twenty sites within the Veterans Health Administration to receive a grant for systems redesign and improvement for FY 2010-2012. The \$1.3 million dollar grant was awarded to the Intensive Clinical Care Management (ICCM) team consisting of Nurse Practitioner, Peggy Dwyer, RN Care Manager, Linda Martens, Registered Dietitian and Faye Moseley-Rezin. ICCM is a

chronic disease management program designed for individuals who are unable to achieve or maintain safe levels of control of their chronic disease(s) and as a result are at greater risk of complications. A pilot program, ICCM Diabetes, was launched in October 2008 at the Tomah VAMC and demonstrated promising patient outcomes throughout 2009 including high scores in patient satisfaction. Efforts are now focused on

expanding services at the Tomah VAMC during 2010 and offering outreach services by late 2010. Plans include a mobile unit (see photograph) that will allow the ICCM team to bring services to Veterans living in outlying areas who utilize the Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Lacrosse, Loyal, Wausau and Wisconsin Rapids.



More veterans are being seen and hearing aid issues resolved.



2009 Special Events and Visitors



Women's Equality Day -Olympian Suzy Favor Hamilton



Memorial Day-William Upham Jr.



23rd Annual Car and Motorcycle Show



Veterans Day-Hall of Heroes inductee Steve Pappas



Memorial Day-State Sen. Dan Kapanke



The Wall that Heals



Hall of Heroes inductee-Robert M. Witzig



National Salute Week-Miss Wisconsin, Briana Lipor



POW-MIA Day—Kevin Hermening



Women's History Month
WI Supreme Court Chief Justice
Shirley Abrahamson



Congressman Ron Kind



Congressman Dave Obey



Horses for Heroes-
Mayor Ed Thompson

2010 Public Events Calendar

Friday, May 28, 2010	Memorial Day ceremony	1 p.m.	Front of Bldg. 400
Saturday, August 22, 2010	24 th Annual Car and Motorcycle Show	1 p.m.	Front of Bldg. 406
Saturday, September 11, 2010	3 rd Annual Heroes Freedom Run	9 a.m.	Front of Bldg. 400
September 15-16, 2010	Open House	11 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Bldg. 400
Friday, September 17, 2010	4 th Annual Horses for Heroes Rodeo	9 a.m.	Front of Bldg. 400
Sunday, October 24, 2010	POW/MIA Day ceremony	1 p.m.	VA Chapel
	National Veterans Creative Arts Festival	2 p.m.	Viterbo Fine Arts Center, La Crosse, Wisconsin
Wednesday, November 10, 2010	Veterans Day/Hall of Heroes	1 p.m.	VA Chapel

For more information on these and other special events, please contact Public Affairs Officer at (608) 372-7759 or email james.theres@va.gov.

