

MVH Mission Statement

Michigan Veteran Homes provides nation-leading long-term care and services that enhance the well-being of veterans and their families in the place they call home.



Our veteran members, volunteers, and staff enjoyed a beautiful day with Pictured Rocks Cruises



Our Lakenenland Family Fishing & Picnic got rained out so we moved the picnic onsite!



We got our Kicks! Our Route 66 100th Birthday Party was a blast!

Hello MVH D.J. Jacobetti Family and Friends,

Administrator Update

As we welcome the month of July, there is a renewed sense of excitement throughout our home. The arrival of warmer weather brings more opportunities for our members to enjoy the outdoors, participate in community outings, and take part in the many special events planned throughout the summer. We are especially looking forward to favorites such as the Nathan Koski Memorial Car Show, our Annual Fish Fry, and the Fourth of July Parade. These events create lasting memories for our members and serve as wonderful reminders of the strong community that surrounds and support our Veterans.

Construction of our new home continues to move forward at an impressive pace. Crews are currently pouring slab-on-grade concrete, and structural steel is expected to begin in mid-July. Once the steel is erected, the building will truly begin to take shape, and the elevations of our future home will soon be visible from the road. It is exciting to see years of planning become reality, and each milestone brings us one step closer to providing a modern home that will continue our tradition of exceptional care for generations of Veterans to come.

June was filled with meaningful moments, including the privilege of recognizing our incredible volunteers for their dedicated service and having the opportunity to meet many families during our Member and Family Picnic. These experiences served as a reminder that the MVH D.J. Jacobetti community extends far beyond our walls. To our remarkable team members, thank you for the compassion, professionalism, and commitment you demonstrate each day. To our families and friends, thank you for the trust you place in us to care for your loved ones. Your partnership and support is invaluable, and together we continue to create a home where our Veterans are honored, respected, and care for with the dignity they deserve.

Respectfully, Chris LaJoie, Interim Administrator

June Highlights

June was filled with memorable outings, meaningful celebrations, and opportunities for our veteran members to connect with the community. Highlights included a trip to Munising for Pictured Rocks Cruises, our annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, a Route 66-themed 100th Birthday celebration, a Marquette City Band performance, Veterans Day at Sands Speedway, and trips to Lake Unky Amvets Post 122, American Legion Post 44, to A&M Cafe for lunch and to Republic for Drewpalooza 4, a music festival and birthday celebration fundraiser, that raised \$4500 to enrich the lives of our veterans via our Charitable Support Fund!!

Life at the Home was just as active, with live music, bingo, church services, campfires, cards and conversations, and a summer art and yoga series sponsored by the Ishpeming Elks. We also celebrated Flag Day with the Tri-City Elks and welcomed community partners like Embers Credit Union, whose volunteers helped brighten the days of our veteran members. June was a wonderful reminder of the generosity and support that surrounds our Home.



MVH D.J. JACOBETTI

FAMILY & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

July 2026 p. 2

July Highlights

Summer is in full swing, and July is packed with patriotic celebrations, favorite annual traditions, exciting outings, and plenty of opportunities for fun!

We'll kick off the month with Independence Day festivities, including a trip to the Ishpeming 4th of July Parade, a special performance by the Marquette City Band, and patriotic parfaits generously sponsored by ServPro.

Some of our most anticipated summer events return this month, including the Negaunee Elks' sponsoring an Onsite Fish Pond on July 8. This year, we will fry our catches on the spot with volunteers from the Skandia/West Branch Fire Department. On July 15, we hold our Nathan Koski Memorial Classic Car Show with live music by Chris Valenti and Vinyl Tap. On July 31st, our Annual Fish Fry returns for the 21st year! Veterans of Alger County Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 237 and American Legion Post 131 cook up and serve the freshest, most delicious whitefish around!

Veteran members will also enjoy a full schedule of outings, including a beach picnic, an American Legion baseball game, a guided tour of the Cliffs Shaft Mine Museum, a trip to the movies, dinner at Lake Superior Smokehouse, a lunch and a dinner plus bingo at American Legion Post 44, and pontoon pan fishing with Courage Inc.

Back at the Home, the fun continues onsite with a National Fried Chicken Day luncheon, a National Joke Day Improv Hour, an Ice Cream Social and music, a special presentation of stories and poetry by veteran, Jon Compton, a petting zoo with Jo-Kay Corral, a whole week of festivities for Christmas in July, Native American flute with Danny, paint classes, bingo, church services, outstanding musical entertainment from Sowing Seeds, Lois Westman, Linda Smith, Sunshine Girls, and Toni Saari, and more.

As always, there's something happening every day at Michigan Veteran Homes D.J. Jacobetti, and we look forward to making more memories together this July! Thank you for your continued support and partnership in honoring and serving our veterans!

Family & Friends, find the full of calendar of July activities while visiting your loved one at the Home or go to www.michigan.gov/mvh to view the calendar
Summer 2026 Events we would especially love for you to join:

- Thursday, 7/2 - Ice Cream Social with Music by Linda Smith - 1:30PM - 2:30PM
- Sunday, 7/5 - Patriotic Music with Marquette City Band - 1:30PM
- Wednesday, 7/8 - Onsite Fish Pond with Negaunee Elks - Starts at 10AM
- Wednesday, 7/15 - Nathan Koski Memorial Classic Car Show - 1:00PM - 2:30PM
- Saturday, 7/25 - Sowing Seeds Worship Band - 1:30PM
- Tuesday, 7/28 - Jo-Kay Corral Mobile Farm - 1:30PM
- Friday, 7/31 - 21st Annual Fish Fry by Alger County Vietnam Vets & American Legion - 11:30AM
- Saturday, 8/8 - DJJ's 45th Birthday & Combat Vets Motorcycle 35-1 Annual Visit - 1:30PM - 2:30PM
- Wednesday, 8/19 - DJJ Summer Carnival - 1:00PM - 3:00PM
- Friday, 9/11 - Patriot Day Picnic & Pig Roast - 11:30AM

See any Activities Team Member with questions!

2026 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

Michigan Veteran Homes D.J. Jacobetti had the privilege of celebrating our volunteers at our annual volunteer appreciation picnic. Our volunteer family is more than 100 strong, and together they have contributed an incredible 77,853.5 documented lifetime service hours. Their time, compassion, and commitment help ensure that every veteran member receives the support, companionship, and sense of community they deserve.

Our volunteers are truly extraordinary, and they help bring our mission to life every day:
Serving Those Who Served Us. ❤️💙💜



Supporting Our Veteran Members:

- Our **July 2026 Wish List** continues to be pared down due to the incredible generosity we received this holiday season. We also have an Amazon wish list that ships directly to our Home: <https://a.co/8yGuv4w> **IMPORTANT:** Amazon donations often arrive in multiple deliveries with no receipt or identifying information. Please reach out so we can share our appreciation (and a donation receipt for your records).
- **Come volunteer!** We welcome new volunteers - and 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, paint classes, cribbage tourneys, gardening, BBQs, Friday night campfires or work with us to come up with a special event.... 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/NewMVHDIJ>

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

906-226-3576 x 2520396 (desk) johnsons93@michigan.gov 906-631-7434 (work cell/text OK)