



VA BUTLER HEALTHCARE
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News Release

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VA EMPLOYEES CREATE SPECIAL HOLIDAY ORNAMENT FOR VETERANS FROM A FALLEN OAK TREE

(BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA) – Veterans at VA Butler Healthcare received a very special treat this year from the Facility Management staff of VA Butler. Harvested from a fallen oak tree on VA Butler's 88 acre campus, 60 handmade wooden holiday ornaments were cut out then painted, engraved and polished by the staff. Staff worked on the project during their spare time over the course of several months. On Tuesday, December 15, 2009, representatives from Facility Management distributed the ornaments, along with a gift bag of other items, to Veterans in the Community Living Center.

The ornament is not only special in that it was created and presented by the Facility Management staff, but that it was also made from a tree that had been on the VA's property for many years. "Our Veterans will always have a piece of VA Butler with them where ever they may go, and to share with family and friends," comments Patricia Nealon, Director VA Butler Healthcare. "I am very proud of the staff at VA Butler who never ceases to amaze me with their creativity, compassion and generosity."

The Facility Management staff who contributed to the creation of the holiday ornament were: Jeff Heiger, Eric Saeler, Chuck McCall, Bob Scarmack, Bert Belles, Dave Krason, Bill Russell, Bill Wyant, Nathan Beers, Julie Bemben, Terry Giehll, Vauna Proper and Denise Tilko.

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Caption for photo: Veteran, Donald Crouch, proudly displays the holiday ornament created by the Facility Management staff from a fallen oak tree on VA Butler's campus. Representatives from Facility Management (pictured left to right, Dave Krason, Julie Bemben and Bill Russell) presented Veterans in VA Butler's Community Living Center with the ornament along with a holiday gift bag.



Caption for photo: Pictured is the handmade holiday ornament that VA Butler Healthcare's Facility Management staff created and presented to Veterans in the facility's Community Living Center.