

Family & Friends Newsletter

Hello Family and Friends of MVH D.J. Jacobetti,

Administrator Update: Jacobetti Home Replacement



The conditional property purchase is still conditional. In order to ideally place the new home, we will need to re-route Venture drive. We have begun that process, and will need Marquette County Road Commission's approval. I will let everyone know when that happens and we can begin the next steps. As always I am appreciative of the support we receive from our community! Combat Veterans, Forgotten Eagles, Ishpeming Elks, South Shore Fishing are just some of the groups recently that have provided support, and we couldn't do what we do without them and all of the others. I can't thank everyone enough! Ron Oja, Administrator

Fall is quickly approaching with cooler nights, garden harvests, and the maples turning red. We are transitioning to Fall activities (while also digging in our heels to make the most of every moment of summer weather that remains).

August events included a visit from Hager's Hee Haw Farm with miniature ponies thanks to Bill Hager and The Ol' Coots veterans who volunteered with this event. Forgotten Eagles Ch. 1 held their annual Ride Around Michigan (RAM). VVA Ch. 380 hosted our veterans and RAM riders for lunch and visiting. Six of our veteran members participated in South Shore Fishing Association's 10th Annual Veterans Fishing Day for a great day of fishing on Lake Superior. Plans for our catch include a September cooking demonstration by Chef Rob Gonzales! Our Veteran Facility Coordinators sponsored a trip to the Marquette County Fair and American Legion Post 44 hosted our group for bingo. One of our members won BIG! Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association 35-1 riders made their annual visit with 50 motorcycles and visit with our veterans during their Ride for Jacobetti!

Our Annual Member Carnival is a BIG deal and our 2024 event was the best yet! We brought in a dunk tank, petting zoo, photo booth, a variety of games, tasty fair food, and live music with Rev Roberts and da Bones Man. Thank you to everyone who supported this event including the 35+ volunteers and our staff who helped put on this incredible event for our veterans, their family and friends, our staff and their grand/children. It was a truly special day and our biggest event of the year! We finished August with live music, shopping and lunch outings, raspberry pies, onsite and offsite picnics, campfires, bingo, pet therapy, church services, and so much more... Summer 2024 was truly a great one at MVH D.J. Jacobetti!

September brings:

- Special bingos hosted by VFW Aux Brimley #9023 and Military Order of the Cooties VFW 2496
- 9/11 Patriot Day Picnic and Pig Roast (our final summer facility picnic) sponsored by a 2024 Elks Boost Grant
- Final harvests of our gardens and homemade soups, breads, canning, and other cooking projects
- A POW-MIA Recognition Day ceremony on 9/20 at 1:30 with 2024 U.P. Veteran of the Year, Howard Seid, as our speaker!
- Pasty making with the Valliers (AKA Vallier4Vets) using their famous family recipe that has raised a lot of money to support veteran groups (including our Home) and local student scholarships
- We've also got lots of live music, bingo, lunch outings, pet therapy, camp fires, games nights and so much more!

It is because of our generous donors that we are able to offer so many amazing opportunities to our veteran members. THANK YOU! As always, we welcome fresh ideas for events and outings. Would your group like to run a cribbage tourney? How about helping us throw a Fall Harvest party for veteran members onsite or offsite? Sponsor a happy hour or help at game night? There are so many ways you help enrich our veteran members' lives. Give us a ring and let's make some fun for the veteran members at MVHDJJ! Please reach out anytime.

Supporting Our Veteran Members:

- Attached and below, please find our September Wish List (updated monthly). These wish list items allow us to provide our veteran members a choice, the best quality products, and the ability to fulfill member requests, just as they are needed and with no wait.
- Watch the August 12 episode of Discovering which covers South Shore Fishing Association's 2024 Veterans Fishing Day and highlights one of our veteran members, Blaine! Check out the episode here: <https://youtu.be/FnRbp2gInxs>
- TV6 coverage of our 2024 Member Carnival : <https://www.uppermichiganssource.com/2024/08/21/dj-jacobetti-home-veterans-brings-food-fun-with-annual-carnival/>
- To learn updates on our new Home, visit: <https://www.michigan.gov/mvh/locations/the-new-michigan-veteran-homes-dj-jacobetti>
- Check out our Facebook page! <https://www.facebook.com/MiVeteranHomesDJJ>

On behalf of the veteran members and staff at MVHDJJ, we are grateful for your support and friendship. You help make MVH D.J. Jacobetti a very special place for Upper Peninsula veterans.

Sarah Johnson, Volunteer & Donations Coordinator

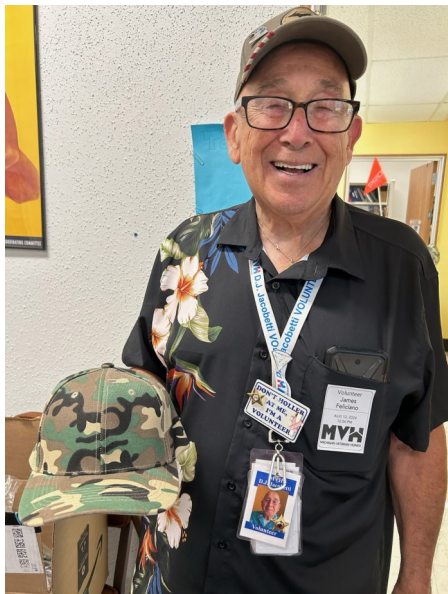
Michigan Veteran Homes D.J. Jacobetti

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2024 Member Carnival Prep



They say, "Many Hands Make Light Work." Three incredible National Honor Society high school students earned volunteer hours helping us prep for the Carnival! The students spiffed up our spinny wheel, created new decorations, and put together mystery prizes. Their help was hugely helpful!

