



D.J. Jacobetti

July 2025

Family & Friends Newsletter

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

Administrator Update: *Happy July! I would like to thank everyone that attended our 1st Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser, it was nice to see everyone, and I believe it is something we will do in the future. I would also like to thank all of our volunteers that attended the banquet in their honor. It's always one of my favorite events and always feels good to recognize all of the people that help us provide support to our members. We are in a lull with the new home replacement, we should be starting on the road relocation next. If you are interested updates will be posted on the website: <https://bit.ly/NewMVHDJJ> I hope to see some of you at the 4th of July parades. As always thank you for your support and trust. - Ron Oja, Administrator*

Highlights of June included:

- Our 1st Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser was a total success! Thank you to everyone who came out to support our veterans
- A celebration for the U.S. Army's 250th birthday with bingo and a social thanks to Daughters of the American Revolution
- An onsite fish pond where ALL members have accessible fishing! Thank you to the Negaunee Elks who wrote a Freedom grant and brought volunteers for 2 days of fun. We had live music with Dan and Lois, sent fish off to be smoked and even used fish to make a traditional Japanese form of art called gyotaku
- A Flag Day ceremony thanks to the Tri-City Elks
- Magic, comedy and entertainment with Cameron Zvara was a rollicking good time
- Outings to an American Legion baseball game, lunches at American Legion Post 114, American Legion Post 44, and Amvets Post 122 at Lake Unky, and Sands Speedway for stock car racing for Veterans Appreciation Day
- We held our annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic! With legislative representatives, board members, staff, and members in attendance, we recognized our volunteers and 78,000+ hours of lifetime service to our Home. A special spotlight was shined on Wanda Westman, who has volunteered 12,000 hours at our Home. Wanda is a true example of dedication and compassion.

Below, find a sampling of July activities:

- 2025 will be our 20th Annual Fish Fry!! Veterans from Alger County Vietnam Veterans of America Ch. 237 and American Legion Post #131 sponsor and fry up an amazing meal of the freshest whitefish around—yum!
- Nathan Koski Memorial Classic Car - The Pasty Crew and other car enthusiasts bring their beautiful cars, plus live music with Chris Valenti and Vinyl Tap
- Fishing on Lake Superior with Great Idea Charters, fishing on Lake Independence with Courage Incorporated - and a presentation onsite by Trout Unlimited
- BBQs onsite, picnics offsite and outings to Amvets Post 122 at Lake Unky, and an outing to Lowe's for gardening
- 4th of July festivities include a performance by the Marquette City Band and a group going to the Ishpeming Parade
- Music with Sowing Seeds, Lois Westman, Sunshine Girls, Whiskey Ryan, Linda Smith, Pierre Ogea, 41 West, plus bingo, paint classes, AND, of course, SO MUCH MORE.....

It is because of our generous sponsors and donors that we are able to offer so many amazing opportunities to our veteran members. THANK YOU! We always welcome fresh ideas for events and outings. Would your group like to run a game at our Annual Member Carnival (August 20th)? How about cooking burgers for a BBQ onsite or offsite? Join us for an evening campfire? Perhaps you have a beautiful car you could bring to our Car Show (July 16th)? Give us a ring and let's make some fun for the veteran members at MVHDJJ! Please reach out anytime.

Members, Families & Volunteers—Mark Your Calendars for a few of our Special Events:

- **Friday, July 4th - Marquette City Band - 3:30pm**
- **Wednesday, July 16th - Nathan Koski Memorial Classic Car Show with special request for cool cars! - 1:00pm**
- **Saturday, July 19th - Live Music with Sowing Seeds - 1:30pm**
- **Friday, July 25th - 20th Annual Fish Fry thanks to Alger County's Vietnam Vets of America & American Legion - 11:00am**
- **Wednesday, July 30th - Live music by 41 West - 11:30am**
- **Wednesday, August 20th - Annual Member Carnival - 1:00pm**
- **Thursday, September 11th - Patriot Day Picnic Pig Roast- 11:30am**

Supporting Our Veteran Members:

- Attached, find our July 2025 Wish List. On the list you will find requests for personal care items, our Amazon Wish List Registry and ideas for event sponsorships.
- Come volunteer! We always welcome new volunteers - We also welcome individuals or groups to come in and one-time, special guest volunteer too. There are so many opportunities to join the fun: game nights, playing cribbage, gardening, cooking burgers at a BBQ, Friday night campfires in the summer.... We guarantee you will have a blast!!!
- Check out our Facebook page! <https://www.facebook.com/MiVeteranHomesDJJ>

On behalf of all the staff and members at MVH D.J. Jacobetti, thank you!

Thank you for being champions for the veterans at Michigan Veteran Homes D.J. Jacobetti.

Sarah Johnson, Volunteer & Donations Coordinator

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If you would prefer to not to receive this monthly newsletter, please reply to this email and I'll remove you from future sends.



L to R: Brooklyn Richards, a local Girl Scout dropping off her yearly donation of Girl Scout cookies; veteran Bill Irving donated an incredible piece of his artwork; Embers Credit Union staff joined us on Juneteenth for bingo and art projects!



L to R: U.S. Army veteran and member, Richard fishing with Negaunee Elks member and DJJ volunteer, Ron; Flag Day ceremony with the Tri-City Elks; Ron Oja presents Wanda Westman a t-shirt made by veteran member, Glenn, to celebrate Wanda's 12,000 hours of volunteering at our Home