

Michigan Veteran Homes

A Place of Honor & Compassion

July 2023



Independence

The United States and its freedoms and opportunities are worth celebrating, and honoring. Such freedoms and opportunities exist, of course, because of the men and women willing to stand and defend them. However, not all men and women have historically been able to enjoy those same liberties - even those who've stood to fight for them. At MVH, we're proud to recognize the independence of our entire nation, and all of its people.

At Michigan Veteran Homes, we've had the opportunity to honor and celebrate [Juneteenth](#) with our members, and are looking forward to celebrating the [4th of July](#) with them as well.

Being there for veterans and their loved ones when they need skilled nursing care is important work, and MVH is honored to be partners in that journey with those who've worn the uniform. Whether its volunteering, donating, or otherwise getting involved, consider doing something for a veteran. After all, they did something for you.

MVH hopes you had a great Juneteenth, and that you'll have a great 4th of July.



Dog Days of Summer for veterans in Grand Rapids

On June 22nd, veterans, their families, volunteers, staff, and partners of the Home joined together for the [MVH at Grand Rapids' 2nd Annual Dog Show](#). All kinds of canines were present: old and young; some dressed in various costumes and outfits; and all with different...we'll say... "growing opportunities for showmanship and obedience."

While it's uncertain how many of the dogs will move on to glory at the Westminster Kennel Club Show, we're pretty certain they already won the better prize: bringing priceless smiles and a soft touch to our veterans at MVHGR.

Events and activities like these are made possible through private sponsorships and individual giving. If you or your organization has interest in [making an impact](#) on the lives of our members, we encourage you to contact us. You can also follow [MVHGR on Facebook](#).



Hebe Fountain Rededication in July

After two years of fundraising, construction, and some setbacks, the Hebe Fountain on MVH at Grand Rapids' campus will be rededicated in July 2023. The fountain first joined the landscape of MVHGR when it was purchased by the Home's Board in 1894 for \$2,500. Today, it's believed to be one of only three such fountains remaining in the United States.

Restored last in 1972, decades of West Michigan weather had taken its toll on the piece of art and craftsmanship, and was nearing either the end of its life, or an investment in its restoration. Veteran members of the home were adamant that it required restoration, as it was an invaluable part of their home. Private donors stepped up, realizing how incredible the fountain is for veterans that reside at the Home, and also for the community at large.

If you find yourself driving up Monroe Ave NE in Grand Rapids, across from Riverside Park and alongside MVH at Grand Rapids' historic 70+ acre campus, consider driving up past the massive flag that drapes between two large trees, and see the fountain for yourself. It's worth the stop. Because of the generosity of community, it will be a part of MVHGR and the greater Grand Rapids Community, for generations to come.



Jacobetti Golf Outing Wraps Up 26th Year

Near the shores of Lake Superior, Marquette has been home to [Michigan Veteran Homes D.J. Jacobetti](#) for more than four decades, providing skilled nursing care to over 100 veterans and their loved ones every day. June 29th of this year marked the [26th Annual Jacobetti Golf Outing](#), where more than 30 (4) person teams took to the links on Marquette Golf Club's Heritage Course: all to support the care and quality of life of veterans at the Home.

Before hitting the course, some of the golfers shared laughs with a few Jacobetti members who came out for coffee, donuts, and camaraderie. After 18 holes, everyone gathered in the clubhouse for a meal, prizes, and additional opportunities to support the Jacobetti. All said, more than \$10,000 was generously given to the Home's Charitable Support Fund, supporting life enrichment of the members of the Home.

MVH thanks the Marquette and broader U.P. community, as well the many sponsors who made this event possible and successful (again!). It takes a village to serve those who've served, and because of the generosity of private giving, we're able to do more for our veterans. Thanks for supporting our mission.

Donations to MVH are tax-deductible under section 170(c) of the IRC.

Michigan Veteran Homes are making a difference in the lives of MI veterans and their loved ones.

[Join us.](#)



Community Shares Input on Jacobetti Replacement

On June 28th, more than 50 veterans, veteran stakeholders, and community members joined MVH leadership for a [community forum](#) at Northern Michigan University in Marquette. The forum allowed community members to hear updates from MVH leadership, and share their thoughts and input as MVH prepares to replace the existing Jacobetti facility with a modern skilled nursing home.

Between the secured state and federal funding, the existing aged facility will be replaced with a brand new \$97M+ home for veterans of the Upper Peninsula needing skilled nursing care.

"There's lots of work to do, and questions we don't know the answers to just yet," said MVH CEO Anne Zerbe. "As we move forward, wherever this replacement home is constructed, it is a generational investment supporting veterans of our Upper Peninsula, and we're excited the community is involved and passionate about this project. It shows their passion for our veterans."

While many unknowns exist, there is potential to break ground sometime next year, and be completed with construction by 2027. You can follow [MVH D.J. Jacobetti on Facebook](#).



Gone Fishin' (and elsewhere) at MVH at Chesterfield Township

Summer is busy with life enrichment experiences at [MVH at Chesterfield Township](#). When you head into skilled nursing, going on fishing trips probably isn't in your immediate plans - unless you're at MVH.

Thanks to "[The Fallen Outdoors](#)" for providing MVHCT veterans another two great fishing trips, which will soon yield a fish fry for our members.

More outings and other events are planned for the summer, and only occur because organizations and community members believe in making a difference. Follow [MVHCT on Facebook](#).