



EDWARD HINES JR
VA HOSPITAL

Hines

Happenings

August 2018

VA Secretary Wilkie lays out goals for future



Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert Wilkie

VA Secretary Robert Wilkie reinforced a commitment to customer service as one of his top priorities during a speech in Orlando, Florida on Aug. 8 before the [American Veterans organization](#) (AMVET). “When a veteran comes in to a VA, it is not up to them to get VA to say ‘yes.’ It is up to VA to give the Veteran tools.” Secretary Wilkie stressed the need to provide more private options for Veterans while preserving the current system.

“One absolutely essential option is the availability of care from professionals who specialize in treating America’s veterans,” he said. “Professionals who speak the language, who know what you have been through, who knows what your special needs are.

“That is not an option that the private sector can provide,” added Wilkie. There are currently 9 million Veterans enrolled in the VA healthcare system, so the need for community and private partnerships are essential. More than 350,000 employees work for the VA. Secretary Wilkie also stressed the importance of suicide prevention as the top priority for clinical care, which is consistent with goals set forth by former VA Secretary David Shulkin. The U.S. Senate confirmed Wilkie on July 23.

Dr. Braverman discusses Importance of 4 C’s

Since arriving at Hines, I have shared my Director’s Philosophy with you. A key component of that philosophy is the “Four C’s” to success.

The Four C’s are essential to moving forward with improvement at Hines no matter the domain of discussion. We can’t do the simplest things or even understand the problems if we don’t **Communicate** effectively. **Care of the Veteran** is our mission. Mr. Robert Wilkie, our new Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, has identified three focus areas of primary importance so far: suicide prevention, improving access and **Customer Service**.

Care of the Veteran is our Mission.



Dr. Steven Braverman, Director Hines VA Hospital

<continued>

Finally, we're often left to choose between two or more options. Use your **Common Sense** to select the right one. You know in your heart whether something is right or wrong. Follow the right. If you're still not sure, get help from others. Think of the Four C's as our basic strategy to improve and the tools we need to follow our strategic plan and make Hines the place of Choice for our Veterans and our Workforce.

**Communicate
Care of the Veteran
Customer Service
Common Sense**



Front of Logo



Back of Logo

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

On average, 20 Veterans a day are lost to suicide.

Express what this means to you.

Submit a creative piece of work (poem, drawing, photograph, artwork, etc.) expressing what losing 20 Veterans a day to suicide means to you.

All entries must be submitted by Friday, August 24th. All Veterans, family & friends of Veterans, and staff members are invited to submit entries.

Please contact Susan Zacharia, LCSW at 708.202.5844 or susan.zacharia2@va.gov

Artwork will be displayed at Hines VA
5000 S. 5th Ave, Hines, IL
on Wednesday, September 5th, 2018 9AM-3PM



ARTS

Coping with loss: How Hines VA helps grieving families

The passing of a loved one is difficult. It's painful and full of uncertainty for many.

Hines VA Chaplains provide a special memorial service for family members of fallen Veterans.

"Our heroes are here every day. They're not the heroes you see in movies. They don't wear capes and masks. Our Veterans may be using a cane, walker or wheelchair," said Dr. Elaine Adams, Hines chief of staff.

The service is called the Last Roll Call Ceremony of Remembrance, which is done quarterly at the Hines VA Chapel.

Carol Parrotti of Downers Grove, was there to pay tribute to her late husband, a Vietnam Veteran, who recently passed away. "It was a very moving ceremony. It made me feel so good to see him and other Veterans honored," said Parrotti.

The guest speaker was Dr. Maria Hansberry who serves as a member of Geriatrics and Extended Care. "I have seen incredible acts of love and devotion which motivates me to do this," said Dr. Hansberry. Both of her grandfathers, father and husband all proudly served in the U.S. Military.

Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2791 served as Honor Guard. Mrs. Estella Brown performed the National Anthem.

The service was conducted by chaplains Lynn Hanson, Chris Myers and Rabbi Norman Lewison.



