

Family & Friends Newsletter

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



Administrator Update: They say that April showers bring May flowers, but I'm not sure they mean April snow showers. Work is still progressing on the new home site. If you haven't been by the area, the trees are cleared and they are finishing up with chipping the trees and brush that is left. When they are done, the site will be ready for the next step. I would like to let everyone know that the groundbreaking ceremony will be on May 23, 2025 at 9:30am. I hope to see you there! As always thank you for your support and trust. Ron Oja, Administrator

Well, April flew by! Our 2nd Annual Talent Show was just incredible. Singing, dancing, jokes—what a hoot! During April, veteran members also went on outings to the Rec Show, Up North Lodge, American Legion Post 44, a breakfast at Jeffries, lunch at Vangos, and shopping at Walmart. Onsite, we had a Luau Happy Hour with American Legion Post 44, a lunch compliments of Elks Lodge 405, and a Tigers Home Opener Party. There were also paint classes with Marlene and Mama Court, chair yoga with Micaiah, Spring crafts, seed starting, lots of live music, bingo, special church services for Good Friday and Easter/Resurrection Sunday. And, on the last day of April, we had a live auction at 1:30pm and then 'Almost Elvis' at 6:30pm!!!! Both were FANTASTIC. What a way to end the month!

May is National Military Appreciation Month. On May 7th, our Veteran Facility Coordinators (VFC) are sponsoring a happy hour with a beautiful spread of food (big shrimp, meat and cheese trays, and bubbly). Members of the National Guard are joining us, along with volunteers and it will make the social extra special.

This month, we also celebrate all the great May holidays: Mother's Day, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, and the Kentucky Derby. American Legion Post 44 hosts an onsite Memorial Day ceremony so all of our veterans can participate in this special ceremony. Our veteran members will also have opportunities to go on outings to the Negaunee Lions Club Annual Pancake Breakfast, dinner and bingo at American Legion Post 44, and a shopping trip to Meijer. We've got a variety of presentations by the DNR - sea lampreys, building hen houses, and on moose! Also, Dawgz Adapt, a favorite presenter is coming back. **On May 14th at 1:30pm, we have Vegas Days** (1 fast hour of black jack). **We need 30 volunteers for this event. Do reach out, if you'd like to join the fun!** We round out the month with ample live music, bingo, church services, a Mother's Day Tea, a Kentucky Derby party, pet therapy, coffee klatsches, cooking classes and lots of gardening!

May 11-17 is National Skilled Nursing Week. There are 200+ staff that work at our Home serving our veteran members. Staff work in a variety of capacities (nursing, housekeeping, dietary, business office, physical, speech and occupational therapy, maintenance, pharmacy, activities, etc.). Our staff are incredibly dedicated and deliver excellent, compassionate, safe and fun care to our members! Our veteran members are excited to help celebrate this week.

Summer 2025 is coming fast. Mark Your Calendars for a few of our Special Events:

Community Events:

Friday, May 30th - all day - Member Plant Sale with donations going to a member-selected TBD project/activity

Saturday, June 14th 8am– 11am - Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at the Home on June 14th (see attached flyer).

Members, Families & Volunteers:

Monday, May 26th - Onsite Memorial Day Ceremony sponsored by American Legion Post 44 - 1:30pm

Saturday, June 7th - Cameron Zvara, Magician/Comedian/Entertainer with special request to bring kids! - 1:30pm

Wednesday, July 16th - Nathan Koski Memorial Classic Car Show with special request for cool cars! - 1:00pm

Friday, July 25th - 20th Annual Fish Fry sponsored by Alger County's Vietnam Vets of America & American Legion - 11:30am

Wednesday, August 20th - Annual Member Carnival - 1:00pm

Thursday, September 11th - Patriot Day Picnic - 11:30am

Supporting Our Veteran Members:

- **SAVE THE DATE!!** We are having a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on Saturday, June 14th from 8am-11am. (See attached poster for details). All donations go to MVHDJ's Charitable Support Fund to enrich the lives of our veteran members.
- **BUY A RAFFLE TICKET!!** American Legion Post 44 is sponsoring a raffle with drawing on Saturday, June 14th (See attached poster for details).
- Attached, find our May 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. There are so many opportunities to join the fun: game nights, happy hour sponsors, cribbage tourneys, gardening, a cooking demonstration, Friday night campfires in the summer - or bring your talent (music or magic, perhaps) We guarantee you will have a blast!!!
- Check out our Facebook page! <https://www.facebook.com/MiVeteranHomesDJJ>
- To stay up-to-date on progress of our new U.P. veterans home, visit: <https://bit.ly/NewMVHDJJ>

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.

DJJ Veterans Share Their Gratitude

During Volunteer Appreciation Week, our veteran members made treats and took time to thank our volunteers for their incredible dedication. Our volunteers are amazing and help us do more for our veterans. They bring the goodness every time they are here and we are so grateful for their service.

To our volunteers, thank you for your time, talent, and heart. Your impact has lasted four decades strong with many more to come. Thank you!



♥ Clockwise from Left: Volunteer, Keitha with veteran member, Bob; Veteran member Glenn with veteran volunteers at a Thursday coffee klatsch; Volunteers, Renae, Scott and Dan flank veteran member Russ; Veteran member, Rod with volunteer, John; Veteran member, Terry with volunteer, Kristi. *We proudly note, this is just a sampling of the volunteers who served during Volunteer Appreciation Week



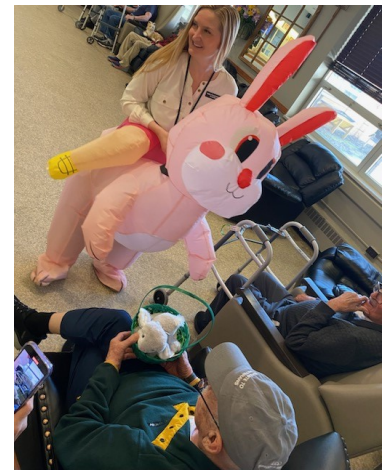
We Are Thankful and Blessed...❤️



50s luncheon!



Great company and lunch with Select Realty at The Up North Lodge



Thank you, Easter Bunny!



Our 2025 Talent Show was INCREDIBLE!!!!
Check out our Facebook page for photos and video.



The Sunshine Girls always bring the fun!



Left: Daniel Truckey of Beaumier Upper Peninsula Heritage Center presented on "Upper Peninsula Ghost Towns" Right: Daffodils were the subject of Paint Class and WOW!



National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Yay! Our amazing supporters helped us reschedule a National Vietnam War Veterans Day social for April.

Currently, 71 of the veterans who call MVH DJ Jacobetti home served during the Vietnam-era. We saluted them, along with all veterans. Special thanks goes to the many veterans and volunteers who joined us to make this celebration special including Dan Jackovich, Chair of the

DJJ Veterans Facility Coordinators; Jim Provost, Michigan's Veteran of the Year; Ray Carlson, Marquette County's Veteran of the Year; and Leo Smith, American Legion Post 44 Chaplain. All are Vietnam Veterans and shared a few meaningful words and a "Welcome Home."

Thanks also to American Legion Post 44 for sponsoring the dessert and Lois Westman for providing music. It was a very special gathering! Photo Clockwise: Jim Provost; Ray Carlson; veteran member Art AKA Mad Dog with veteran and volunteer, Bob Stephenson (note photo of Bob when he was in the service); mmm cake!

