Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center

The APOLLO

Readying Warriors and Caring for Heroes

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Happy 5th Anniversary Lovell FHCC!

Schedule of Events

Thursday, October 1, 2015

Welcome & Introduction	**Ms. Katherine Dong** *Assistant Director for Primary Care*
Parading of Colors	**Lovell FHCC Color Guard**
National Anthem	**Navy Band**
Invocation	**Chaplain Lyle W. Swanson**
Remarks	*FHCC Deputy Director and Commanding Officer; FHCC Director; VISN 12 and Naval Service Training Command leadership*
Presentations	**Honored Guests**
Guest Speaker	**Navy Capt. (Ret.) James A. Lovell**
"God Bless America"	**Ms. Kathy Serbin** *Associate Chief Nurse, Surgical Services*
Benediction	**Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. John Rudd**

Capt. (Ret.) James A. Lovell, astronaut

Capt. James A. Lovell and wife, Marilyn Lovell, sign the cross beam of the new addition, Building 133EF, during the "Topping Off" of the new ambulatory care clinic.

Navy Capt. James A. Lovell was selected as a NASA astronaut in 1962. Dec. 4, 1965, he and Frank Borman were launched into space on the historic Gemini 7 mission, which lasted 330 hours and marked the first rendezvous of two manned spacecraft. As commander of the Gemini 12 mission in 1966, Lovell and pilot Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin perfected spacecraft docking techniques and developed Extra Vehicular Activity procedures necessary for the later Apollo flights.

Lovell served as command module pilot and navigator on the epic six-day journey of Apollo 8 in 1968; man's maiden voyage to the moon.

Lovell's last flight was Apollo 13, the third lunar landing mission. Lovell was spacecraft commander of the mission in April, 1970. The original 10-day flight plan was modified en route to the moon due to a failure of the service module cryogenic oxygen system. Lovell and fellow crewmen John L. Swigert and Fred W. Haise, working closely with Houston ground controllers, converted their lunar module "Aquarius" into an effective lifeboat. Their emergency activation and operation of lunar module systems conserved both electrical power and water in sufficient supply to assure their safety and survival while in space and for the return to earth.

Lovell retired from NASA in 1973. He was president of Houston Towing, Fisk Telephone Systems and executive vice president of Centel Corporation. He later opened a restaurant in Lake Forest, Ill. His name was given to Lovell Federal Health Care Center in 2010.

"I can't imagine a greater honor than to have my name attached to this medical facility dedicated to the wellbeing of active military and the Veterans of our armed services," he said then. Looking back today, he said, "We were able to put the best equipment and the best medical personnel together. I think it's done great ... There's no one I've talked to who is associated with, or has been to Lovell FHCC, who has not really enjoyed the experience."

Congratulations! Five years of our integration journey are completed. We should all be proud of the contributions we have made.

Many of you have noticed the mural hanging in Building 133EF. The "Steeds of Apollo" was the inspiration for the design of the Apollo 13 mission flight patch. The description is interesting – "Ex Luna, Scientia," or "From the moon, knowledge." The Apollo astronauts, led by our namesake (Ret.) Navy Capt. James A. Lovell, embarked on a dangerous, unchartered expedition for the purpose of gaining better understanding of the unknown for the benefit of all mankind.

Just like the Apollo missions forged a new path for science, so too is Lovell Federal Health Care Center. As the first and only integrated Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care facility, we are creating the playbook for military and Veteran health care. FHCC has undertaken a bold journey to deliver the best health care to warriors and heroes.

Our patients benefit the most from this integration. Nothing brings us greater pride than seeing a civilian nurse mentoring a Navy hospital corpsman, or a corpsman caring for a World War II Veteran. Walk into our ER, inpatient units, or clinics and see uniformed providers working alongside civilian counterparts, caring for a Sailor's child in one room and a Vietnam Veteran in the next. We have heard countless times from patients how much they appreciate the clinicians and others who care for them.

None of these successes would be possible without our amazing staff. Thank you! Your dedication to this integration is what makes Lovell FHCC. We enjoy celebrating our successes together. We have learned from you and turned integration challenges into opportunities to build a blueprint for federal health care. Your hard work makes a difference in our patients' lives. We look forward to the next five years and beyond!

Director
Stephen R. Holt,
MD, MPH, MSNRS

Deputy Director, Commanding Officer
Capt. Robert G. Buckley,
MC, USN

Past Leadership

Director | Patrick L. Sullivan, FACHE
Deputy Director/Commanding Officer |
Capt. José A. Acosta, MC, USN
Deputy Director/Commanding Officer |
Capt. David Beardsley, MC, USN

Highlights from...