Left: Family members are comforted by "Britta" one of four service dogs in attendance.
Below: VFW Honor Guard performs the posting of colors as Kare 9 Military Ministry looks on.



Above: Soloist Mrs. Estella Brown leads the service with the National Anthem. The memorial service was concluded with a group singing of "Amazing Grace."



Hines Athletes bring home top honors

The Hines Windy City Athletes team brought home 24 medals from the 38th National Veterans Wheelchair Games from Orlando, Florida on Aug. 5.

Nine local outpatient and residents of our long-term care facility (RCF unit) competed in numerous events, which include bowling, air rifles, boccia, softball, slalom navigation, archery, basketball and 9-ball. Hines competitors received 17 gold medals, three silver and four bronze.

Hundreds of Veterans from around the country took part in the Wheelchair Games. Additional information about the competition can be found [here](#).



Hines Veterans compete in Golden Age Games

Dozens of athletes from Hines VA turned out for the 32nd Annual Golden Age Games, which took place in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Hines competitors brought home 19 medals, which included two gold, nine silver and eight bronze.

The National Veterans Golden Age Games is the premier senior adaptive rehabilitation program in the United States, and the only national multi-event sports and recreational seniors' competition program designed to improve the quality of life for all Veterans, including those with a wide range of abilities and disabilities. VA challenges and encourages senior Veterans to be proactive in embracing a healthier lifestyle.

The games are open to Veterans, ages 55 or older, who receive health care from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Additional information about Adaptive Sports programs can be found [here](#).



Time for a Touch Down...Give Blood!

Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital Blood Drive

Monday, August 27th 2018

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Auditorium

&

Tuesday, August 28th 2018

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

HBC Mobile Bus/Main Entrance

And

11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Please schedule your appointment online at www.heartlandbc.org or call 1-800-786-4483.

Appointments matter, both to us and to our blood donors, who make them. While walk-ins are welcome, we will preference donors with appointments and ensure that they are always at the front of the line.

PHOTO ID IS REQUIRED.

Make a great play! Give Blood, get this great t-shirt!



Text APPT to 444-999 for Immediate Appointment
1-800-7TO-GIVE • www.versiti.org



#Don8bld

Limited Time Remains for EES Help to Earn Associate and Bachelor's Degrees

EES Workforce Development (WFD) partnered with Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) to provide the College for America program for eligible full-time VHA employees. This college experience was designed for working adults like you. Deadlines are fast approaching to take advantage of this opportunity. Looking to earn an associate and/or bachelor's degree? Build foundational skills in business, communications or health care management.



Jump start your education with one-time tuition support from EES WFD to get you started. EES WFD will cover the cost of the first trimester for eligible full-time VHA employees. Tuition is then just \$1,000 per trimester.

Go to the [EES WFD SharePoint page](#) for eligibility and access/application information. EES WFD will accomplish biweekly authorizations using SF 182s through Aug. 15 for bachelor's degrees and through Aug. 27 for associate degrees. These dates could change if available funds are expended.

 [Learn More](#)
See Yourself Succeed Accredited | Affordable | Nonprofit

  **2018**
SPEAK UP! YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

SPEAK UP!

FOR PATIENT SAFETY

AUGUST 27 – SEPTEMBER 16



Make your voice heard on important topics in patient safety by responding to the 2018 VA NCPS Patient Safety Culture Survey.



It's time to speak up when you receive the link to the 2018 Patient Safety Culture Survey. **ALL** responses are confidential and anonymous.

