

VISION

for Excellence

SPRING | 2012



STORY ON
PAGE 6

New liver. **NEW LIFE.**

ARMY VETERAN BILL GAST HAS A NEW LEASE ON LIFE THANKS TO A SUCCESSFUL TRANSPLANT AT VA PITTSBURGH HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.



This is a thousand times better than our old televisions.

John Nosko, Air Force Veteran



KNOWLEDGE FOR GETTING WELL

Network of resources at Erie Veterans' fingertips

Looking for something good on television? At the Erie VA Medical Center, that's never a problem.

Erie's new GetWellNetwork provides patients and residents with easy access to health information and online entertainment through television screens at their bedsides. Launched in March, the interactive patient care system features a touch-screen interface that's easy for patients to use and enjoy.

The interface gives patients and residents access to health education programs; My HealthVet; hospital services and medication information; and entertainment options including access to the Internet, television programming, movies, video games, and music directly at the patient's bedside.

"This is a thousand times better than our old TVs," says 61-year-old John Nosko, an Air Force Veteran and Erie VA

resident. "I love the movie part. I've watched almost all the movies including Dolphin Tale, which highlights one of our VAs. I also can find my TV shows much faster, I go online to look for books, and I keep finding new things every day."

This system also provides educational resources for inpatients, allowing them to learn more about their condition, treatment plan and care team as well as services available at the hospital, and discharge information. Through the system, patients are even able to provide feedback to the hospital on their care and the staff with which they interact.

In the near future, Erie will be adding new features to the GetWellNetwork, including an interactive program that will improve the discharge planning process, and another that will automatically educate patients on new medications prescribed to them during their hospital stay.