PATIENT-CENTERED CARE

Caregiver Support Center opens

When she stood at the podium and prepared to speak at the ribbon-cutting of the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center Caregiver Support Center, Kristina Hopkins momentarily faltered.

For the first time in a long while, the attention was on her and not her husband, a disabled combat Veteran. It was her time to be heard, and her moment to be grateful.

"The day Pam called me, she explained she was here to support me," Hopkins said in a tremulous voice.

The call was from Caregiver Support Coordinator Pam Rosentreter, who proceeded to tell Hopkins about the resources available to her as a caregiver, including the new Caregiver Support Center at the FHCC in North Chicago, Ill.

Hopkins spoke at the Sept. 1, 2011, ceremony outside the center on the second floor of the FHCC's new addition.

"If I don't call Pam once a week, she'll hunt me down," Hopkins joked during her speech. Hopkins said she became a full-time caregiver for not only their two children but also for her husband, Thomas Hopkins Jr., when he came home from Iraq with brain and spinal injuries as well as PTSD.

The center, Hopkins said, provides respite. "This is a place I can go to be myself. I can be still and be on my own … I'm honored. Thank you."

READYING WARRIORS

Trauma skills honed in Chicago

Stroger Hospital in Chicago and Lovell Federal Health Care Center in 2014 announced a new training partnership that embeds active duty Lovell FHCC Navy medical personnel in Stroger Hospital's Trauma and Burn Unit.

The program, called the Cook County Trauma Experience (CCTE), allows FHCC Navy surgeons, nurses and hospital corpsmen to work alongside Cook County trauma surgeons and nurses at Stroger. Navy medical personnel complete one-, to two-month rotations in the trauma and burn units.

"Working on the complex cases we see at Stroger Hospital will help Navy doctors, nurses and corpsmen improve and enhance their medical skills and prepare them for future military deployments," said Dr. John Jay Shannon, then-Interim CEO for the Cook County Health and Hospitals System. "The training they receive will prepare them to respond quickly on the battlefield."

The CCTE, a first in the Chicago area, is similar to the Navy's Naval Trauma Training Center in Los Angeles, where Navy medical personnel care for patients alongside Los Angeles County Hospital emergency department staff.

Lt. Cmdr. Stan Hovell, then FHCC department head of education and training, said, "It's an ideal partnership for both sides."

INTEGRATION

Master-at-Arms Sailors graduate from VA police academy

There was talk about having a Navy Master-at-Arms Sailor from the FHCC attend the Veterans Affairs (VA) Police Academy, but it seemed to the two MAs serving at the FHCC a slim chance.

After all, no Sailors had ever enrolled and graduated from the VA's basic police academy course before. "We never thought it would happen," said MA1 Lamont Ransom, then-Lead Petty Officer of Security at Lovell FHCC. However, as the result of the hard work of many – including a kick-start by the secretaries of the VA and the Department of Defense after their joint visit to Lovell FHCC in 2012 – Ransom and MA2 Class Joshua Lavine found themselves at the VA's Law Enforcement Training Center.

"Both of us were honored to be selected to attend," Ransom said. "We are proud to be part of the foundation started for the integration of the VA and the Navy here at the FHCC."

INNOVATION

Green House homes open at FHCC

The striking thing about the décor in the Green House® home World War II Veteran Adrienne Burke moved into is that it isn't overly masculine, Burke noticed during an open house at her new address.

"Everything is for the men where I live now," the then 89-year-old said as she appreciatively observed the artwork and homey features of the Green House home after the ribbon-cutting ceremony Oct. 1, 2012. "It's all pictures of eagles, fishing, nothing for women. This is very nice."

Burke, who was a resident of the Community Living Center at Lovell FHCC, held the scissors and helped cut the ribbon on the first home to open in the neighborhood dubbed "Heroes Harbor."

"We are creating a new world view about long-term nursing care," said Dr. Christa Hojlo, Director of VA Community Living Centers (formerly VA nursing homes), at the ceremony.

...Five Years...

INTEGRATION

Immunization Clinic serves all

The sign above the door of the first floor clinic in the Ambulatory Care Center at Lovell FHCC clearly reads "Immunization," but for a time, Veterans who wanted flu and other shots were directed elsewhere.