For more information, contact your local patient safety manager:

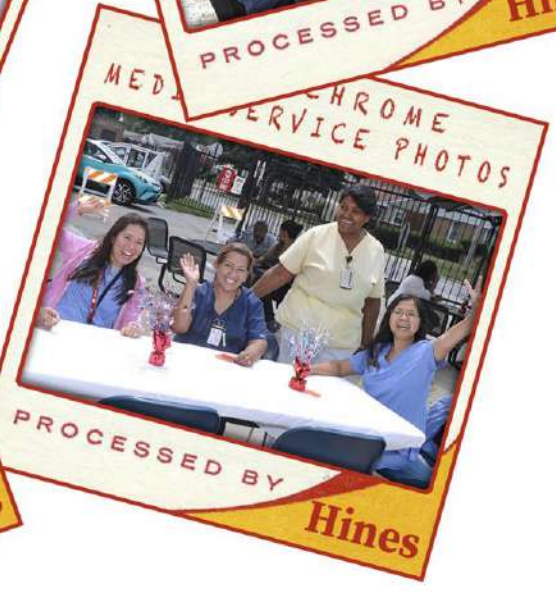
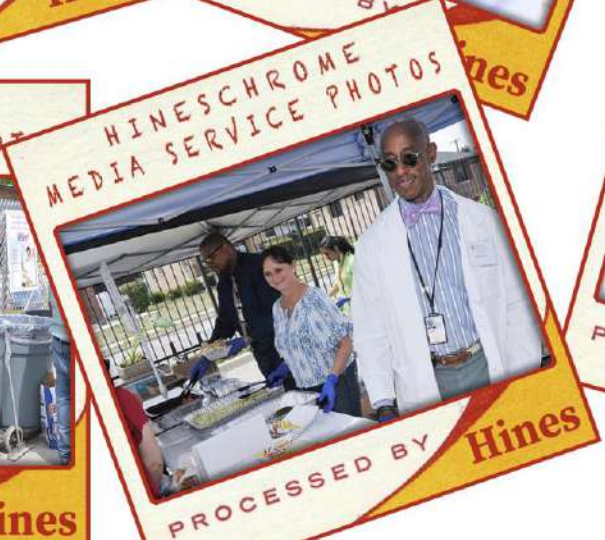
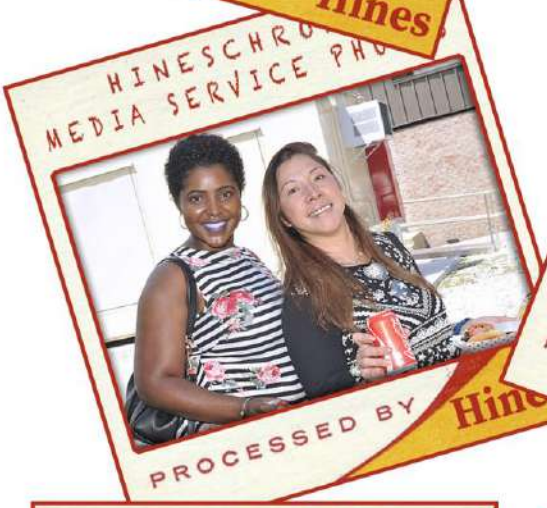
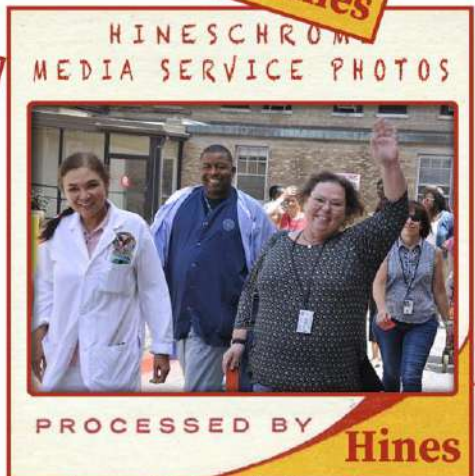
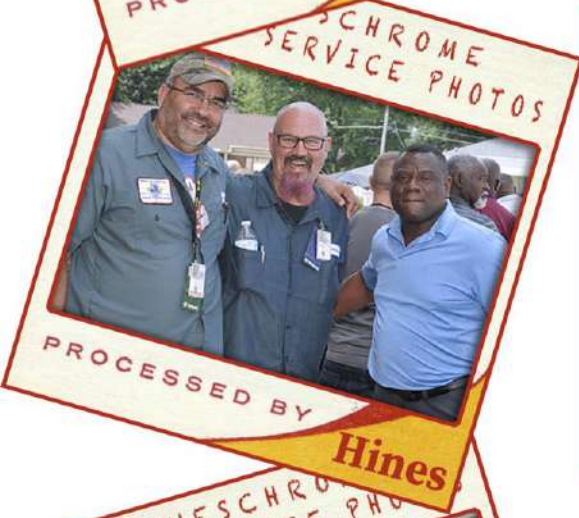
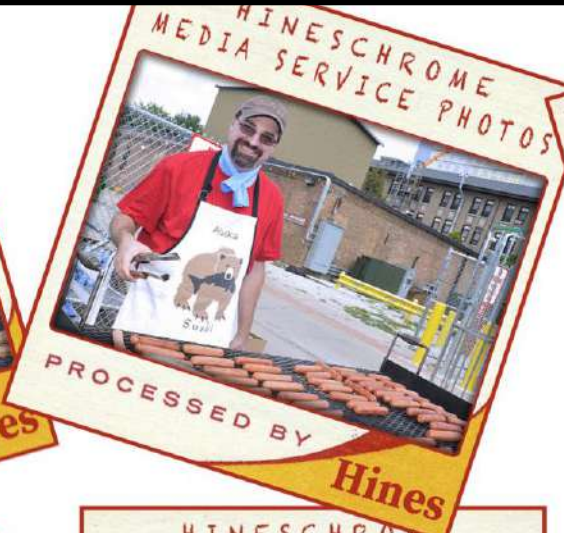
Kathy Cook @ x23996 or Richard Greenhill @ x25625

