

# RT '08

*Rollin' Times from the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans Association of America*



Paramount Charter Academy -- Winners of the Best City Disability Award

March/April 2008



**On the Cover:**

*“Future Cities --Winners of the Best City Disability Award Paramount Charter Academy, Mentor Albert Dumois, Kalamazoo Teacher Cathy Northcutt, Students Jared Dumois, Ruby Tanja and Grace Houtrouw*

**Full story on page 4**

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Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) is one of 34 member chapters of Washington, D.C.-based Paralyzed Veterans of America. A Congressionally chartered veterans service organization, MPVA has been assisting veterans with spinal cord injuries or diseases, including Multiple Sclerosis and ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, better known as Lou Gehrig's Disease), in Michigan since 1961.

MPVA programs include:

- Veterans' Benefits
- Wheelchair Sports and Recreation
- Spinal Cord Injury Research
- Equipment Donation
- Advocacy to eliminate architectural barriers and protect civil rights for persons with disabilities
- Referral Services for assistive devices, housing, employment and transportation
- Literature on a variety of topics including self-care, independent living, and disability rights.
- The Pump Guide: an online directory of gas stations throughout Michigan that will pump gas at the self-serve price for persons with disabilities.
- MPVA is a nonprofit organization and receives no federal funding. MPVA relies on grants, sponsorships, and private and corporate donations to support its programs.

The MPVA headquarters is in Novi, Michigan. Our service officers are based out of the McNamara Federal Building in Downtown Detroit.

**Disclaimer:**

The Rollin' Times is a publication of the Michigan Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America. It is designed to inform the members of the PVA and other interested parties on veterans' issues, legislation, legal decisions, medical technology and other matters deemed to be relevant to the disability community.

The contents of this publication do not always reflect the views or policies of Michigan PVA, and no endorsement or approval is made or should be inferred with respect to products or services advertised herein. Consult an appropriate professional before making use of any product or service mentioned.



# President's Report

By Kevin G. Elya

## Volunteering Does a Body Good

Winter is almost past and spring flowers will soon be a wonderful reality here in Michigan. Spring offers a fresh, new beginning for many things.

One great spring event is our MPVA Open House on Thursday, April 17. This is a time for us to invite the community into our MPVA home and teach them about our goals. It's a great public outreach event and, each year, we are blessed that it seems to grow and be such an enjoyable time for all. I encourage everyone to attend. Our Open House is a fine opportunity to welcome the community and enjoy time with your fellow members, too.

Mid-winter boards were in March. Every year, the issues seem to grow more compelling and challenging. As your National Director, I am proud of all we accomplished. It was a long, tiring week, but so very necessary in meeting our goals.

Not too long ago, I set a new goal for myself and I want to share my experiences with you. I've told many of you about my volunteering at the VA in Ann Arbor twice a week. I can't begin to tell you about the joy it brings me.

When I started volunteering, along with my trusty service dog, Gerri, I really had no idea what to expect. Initially, they told me about procedures and the best ways to help. After a few visits, I realized that even my small assistance, when pooled with others, makes a big difference.

I never expected it would make me feel needed and truly centered. I have much in my life, my wife, my teenagers, my responsibilities at the MPVA office — but this is different. Somehow, to see so many lending a hand and meeting such wonderful new friends, I now wonder if I don't benefit more than the VA! I guess my wife is right — a true gift in life is to have a job or task turn into a joy, and that is what volunteering at the VA has truly become for me.

Meeting the faces of these men and women coming back from war is such an honor, as is meeting our veterans who served long ago. Whether I'm simply enjoying these new friendships or helping visitors find their way around the hospital, I cannot tell you how valuable my weekly visits have become to me.

Recently, a friend of my wife's said what a kind thing it is for me to volunteer. I paused and said, "No, it's a kind thing for the VA to let me do it." This month, I challenge you to come to a membership meeting, and also to volunteer — make a difference. You might find out what a wonderful difference it will make in you.

Spring is a time for new things, new loves and fresh starts. Why not make being more active in your MPVA family a new spring venture? I'd love to see you at the next membership meeting and at the Open House, too. Happy spring and be safe! 🇺🇸

*Kevin*



*Our condolences to the family of Charles Modzinski, an MPVA life member who served in the U.S. Navy and on the board of directors for the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America. Chuck will be missed.*



# Executive Director's Report

By Mike Harris

## Future City Competition

### Paramount Charter Academy Wins "Best City Disability Award" in Future City Competition

It was an intense competition, with students from 60 Michigan elementary and middle schools coming together to compete in this year's Michigan Regional Future City Competition, sponsored by the Engineering Society of Detroit as part of a national program sponsored by the National Engineers Week Committee. This year's Michigan competition was held on January 22 at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

Once again, the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America partnered with the Michigan Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to present an award to the school that created a Future City that best addressed the challenges faced by people with disabilities. We want to congratulate Paramount Charter Academy in Kalamazoo for winning the 2008 "Best City Disability Award."

The "Best City Disability Award" recognizes the school that not only addresses the everyday challenges facing the disability community — but more importantly, provides a blueprint for accessible solutions to these challenges. This special award prompts the students to include the disabled community in their thought processes when creating their future cities.

In March of 2007, during the Paralyzed Veterans of America Advocacy/Legislative Conference, representatives from our National office met with Carol Rieg, National Director, National Engineers Week Future City Competition. At that meeting, it was agreed that PVA would sponsor a special award that would be presented to the school that best demonstrates that their city is the most accommodating for people with disabilities.

Once again, I want to congratulate the talented team from Paramount Charter Academy, and all the students who participated in this year's event for a job well done!