Today, Veterans are welcome to walk in to receive flu shots and most immunizations. This offering is part of the ongoing integration of services at Lovell FHCC for active duty military, their dependents, as well as Veterans.

Immunization clinic staff members were happy to announce they would accept Veteran patients Nov. 1, 2013, and waited expectantly for the first one.

Prior to that, Veterans had to make appointments to see their primary care provider for all vaccinations, and the clinic was available on a walk-in basis only to active duty members and their families. In the first few weeks of operation, the clinic saw nearly 100 walk-in Veteran patients for more than 150 immunizations, in addition to the regular military and military dependent patients.

PATIENT- CENTERED CARE

Honors rendered at Final Salute

Hands were raised in solemn salutes as Holocaust survivor and Korean War Air Force Veteran Paul Argiewicz began his last journey on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2013.

"It was the most beautiful thing," Cheryl Argiewicz said, remembering the day her husband died at Lovell FHCC and was given a Final Salute.

Minutes after Argiewicz died, Hospice and Palliative Care Coordinator Anna Abraham followed a procedure she and the hospice and palliative care team established in 2013. It starts with a call for staff to line the hall outside the patient's room.

Every patient, no matter what the hour or where in the hospital he or she dies, gets a Final Salute. "Our team wanted this – it's the last thing we can do for our Veterans who have served our country, to honor them and pay respects," Abraham said.

TALENT MANAGEMENT

Corpsmen's skills welcome on wards

Sightings of uniformed Navy nursing professionals have become the "norm" at Lovell Federal Health Care Center.

"I love having the corpsmen here," said Lovell FHCC Registered Nurse Marites Anilao. Anilao works in the medical-surgical inpatient unit, where the hospital corpsmen have been integrated.

Corpsmen are enlisted medical specialists who serve with the Navy and Marine Corps in a wide variety of capacities and locations, including hospitals and clinics and aboard ships. Corpsmen, especially Independent Duty Corpsmen, may be the only clinicians treating Sailors and Marines in combat and forward-deployed locations.

Navy Lt. Candice West, then-interim nurse manager, believes the integration of corpsmen into jobs on the medical-surgical floor is representative of continuous improvement to corpsman training at Lovell FHCC.

CARING FOR HEROES

McHenry community based outpatient clinic celebrates move

For months, Wonder Lake resident Pasquale Gebbia and other Veteran patients watched the progress of construction on a new McHenry Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC), down the street from the existing Lovell FHCC McHenry CBOC.

The new space was much needed in addition to being long-awaited by employees, patients and their caregivers. The wait ended May 8, 2015, when McHenry officials and local Veterans organizations helped celebrate the ribbon-cutting on the 9,000-square-foot building.

"This is great," said Gebbia, who attended the ceremony after finishing his regular weight-management class with his friends that morning in the new building.

The new building was designed to improve patient flow, as well as expand clinic areas for services such as telehealth classes and consultations, teleaudiology, teleretinal imaging for diabetes patients and telecardiology. The clinic serves more than 3,500 Veterans a year and will continue to offer primary care, women's health services, social work and mental health services and phlebotomy.

...of Excellence!

ENDING VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

Lovell FHCC opens Walk-in Center for Homeless Veterans

At Lovell Federal Health Care Center, there is no "wrong door" for Veterans to knock on when they fear they may become homeless or when already are homeless.

In the spirit of a pledge from the (VA) to eradicate homelessness among the nation's Veterans, Lovell FHCC opened a new Walk-In Center for Homeless Veterans in November, 2013.

The clinic is open daily on FHCC's main campus. A social worker is available to see Veterans and answer questions, assist with resources and provide guidance about available care for them.

"It's a one-stop shop," said Licensed Clinical Social Worker Elizabeth Morgan, then-coordinator for the Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) program. "We want to fill the gaps and better coordinate the services we have, and the community has, to help Veterans who are homeless, or who are at risk of becoming homeless."

CARING FOR HEROES

Community Living Center remodeled

North Chicago Mayor Leon Rockingham joined then Waukegan Mayor Bob Sabonjian and leaders from the Lovell FHCC June 7, 2012, to celebrate the opening of renovated Community Living Center spaces, appropriately called "Courage" and "Heroes Haven."

The $6.4 million renovation included state-of-the-art changes to the environment, including private residential rooms and bathrooms, full community kitchen, living room areas, and many additional home-like comforts to ensure Veteran residents receive the highest quality health care while living full, rich lives with dignity and support from a community of caring professionals.

"These environmental changes also bring a transformation in the mindset of the providers of care, the residents and their families and loved ones," said former Director Patrick Sullivan.