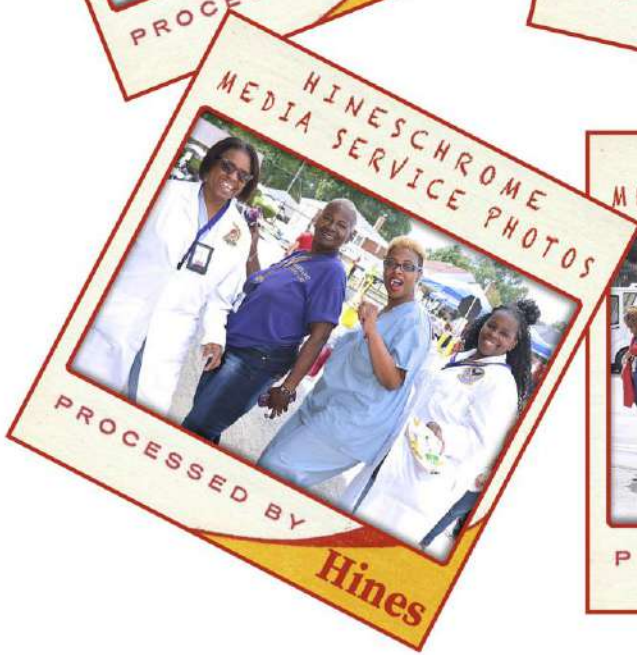
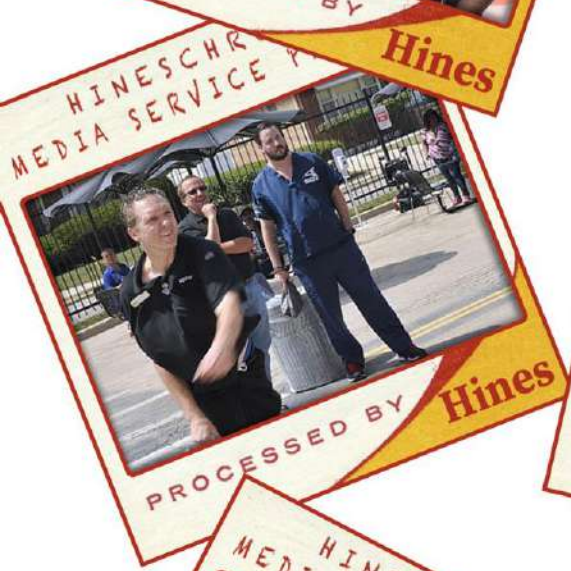
 Choose VA
Choose Hines

