

# VAanguard

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Fall 2011



*Caring for Those Who Care*

*Understanding the Mission*

*Newest Hot Spot for Millennials*

*Dolphin Therapy*

### VA Acquisition Academy Chancellor Named Chief Learning Officer of the Year

Lisa Doyle, chancellor of the VA Acquisition Academy, was named 2011 Chief Learning Officer of the Year by *Chief Learning Officer* magazine. A panel of seven judges, consisting of leaders in learning and development and past recipients of the award, recognized Doyle as the 2011 CLO of the Year for her work in standing up the VA Acquisition Academy.

Doyle was named the academy's first chancellor in 2008 and partnered with VA leaders to define the mission of the newly-established academy and deliver on its promise to grow, train and retain the 40,000-member acquisition workforce that is charged with acquiring the goods, services, technology, facilities and supplies needed to carry out VA's mission.

The CLO of the Year award is given annually to the candidate who best exemplifies leadership qualities, creates the vision for change in his or her organization, and adds value for stakeholders.

The Learning in Practice Awards were announced at a special awards ceremony during the Fall 2011 Chief Learning Officer Symposium in Dana Point, Calif. The event brings together learning leaders from around the world to discuss innovative enterprise learning strategies and share best practices.



*Lisa Doyle was honored for her work in standing up the VA Acquisition Academy.*

### 2011 Green VA Award Winners Announced at Central Office Ceremony

VA recently announced the winners of the 2011 Green VA awards program during a ceremony at VA Central Office hosted by Chief of Staff John R. Gingrich.

The winners of the 2011 Green Routine Awards hail from the James H. Quillen VA Medical Center in Mountain Home, Tenn., the San Francisco VA Medical Center, the VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System, and the Boise (Idaho) VA Medical Center. The 2011 Sustainability Achievement Awards recognize achievement in seven categories. The winners are: the Martinez (Calif.) VA Outpatient Clinic and Community Living Center for Alternative Fuel/Fuel Conservation in Transportation; the Fayetteville (N.C.) VA Medical Center for Energy Efficiency; the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System for High Performance Sustainable Buildings; the VA San Diego Healthcare System for Recycling; the Martinsburg (W.Va.) VA Medical Center for Renewable Energy; the Massachusetts National Cemetery for Water Conservation; and the Spokane (Wash.) VA Medical Center for Waste Minimization/Pollution Prevention.

To learn more about the awards and the winning projects, visit the Green Management Program's Awards page at [www.green.va.gov/awards](http://www.green.va.gov/awards).

### VA North Texas Deputy Chief of Staff Receives Air Force Association Award

Stephen Holt, M.D., deputy chief of staff at the VA North Texas Health Care System, received the 2011 Department of Veterans Affairs Employee of the Year award from the Air Force Association. Holt was a flight surgeon in the Air Force, where he served for 25 years and retired as a colonel in 2005.

Each year, the Air Force Association award honors the most outstanding performance of duty as a VA employee. A panel reviewed the top nomination packages and commended Holt's accomplishments, including creation of the Patient Administrative Service at the Dallas VA Medical Center, which improved patient flow, increased availability of intensive care beds, and avoided admissions to other community hospitals. These efforts helped to reduce co-pays and other fees to Veterans.

Another highlight was Holt's work to partner with county court systems to establish Veterans Justice Outreach programs in Dallas, Tarrant and Denton counties to offer treatment and rehabilitation as an alternative to incarceration for Veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and other mental illnesses.

Holt joined VA North Texas in 2008 and says, "I am a Veteran serving other Veterans and am honored to be part of a health care system that gives Veterans top priority." The award was presented Sept. 19 in conjunction with the opening of the 2011 Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition in National Harbor, Md.