

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (April 22, 2013)  
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## **MEDIA OPPORTUNITY: VA Cuts Ribbon On New "Welcome Center" in Menlo Park**

PALO ALTO, Calif. -- The VA Palo Alto Health Care System will cut a ribbon Thursday (April 25) to commemorate the new 10,000 square-foot "Welcome Center" on their VA Menlo Park campus.

The Welcome Center is a donated facility from California Real Estate Developer and Philanthropist John Arrillaga. Representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Arrillaga family will speak before a U.S. Army Veteran keynote speaker addresses the audience at the ceremony. Media are invited to attend the ceremony and subsequent open house.

**WHAT:** "Welcome Center" Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

**WHEN:** Thursday, April 25, 2013 (1 p.m. ceremony and open house)

**WHERE:** 795 Willow Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025

**MORE INFO/RSVP:** Media interested in attending are asked to please RSVP with VAPAHCS Public Affairs Officer Jonathan Friedman at 650-858-3925 or [VAPaloAltoPublicAffairs@va.gov](mailto:VAPaloAltoPublicAffairs@va.gov)

**About the new VA Menlo Park "Welcome Center:"** The Welcome Center is a comprehensive therapeutic facility on the Menlo Park Campus of the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. Built solely through the generous donation of the Arrillaga Family, the 10,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art Welcome Center is the gateway to the Menlo Park campus, welcoming all visitors by providing a point of navigation and supplying a large continuum of services for Veterans, from specialized rehabilitative classrooms to a service dog training area, providing adequate space to train the trainers and canines. More information about the Welcome Center can be found on the [VAPAHCS Construction website](#).



*The new VA Palo Alto Health Care System's "Welcome Center" in Menlo Park, Calif., is a 10,000 square-foot facility, welcoming all visitors by providing a point of navigation and supplying a large continuum of services for Veterans. (VAPAHCS Photo by Joe Matthews)*

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The VA Palo Alto Health Care System consists of three inpatient facilities located at Palo Alto, Menlo Park and Livermore, Calif. Also, there are seven outpatient clinics in San Jose, Capitola, Monterey, Stockton, Modesto, Sonoma and Fremont, Calif. These nationally-recognized facilities provide award-winning medical care and cutting-edge technology. Along with its education affiliate at the Stanford University School of Medicine, the more than 6,200 staff and volunteers operate nearly 900 beds, including three nursing homes and a 100-bed homeless domiciliary, showing its more than 85,000 enrolled Veterans that they are "Serving those who Served."

For more information about the VA Palo Alto Health Care System, please visit <http://www.paloalto.va.gov/>