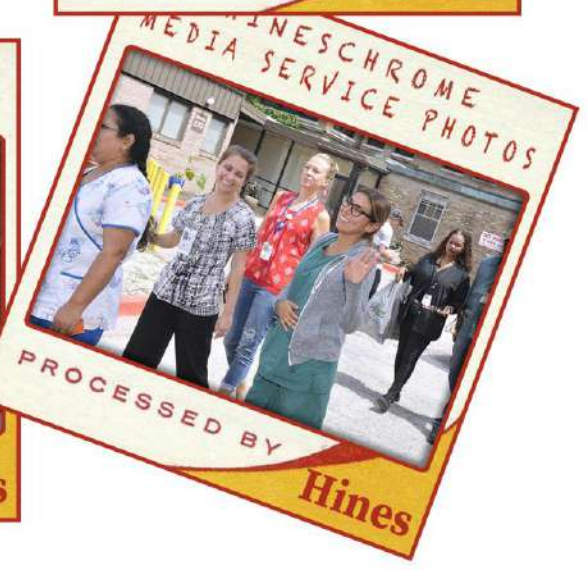
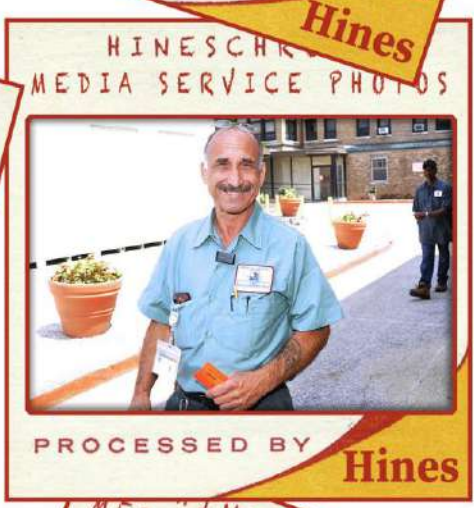
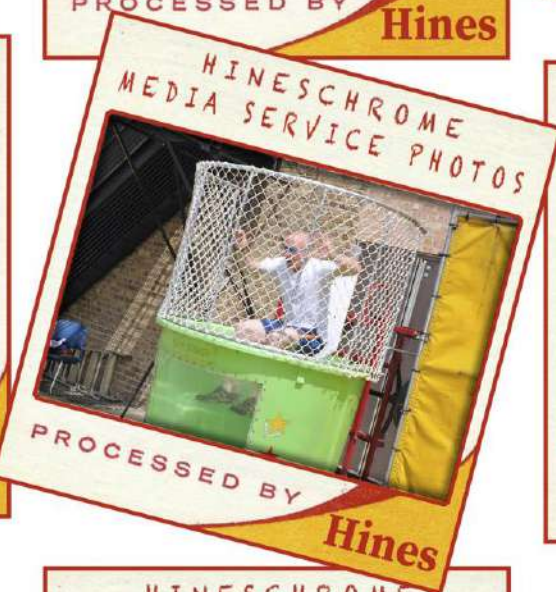
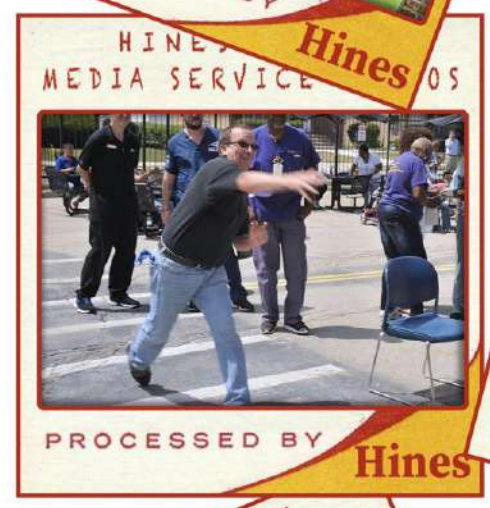
