



D.J. Jacobetti

August 2024

Volunteer & Donor Newsletter

Hello Friends of MVH D.J. Jacobetti,

July got off to a sweet start with Independence Day festivities. Veteran members went to the Ishpeming parade, a summer favorite. In-house, we had a real treat with an onsite outdoors patriotic concert with Marquette City Band on the 4th of July. Veteran members enjoyed onsite and offsite picnics at Clark Lambros Park and Deer Lake, and lunch with Elks Lodge #405, American Legion #44, and AMVETS #122 at Lake Unky. American Legion Greenwood Post 114 hosted our veterans for a pulled pork feast (with the boar a veteran member took down in May's U.P. Whitetails Association hunt). We held our Annual Classic Car Show which was renamed and dedicated as The Nathan Koski Memorial Classic Car Show (see p. 3). We also heard a lot of great music with Dan Jackovich, Nancy Zimmerman, Lois Westman, Sunshine Girls, Linda Smith, Pierre Ogea, Curtis Laakso, Chris Valenti Band, and a special piano concert by the ultra-talented Han Han Savitski.

And to put a sweet bow on July and wrap her up, the last Friday in July always brings Fish Fry! Each year, Munising's Vietnam Veterans of America Ch. 237 bring all the supplies and cook up a great meal for both the veteran members, their loved ones, our staff and volunteers of MVH D.J. Jacobetti. This year was the 19th year and it was just an excellent event! (see p. 4)

Below, find a sampling of August events:

- Miniature ponies and donkeys are visiting thanks to Bill Hager and The Ol' Coots!!!
- Lunch outings to VVA Ch. 380 and a visit with the Forgotten Eagles Ch. 1 Ride Around Michigan crew
- A group of veteran members will participate in South Shore Fishing Association's Veteran's Fishing Day
- Going to the fair, going to the fair, going to the Marquette County Fair!
- On August 10th, Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association 35-1 riders will make an annual stop with a large group of motorcycles and visit with our veterans during their 10th Annual Ride for Jacobetti! Read more at: <https://www.miningjournal.net/news/front-page-news/2024/07/combat-veterans-fundraiser-ride-for-jacobetti-home/>
- Our Annual Member Carnival supported by our Veteran Facility Coordinators may be the best one yet!
- Add live music, lunch outings, picnics, campfires, bingo, pet therapy, church services ... 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 help with our Annual Member Carnival (August 21st)? How about joining us at a campfire? Sponsor a happy hour? There are so many ways you can 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 August 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.
- Our Member Carnival is one of our biggest events of the summer. We are seeking help with the BIG prizes (e.g. veteran, U.P., team, funny t-shirts and hats. Please see Amazon wish list or give a ring, if you can help!)
- 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>

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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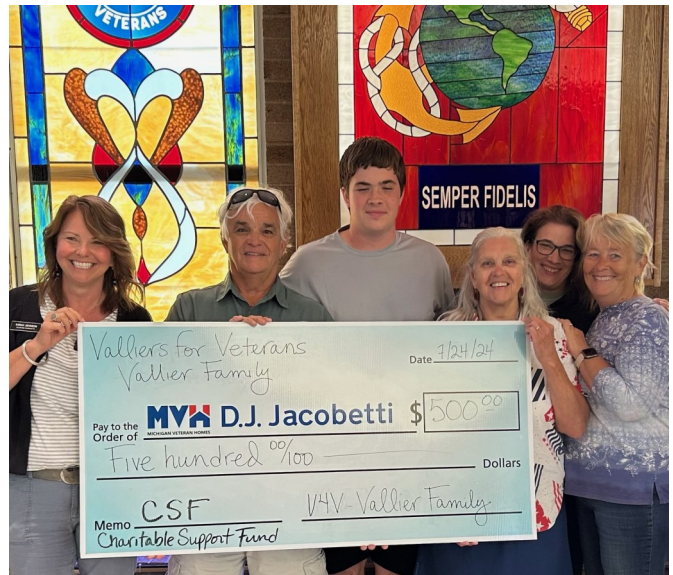
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Uncle Sam greets Paul, U.S. Marine veteran, at Ishpeming's 4th of July Parade



The Sunshine Girls are always a hit when they entertain!



TOP: Valliers 4 Vets (AKA The Vallier Family) made 1000 pasties this summer to raise funds for local scholarships and veteran-serving organizations like D.J. Jacobetti



LEFT: Photo of our BEAUTIFUL Ground Floor Garden

BOTTOM: Marquette City Band performed a very special patriotic concert onsite for the 4th of July



2024 Nathan Koski Memorial Classic Car Show

Our 2024 Nathan Koski Memorial Classic Car Show was a huge success!

The Pasty Crew, local car enthusiasts, help run this annual event and organize the cars. This year, the Michigan State Police brought in a 1957 patrol car and Nathan Koski's family brought in Nate's Buick, additional classic cars and a fire truck! Chris Valenti and Friends entertained us with excellent live music! Our veteran members had a great time enjoying beautiful cars, reminiscing, and swapping stories with our guests.

Special thanks to our American Legion VAVs for sponsoring live music with Chris Valenti and company, to Walt Anderson and the Pasty Crew for organizing the cars, Trooper Kinnunen for coordinating the MSP patrol car, to the Nathan Koski family for bringing 4 vehicles, and to our volunteers and staff for making this day a great one for the veterans of DJJ!



Nathan Koski Memorial Classic Car Show



WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2024
1:00 – 2:30pm – Back Lot

**Thanks to the Pasty Crew for organizing
the event and bringing their beautiful cars!**



19th Annual Fish Fry

The last Friday of July is a favorite day of the year at Michigan Veteran Homes D.J. Jacobetti! Annually, on this date, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 237 with help from American Legion Post #131 cook a fish fry for our veteran members, their loved ones, our staff and volunteers!

Many years back, Bill Rousseau, a local businessman, had an uncle who resided at our Home. Bill had the idea to put on a fish fry for the veterans and proposed the idea to the Vietnam Veterans of Alger County. VVA Ch. 237 members loved the idea and ran with it. With the help of other veteran organizations and the local city band, it has become a special day for everyone involved!

This event is truly a summer highlight, and our veteran members, their loved ones, and our staff had a great time! Special thanks to VVA Ch. 237 & AL Post 131 (fish fry crew), the anonymous donor who purchases fish from Vanlandschoot and Sons Fishery, Munising City Band (for the great music), and Altran (providing transportation and a bus driver for the volunteers), and to our staff and volunteers for making the event run smoothly.



VVA Ch. 237 members working their fish fry magic!

19th ANNUAL



With *MUSIC* by the *MUNISING CITY BAND*

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024

11:00am - Back Lot

Thank you to our sponsors for 19 years of tasty fun:

MUNISING VVA Ch. 237 & AL Post 131

- See Activities Staff for Additional Information -