

# HEROES Serving HEROES

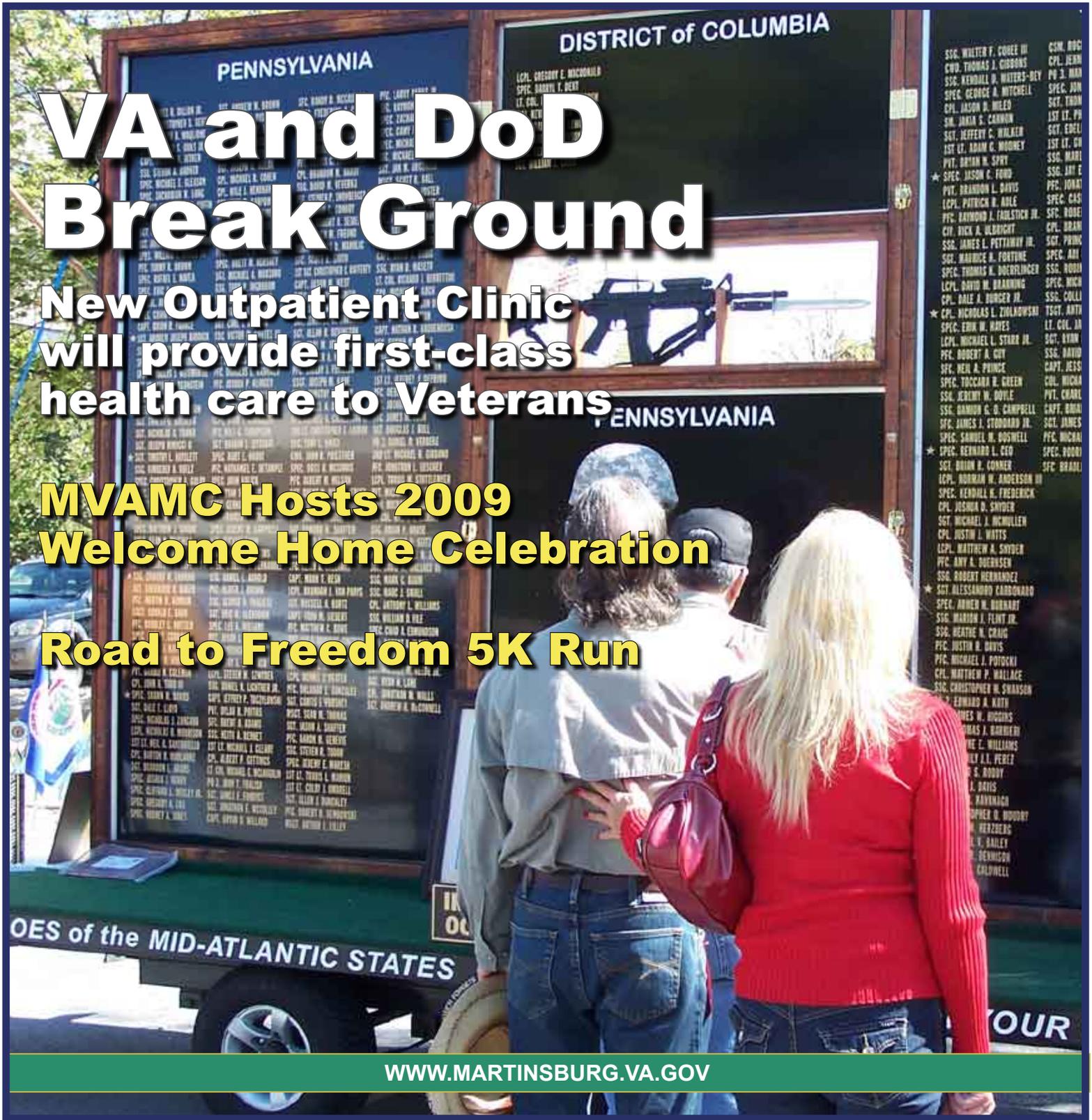
WINTER 2010 • THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MARTINSBURG VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER

## VA and DoD Break Ground

New Outpatient Clinic  
will provide first-class  
health care to Veterans

MVAMC Hosts 2009  
Welcome Home Celebration

Road to Freedom 5K Run



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PFC. BENJAMIN  
PFC. CALDWELL



*Road to Freedom 5K Run -Pg. 7*

*Veterans Gary Johns, left, and Jeff Taylor at the start of the road to Freedom 5K Run on Nov. 7, 2009. Photo: VA/Kevin McIver*

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*Cover: Welcome Home American Heroes Celebration visitors honor America's military at the Tribute Wall outlining the names of 300 fallen Heroes from the Mid-Atlantic Region killed in Iraq or Afghanistan. Photo: VA/Maria Tamez*



*The Martinsburg VAMC is a Planetree affiliate. Planetree is a non-profit organization that provides educational and information in a collaborative community of healthcare organizations, facilitating efforts to create patient centered care in healing environments.*

# Welcome to Heroes Serving Heroes

Honoring our Veterans through exceptional health care

Welcome to the inaugural issue of “Heroes Serving Heroes” that provides insight into the mission, programs and activities of the Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center (MVAMC).

