

FRONT & CENTER

Providing News to Our Veterans

June 2011



A PARTNER IN YOUR CARE

Army Veteran Melvin Shick served two tours in Iraq as a combat engineer. His second tour was cut short due to an injury, and he was medivaced home. He came to VA Butler Healthcare through the Wounded Warriors Program in 2010 for medical treatment and behavioral health care. Today Melvin partners with his health care team to continue his recovery and care.

While Melvin was waiting to be medivaced out of Iraq, his fiancée contacted the OEF/OIF/OND Coordinator and OEF/OIF/OND Case Manager at VA Butler. Together, they helped prepare for Melvin's arrival. Transitioning home can be difficult, but VA Butler is here to help! More details for returning service members can be found online: oefoif.va.gov or butler.va.gov/freedom. You can also call VA Butler Healthcare's OEF/OIF/OND Program Coordinator at 800-362-8262 ext. 2493.

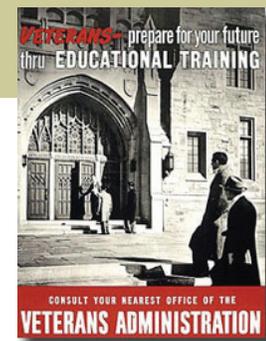
Melvin works closely with his Primary Care Physician to make decisions about his care. "The doctor really listens to you here. He'll work with you and help you come up with different suggestions," said Melvin. VA adopted a new way to provide Veteran-centered care called PACT: Patient-Aligned Care Teams. PACT emphasizes partnerships with Veterans for a team-based approach to care. Working together, a Veteran's PACT team makes health decisions.

Melvin is at VA Butler for treatment and he volunteers and helps with transportation for the Disabled American Veterans (DAV). Because so many sick and disabled Veterans lack transportation to and from VA medical facilities for needed treatment, the DAV operates a nationwide transportation network to meet this need. "I love being able to help other Veterans," said Melvin. "I encourage others, Veterans and non-Veterans, to volunteer at the VA. It is one of the best experiences."

“The [VA] doctor really listens to you here.” Melvin Shick

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY...JUNE

- 6** The invasion of Normandy by Allied powers during WWII occurs, also known as D-Day (1944)
- 13** The *New York Times* begins publishing the *Pentagon Papers* – top secret documents exposing U.S. strategy in the Vietnam War (1971)
- 14** The first U.S. Military service, the Continental Army consisting of six companies of riflemen, is established (1775)
- 25** The Korean War begins as North Korean troops launch a full scale invasion of South Korea [five days later, U.S. ground forces enter the conflict] (1950)
- 28** The signing of the *Treaty of Versailles* formally ends World War I (1919)



On June 22 1944, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed into law the *Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944*, commonly known as the *G.I. Bill of Rights*.

Do you have questions about the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill? Visit www.gibill.va.gov/ or call 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551).





WELCOME DR. TIMOTHY BURKE

Dr. Timothy Burke was appointed VA Butler Healthcare’s Chief of Staff this spring. Dr. Burke came to Butler from the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System where he served as the Vice President of the Primary Care Service Line.

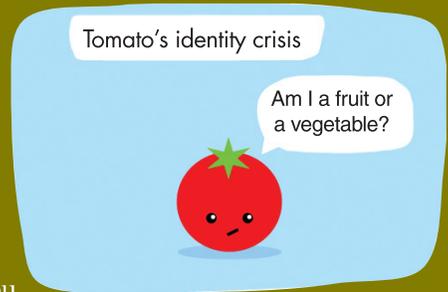
“Running a major service line in Pittsburgh for the past three years, that oversees inpatient, internal medicine, and a huge outpatient practice has been the best preparation. I’ve dealt with leaders across nursing, other specialties in medicine and surgery. It’s been incredibly valuable experience.”

Dr. Burke received his medicine degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine in 1996 and completed primary care internal medicine residency training at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in 1999.

We want to hear from you!
Email amanda.wilczynski@va.gov
or lauren.heiger@va.gov to share
your story with us!

JUNE IS NATIONAL FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLE MONTH

Of course it is recommended to eat a lot of fruit and vegetables all year round, but with summer upon us, now is a good time to start eating *more* fruits and vegetables. Because they’re low in calories and high in fiber, fruits and vegetables can help you control your weight. They are also a natural source of energy and give the body many nutrients you need to keep going. VA Butler is here to help you eat healthier (*and that includes more fruits and vegetables!*). You can attend VA Butler’s “Nutrition Kitchen,” where Chef Rachelle Lyons provides demonstrations on healthy cooking. You can join a *MOVE!* Program, the national



VA Weight Management Program that focuses on healthy lifestyle changes by eating right and getting exercise regularly. You can also attend one-on-one nutrition counseling. *Plus*, stay tuned for more information about VA Butler’s Farmer’s Market!

VA BUTLER HOSTS 2K WALK & ROLL EVENT

June is Professional Wellness Month, designed to create awareness about the importance of regular physical activity and its role in our well-being. As part of a national event, VA Butler Healthcare will host a 2K Walk and Roll event on June 2, 2011. All employees, Veterans, and community members at all levels of fitness are invited to join in a fun, short walk benefiting homeless Veterans.



VA Butler offers a wide array of special programs and initiatives specifically designed to help homeless Veterans live as self-sufficiently and independently as possible. For information, please contact VA Butler’s Homeless Program Coordinator at **800-362-8262**, ext. **2439** or call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at **1-877-4AID-VET** (1-877-424-3838).

EVENTS

- 2 **June Podcast • Veterans Justice Outreach**
Thursday, June 2 • 12-12:30 pm
Chat link: talkshoe.com/tc/85029
or Call in: 724.444.7444 (Call ID: 85029)
- 2 **VA 2K Walk & Roll**
Thursday, June 2
Registration begins: 10:30 am
Event: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
VA Butler Healthcare Auditorium



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