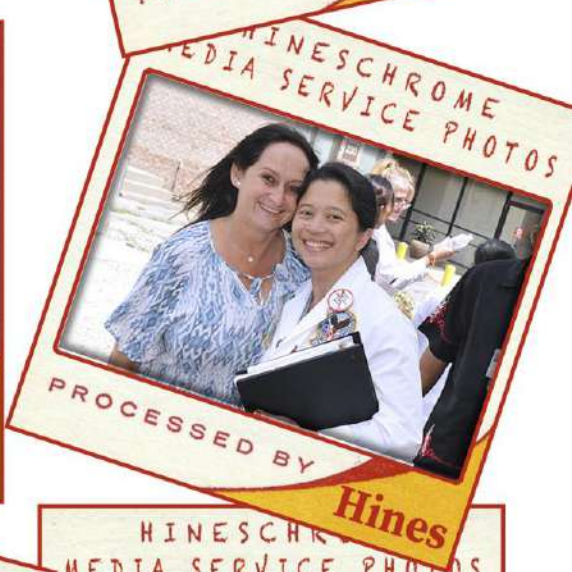
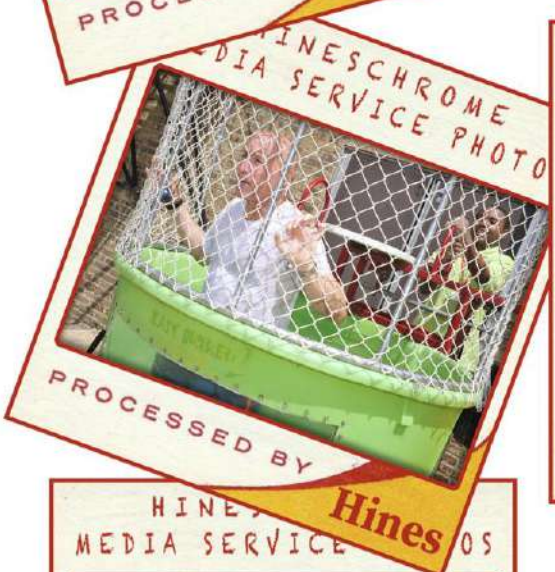
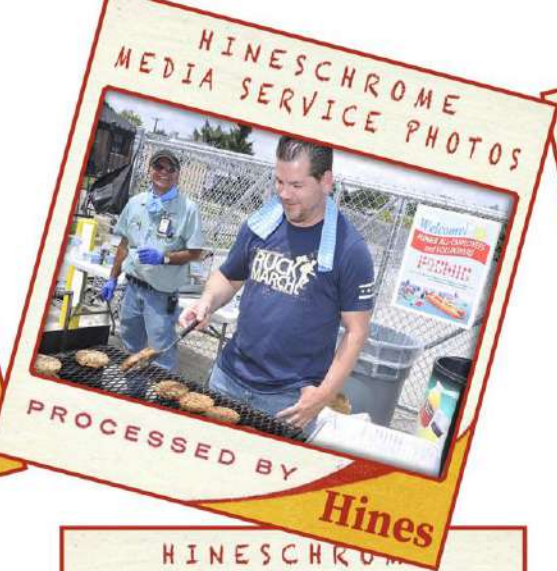
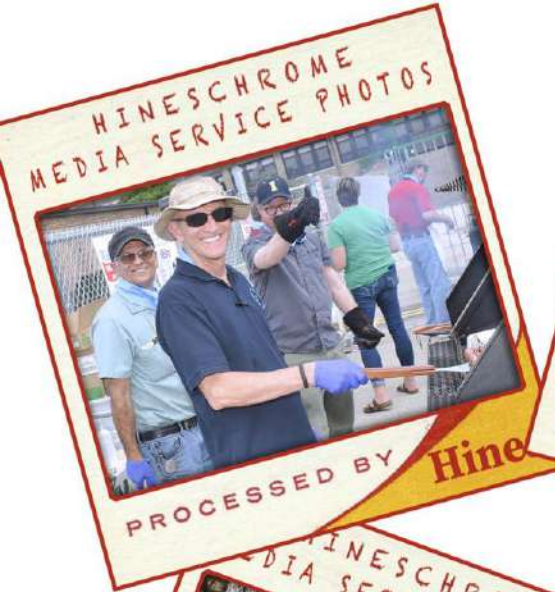
PATIENT SAFETY CULTURE SURVEY