READYING WARRIORS

Adenovirus vaccine reinstituted

On cue, 88 Navy recruits lifted small cups of water and swallowed the two pills that marked the culmination of a more than a decade of work to bring back the adenovirus vaccine.

There wasn't much fanfare at USS Red Rover that October day in 2012. The daily, very early morning business of conducting medical and dental checks on new Sailors was continuing as usual. But on the sidelines, FHCC staff members knew it was a historic moment.

Cmdr. Mark Herwitz, who headed USS Red Rover at the time, said, "This vaccine has the potential to reduce the incidence of a virus that can significantly impact the training mission of recruits."

In a close-quarters environment, illness spreads quickly and results in missed training. If they are out sick too long, recruits may be "recycled" into new divisions.

The vaccine will prevent that. Mark Lesko, then head of Occupational Health Medicine, said in clinical trials, the vaccine was more than 90 percent effective.

EXPANDING SERVICES

Telehealth, expanded services highlights of new Kenosha clinic

Paul Ryan, a U.S. Rep. from Wisconsin, helped Lovell Federal Health Care Center open an expanded Kenosha Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) Aug. 29, 2013, receiving applause when he called today's military "another greatest generation."

Ryan spoke at the ribbon-cutting for the new medical facility on 22nd Avenue in Kenosha. Referring to TV anchorman Tom Brokaw's well-known book, "The Greatest Generation," about WWII Veterans' sacrifices and contributions to building America, Ryan said, "I would argue that based upon this era since 2001, since 9-11, we have another greatest generation right in front of us.

"We have men and women who have done amazing feats for world peace, for freedom for America ... Our Veterans deserve this," Ryan said. deserve this."

Visitors had a chance to walk through the new approximately 8,000-square-foot space and see new features including two sound booths for audiology services and computer rooms that will allow for expanded telehealth services.

October 1, 2010

Embarking on a New Journey

Oct. 1, 2010, marked the official dedication of the new Capt. James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center (FHCC) in North Chicago, Ill. Hundreds attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony, which was held outside the entrance of the new 209,000-square-foot ambulatory care center. Lovell FHCC fully integrates Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs medical services in the North Chicago and Great Lakes area and combines manpower and resources of the former Naval Health Clinic Great Lakes and the former North Chicago VA Medical Center (VAMC). The unique shared mission of the FHCC means that active duty military, their families, military retirees and Veterans are cared for at the facility, which includes three community based outpatient clinics and four clinics on base. Planning began more than a decade before the integration. After integration, the FHCC continued to grow, renovating and opening new clinics and adding services. This commemorative program serves as your guide to the Oct. 1, 2015, anniversary ceremony and highlights some of the many expansions and accomplishments of Lovell FHCC's first five years.

Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center "The Apollo" Newsletter

The Apollo is the official newsletter of the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center, published monthly for staff, Veterans, military families and volunteers. The *Apollo* newsletter is designed by the FHCC Communication Department.

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CONGRATS

Patricia Edwards

Jerome Phillips
Good Luck in the future.

Congratulations
Caroline Gonzales-Wotcutz

Congrats!
Stephanie Mclaire

CONGRATS GREAT JOB
Wayne!

HAPPY 5 Years!!!
HN Stewart

Congrats
Andrew Smith

Congratulations!
HM1(FMF) Kolpacke

Happy 5th!
Congrats!
-HMC ASIDA, EMN

Happy 5th Birthday FHCC!
Buck Hopkins

Congrats
Mike Bonds

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
-MC MOORE

Happy 5th FHCC,

CONGRATS!
HM1 Allen, R.

Happy 5th Anniversary

Congrats!

Way to go FHCC!
Jayme Legg

Happy 5th Anniversary
Allen

Congrats!

Congrats FHCC

Congrats
Judy Carter

Way to Go FHCC
Jennifer

Thanks for 5 great years!
Can't wait to see whats in store for our future
Mary S.

CONGRATS!
HM1 HERNANDEZ

Congrats!
-HM1 SCHUNSON

We did it
5 yrs strong
HM1 MCCOLO

Congrats!!
HM1 MOREFIELD

Happy 5 years!
HM2 Pence

Happy 5 years!
R. Richardt-Liesner

Congratulations!
Royal Eckstein

I'm so proud to have been part of this facility!
-Trevor Seela

Keep moving forward

Congrats!
Molly

Happy 5 yrs!
-RP3 Johnson

Congratulations!