Our mission at the MVAMC is to honor America’s Veterans as Heroes by providing the highest quality health care.

We accomplish our goals with a staff of 1,500-plus medical and administrative professionals, and through a unique network of partners, including more than 60 caring Veteran Service Organizations.

Many exciting initiatives exist on the horizon that will enhance our health care for eligible Veterans including the addition of a 15,347 square-foot Community Based Outpatient Clinic to the Barquist Clinic Army Health Care Facility at Fort Detrick, Md. This joint VA and Defense Department venture provides opportunities to share resources, improve efficiencies, and increase access to care.

We are also working with organizations like Planetree that will help us promote innovative models of health care focusing on healing the body, mind, and spirit. So please continue to look for information on the new clinic and other milestones in future issues.

I am very proud to support our greatest of American Heroes and thank you for all that you do for America’s Veterans.

  
**Ann R. Brown, FACHE**  
Medical Center Director



# Breaking ground for the new *Community Based Outpatient Clinic*



*Members of the official party break ground for the new Community Based Outpatient Clinic at Fort Detrick, Md. From the left, are Col. Judith Robinson, commander, U.S. Army Garrison; Capt. Chris Daniel, deputy commander, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command; Ann Brown, director, Martinsburg VA Medical Center; Sen. Benjamin Cardin; Rep. Roscoe Bartlett, R-6th; Julianna Albowicz, Sen. Barbara Mikulski's office; Sanford Garfunkel, director, VA Capitol Health Care Network; and Lt. Col. Richard Lindsay, deputy commander, Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center. Photo: VA/Maria Tamez*

*From the right, Martinsburg VAMC Director Ann R. Brown, with volunteers Franklin Joy, Harold Bowers, Francis Dutrow, and Gerald Ford holding one of the ceremonial shovels. Photo: VA/Maria Tamez*



*“It’s critical that our Veterans get the health care services they need in a timely, convenient manner and this new community based outpatient clinic will make it much easier for Veterans in Western Maryland to access the health care services they need.”*

**Senator Benjamin L. Cardin**

A major milestone in providing exceptional health care to America’s Veterans occurred when the Veterans Affairs and Defense Department officials joined to break ground for the new Fort Detrick Community Based Outpatient Clinic on Oct. 2.

A \$5 million initiative, the 15,347 sq. ft. CBOC will be co-located on the grounds of the Barquist Army Health Care facility at Fort Detrick and will be the seventh clinic in the Martinsburg VA Medical Center system.

When operational, the clinic will provide primary care and mental health services, physical exams, preventive health, continuity of care for chronic medical illness, same-day evaluation of urgent medical problems, limited medications, such as antibiotics, routine EKGs and X-rays, and laboratory services for America’s Veterans.

“We made certain promises to our Veterans and we need to keep those promises. It’s critical that our Veterans get the health care services they need in a timely, convenient manner and this new community based outpatient clinic will make it much easier for Veterans in Western Maryland to access the health care services they need,” said Senator Benjamin L. Cardin.



The value to our Veterans was also not lost on Senator Barbara Mikulski who wrote in a prepared statement conveyed by Special Assistant Julianna Albowicz that “this groundbreaking represents a payment on the debt owed to you. You left good jobs, great friends and wonderful families to do what had to be done. I thank you for your service and I applaud the VA for the continuing efforts to make health care more accessible for our nation’s Veterans.”

Over the next several years, it is expected the VA will experience an increase of an additional 17,000 Veterans who seek care within the VA Capitol Health Care Network and the Martinsburg VA Medical Center. To meet this increase in demand for services, the VA is increasing clinic space.

“Upon completion, this clinic will fulfill the Veterans Administration and Defense Department initiative to improve the efficiency of services by sharing resources between our agencies,” said VISN5 Network Director Sanford Garfunkel. “It will improve Veteran access to health care providing primary care, mental health services, preventive health, and many more services for our Veterans.”

Partners supporting the project include: the Department of Defense; U.S. Army; TRICARE; Veteran Service Organizations; and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Construction is expected to be complete in fall 2010.