Also pictured, 2 of our prize donors: VAVS for American Legion, Jim Feliciano and Mark Ketchum of Ishpeming Elks presents a check to the Home.

**MVH D.J. Jacobetti
2024 MEMBER**



**Wednesday, August 21st
1:00pm - 3:00pm
Back Lot**

**Games... Prizes... Dunk Tank... Snacks
Petting Zoo & Live Music
with Rev Roberts & "Da Bones Man"
- See Activities Staff for Details -**

**Thank you to everyone who supported
our 2024 Member Carnival including the
35+ volunteers and our staff who helped
run this incredible event for both our
veterans, their family and friends, our
staff & their grand/children.
The smiles say it all!**

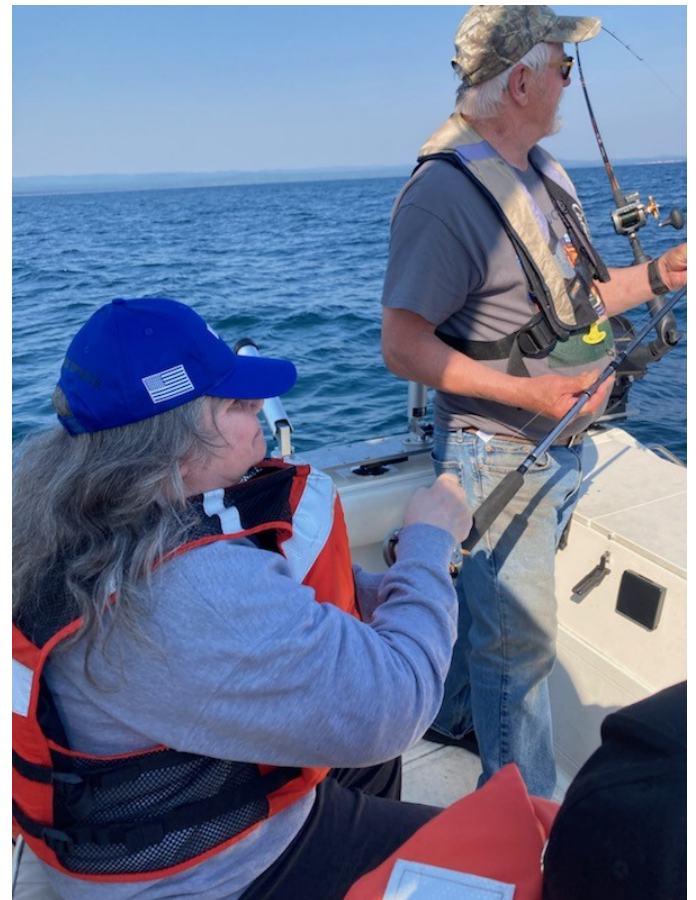




Since 2014, CVMA 35-1 has donated \$67,101. This year, they committed to a \$10,000 donation bringing the 10-year total to a WHOPPING \$77,101.



One of the best parts about events like this is that old friends are reunited! The smiles say it all! Doc, U.S. Navy veteran with his old pal, Cookie.



South Shore Fishing Association's 10th Annual Veterans Fishing Day was incredible! A huge thank you to SSFA and their volunteers, the 50+ captains who volunteered their boats and time, and the many other volunteers (e.g. EMTs, fish cleaners and cooks, etc.) who supported this incredible event! Photo L to R: Gerald, U.S. Army veteran and a huge smile with his catch. Sunny, U.S. Navy veteran caught her share too. TV's 6 Discovering covered the event and highlighted U.S. Army veteran, Blaine. Check out the episode here: <https://youtu.be/FnRbp2gInxs>



Forgotten Eagles Ch. 1 annual Ride Across Michigan began in the Soo and hit a variety of veteran memorials, American Legions, VFWs & VVAs—including VVA Ch. 380 where the VVA hosted our veteran members and Forgotten Eagle riders to lunch and a great visit! The Forgotten Eagles have donated \$37,000+ over the last 10 years.

<https://www.uppermichiganssource.com/video/2024/08/08/forgotten-eagles-visit-vietnam-veterans-marquette-county/>

TV6 Reporter, Jerry Tudor, talks shop with Al, U.S. Air Force veteran. Al worked at TV6 as a Broadcast Engineer so the two had a lot to talk about!



Bill Hager of Hager's Hee Haw Farm, his adorable miniature donkeys and the Ol' Coots veterans (and an honorary Ol' Coot) brought the fun



Dan Jackovich and Lois Westman always bring the fun when they play music and it always is a large, appreciative crowd.