Fun, Food and Friendship: 2018 Hines VA Picnic

Photography by Daniel DuVerney







Shoe donations needed at Hines VA

Do you have any worn out (or new) shoes at home that you have been meaning to get rid of? If so, we would love to take them off your hands!

The Suicide Prevention Team at Hines is putting together an exhibit to draw attention to this cause during the Art Event to be held on 9/5/18.

In 2015, the last year for which we have data, 154 Veterans died by suicide in the State of Illinois. Our exhibit will display 154 pairs of shoes to represent those Veteran lives lost to suicide.

We are collecting 144 pairs of men's shoes for the display. Of the 154 deaths, roughly 10 of those individuals were female and we already have 10 pairs of female shoes donated.

Any type of used shoes will be accepted, athletic, boot, sandal, etc., as long as it is a man's or unisex shoe.

Shoes can be dropped off in Erin Mangano's office (x24957, erin.mangano@va.gov, Bldg. 228, 4 North, Room 4068). Please call or email to arrange drop off.

After the event, the shoes that are clean and usable will be donated to Pacific Garden Mission homeless shelter in Chicago. Those shoes that are not clean and usable will be recycled by a local organization and ground down to create athletic fields, courts, tracks and playgrounds.



Edward Hines Jr., VA Hospital and Brookfield Zoo

Cordially Invite you and your family to attend the 6th annual

Community Mental Health Summit

Connections: Complementing Care with Peers, Technology, and Animal Support

September 12, 2018



10:00am – 4:00pm



Choose VA
Choose Hines

Brookfield Zoo

8400 31st Street

Brookfield, IL 60513

**BROOKFIELD
ZOO**

Chicago Zoological Society
Inspiring Conservation Leadership

RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-hines-va-community-mental-health-summit-tickets-49219765644>

or meghan.mccoy-hess@va.gov

VA General Counsel clarifies Hatch Act

Please take a moment to review the policies outlined in the Hatch Act. Federal employees may be violating the rules unintentionally.

With the 2018 campaign season underway, it is appropriate for all of us to review the restrictions that apply to the partisan political activities of federal employees.

These restrictions are imposed by the Hatch Act. Please review the important information contained in this [2018 Hatch Act Memorandum](#).



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



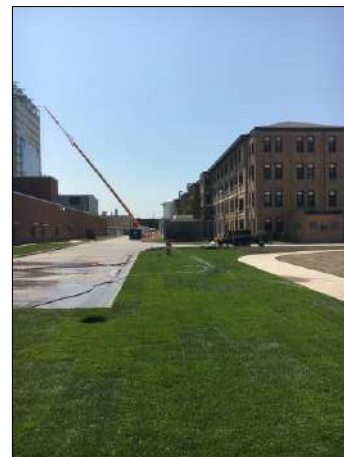
VA TMS 2.0

TMS 2.0 is now online!

Please call the Enterprise Service Desk (available 24/7) at 855-673-4357, option 5 (all other), then option 1 (VHA), for assistance with unlocking/logging into your TMS account.

We would love to hear your feedback! Please take a moment to complete a [brief survey](#) to help us improve.

Landscape improvements underway at Hines VA



Changes are underway to improve the landscape view near the north parking lot entering building one. The work compliments ongoing construction at Hines, providing improvements across the campus.