# Welcome Home Celebration *Honors America's Veterans*



*Some 1,250 members of the Martinsburg VAMC community and partners turned out at the 2009 Welcome Home American Heroes Celebration to support our Veterans. The event included multiple opportunities for Veterans and their families to gain information first-hand on VA healthcare programs and benefits. Photo: VA/Maria Tamez*

**M**ore than 25 organizations joined VA officials to express their gratitude to our Veterans during the 2nd Annual Welcome Home American Heroes Celebration at the Martinsburg VA Medical Center held Oct. 3.

Supporting Veterans is the mainstay of the Martinsburg VAMC mission and the celebration was marked with information about programs and services available to Veterans and their families for their faithful service to our Nation.

Some 1,250 people attended the afternoon event that highlighted the Martinsburg VAMC's OEF/OIF Post-Deployment Integrated Care Clinic that focuses on ensuring Veterans serving in Iraq or Afghanistan are informed about Department of Veterans Affairs programs. Additionally, opportunities were available to enroll in the VA health care system during the celebration.

Partners supporting the event included: 167<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, Air National Guard; 167<sup>th</sup> Family Readiness Program; BB&T; Blankley's Tent Service; Disabled American Vets; Chick-Fil-A; D.M. Bowman, Inc.; Great Inflates; HMS Technologies; Knights of Columbus; Martinsburg Chamber of Commerce; Prettyman Broadcasting, Inc.; Rolling Thunder; Subway; Swirly Curls; The American Freedom Foundation; The American Legion Post 14; The Patriot Riders; Fallen Heroes of the Mid-Atlantic Region; U.S. Army; USO; and Vietnam Veterans of America.



# Martinsburg VAMC Hosts 2009 Road to Freedom 5K Run

*Runners burst from the starting line during the annual Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center's Road to Freedom 5K Run held Nov. 7. A total of 121 runners and walkers participated in the event.  
Photo: VA/Kevin McIver*



**C**aring for America's Veterans is the charge of the Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center and patients, staff and the community turned out en masse Nov. 7 to support this admirable mission at the 2009 Road to Freedom 5K Run.

Some 121 runners and walkers in various age-groups and categories participated in the course that weaved through the scenic medical center campus and ended after passage through the colorful Avenue of Flags.

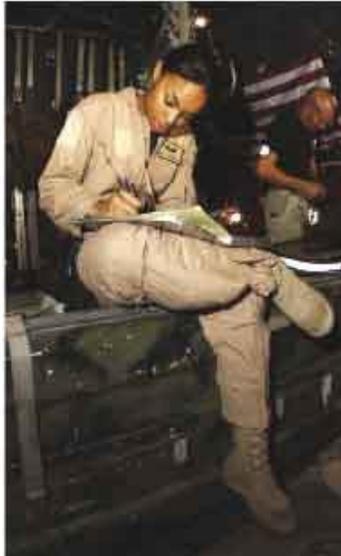
"This was a terrific turnout to support our Veterans who have given so much in defense of our country," said run organizer and Martinsburg Medical Center Recreation Therapist Beth Gearhart. "It truly shows how much everyone cares for these American heroes."

This was the eighth run held by the medical center since 2000. The highlight of the day included kids and family members who participated in a Kids Fun Run that followed the adult race.

Partners and supporters included the Salvation Army and the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office.

**WOMEN VETERANS HEALTH CARE**

*You served, you deserve  
★ the best care anywhere.*



**Comprehensive care for female Veterans in a single location by a single provider is available at the Martinsburg VA Medical Center Womens Health Clinic**



**MARTINSBURG  
VAMC**  
*Honor Serving Heroes*

For more information contact Amy E. Theriault, LGSW, Women Veterans Program Manager at (304) 263-0811 x 2376



## Important Telephone Numbers

### Martinsburg VA Medical Center

Martinsburg VAMC  
(304) 263-0811

Medical Advice Line  
1-800-817-3807 or (304) 262-4855

Patient Eligibility  
(304) 263-0811, ext. 3758/3757  
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
or ext. 3050 after 4:30 p.m.

Automated Prescription Refill System  
(304) 263-0811, ext. 4870 (all hours)

### Outpatient Clinics

Cumberland, MD  
1-866-712-8084

Hagerstown, MD  
1-866-399-0117

Harrisonburg, VA  
(540) 442-1773

Stephens City, VA  
1-866-463-8532

Franklin, WV  
(304) 358-2355

Petersburg, WV  
(304) 257-5817

### Vet Centers

Martinsburg, WV  
(304) 263-6776

### Veterans Benefits Administration

1-800-827-1000

### Education Information Hotline

1-800-442-4551



IT  
TAKES THE  
COURAGE AND STRENGTH  
OF A WARRIOR  
TO ASK FOR HELP....

If you're in an emotional crisis  
call **1-800-273-TALK** "Press 1 for Veterans"

[www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