#### About the Future City Competition

The mission of the Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for seventh and eighth grade students that

combines a stimulating engineering challenge with hands-on application to present their vision of a city of the future.

It's a team-based program consisting of students, a teacher and an engineer mentor. Each team creates detailed, often fantastic, cities of tomorrow that give intriguing insights to how young minds envision their future. At the same time, their bold designs and innovative concepts provide a refreshing optimistic appreciation of how our nation can realistically deal with the many challenges facing its cities, including environmental disasters, crime, urban decay and urban sprawl.

Students develop their problem-solving skills, as well as their ability to work as a team. They learn how to conduct research and hone their presentation skills. As they begin to design and build their cities, the team members apply various math and scientific principles to address practical problems, thereby increasing their awareness of community-related issues. Then they present and defend their city to a panel of judges at the competition.

Royal Oak Middle school won this year's Michigan Regional Future City Competition, earning them the right to compete in the national contest in Washington, D.C. in February.

#### Mobile Law Office to Help Veterans

Helping veterans secure the health-care and other benefits to which they are entitled has always been a central part of the mission of Paralyzed Veterans of America. With a majority of Michigan veterans not belonging to a veteran service organization, trying to reach out to them requires a coordinated effort between the state veteran's affairs offices, veteran service organizations and community groups working together as one.

I recently had the pleasure of talking with Joon Sung, Professor, University of Detroit Mercy, School of Law, regarding an innovative project that will assist military personnel, veterans and their families with a wide range of problems.

Using a \$200,000 grant from the State of Michigan, the University of Detroit Mercy, School of Law, has created a freestanding veterans clinic and is

launching a statewide tour with its Mobile Law Office, which will provide legal assistance and representation for low-income veterans from Detroit to the Upper Peninsula. The Mobile Law Office — a 27-foot recreational vehicle outfitted as an office, staffed by law students with attorney supervision — is planning stops in Battle Creek, Grand Rapids, Flint, Traverse City and Lansing.

At each location, they will assist veterans in need of legal services. They'll answer questions, provide help or steer folks in the right direction on such matters as veterans' benefits, disabilities, consumer problems, housing and foreclosures. They also will recruit attorneys to provide pro bono representation in VA benefits cases and other civil cases. They will be placing each meritorious case with a private attorney or veteran's service officer for representation.

MPVA is proud to lend its support to this innovative project that has the ability to provide service to those who have been called to our nation's service. This is a way that, as a society, we can honor their sacrifice, by assisting them in receiving the benefits to which they are entitled. We will not ignore them in their time of need, just as they answered our nation's call.

Detroit Mercy School of Law is the only law school in the

country with a Mobile Law Office. The law students and local volunteer attorneys helped about 800 people in 2007 during stops at senior centers, churches and other facilities.

### Visit MPVA's New and Improved Web Site

Now you can get the information you want and need — quickly and easily!

MPVA has launched a new and improved Web site with easy-to-use, intuitive navigation tools; improved design and graphics. MPVA members and the general public can now find a wide variety of information about MPVA, including our history, mission and information about issues that have a profound impact on our members.

We know there may be some glitches with the new site (that's technology, for you), and we're prepared to address any issues quickly. We look forward to hearing your feedback.

Please visit the new site at its usual location: [www.michiganpva.org](http://www.michiganpva.org). Come on in and take a look around, then let us know what you think by emailing me at: [mharris@michiganpva.org](mailto:mharris@michiganpva.org).

We're proud of MPVA's new site — we hope you'll enjoy it, too. Please visit soon! 🐾

# SAVE the DATE!

## Valuable Dates for 2008

### Membership Meetings

*(all meetings are on Thursdays at the Novi MPVA office unless otherwise notified)*

April 24    May 22    August 21    September 18

### Special Events

April 13-19

Paralyzed Veterans Awareness Week

April 17

MPVA Open House

July 19

MPVA member picnic

July 24-30

National Veterans Wheelchair Games, Omaha, NE

Nov. 6

“Salute to Veterans” event

Dec. 6

MPVA Member holiday party



# Caregiver's Corner

By Annie Elya

## Weather Changes Affect Us All

**W**inter is almost over and spring is on the way! This time of year can sometimes be the hardest for me. And I guess I'm not alone. Speaking with a psychologist friend the other day, I was told that springtime, being stuck inside while the weather changes, can be a depressing time for many.

Depression is very common. It is an illness that can affect anyone, especially caregivers. I want to highlight some of the symptoms of depression so we can all watch for the signs, not only in those we love and care for, but in ourselves as well.

First, some facts about depression:

- Between 5 and 10 percent of the population will suffer from the illness to some extent at any one time.
- Over a lifetime, you have a 20 percent, or one in five, chance of having an episode of depression.
- Women are twice as likely to get depressed as men.

I myself suffered a bout of depression in 2000 after an auto accident threatened to take not only my nursing career, but my life as I knew it. While suffering, I did not notice the signs and it took the intervention of family and friends to get me the help I needed.

### What causes depression?

We do not fully understand the causes of depression. Genes or early life experiences may make some people vulnerable. Stressful life events, such as a terrible accident, losing a job or losing a relationship, may trigger an episode. Depression can also be triggered by physical illness, drug treatments and recreational drugs.

### How do I recognize the signs of depression?

Here are some common signs of depression:

- Being unable to gain pleasure from activities that normally would be pleasurable.
- Losing interest in normal activities, hobbies and everyday life.
- Feeling tired all of the time and having no energy.
- Difficulty sleeping or waking early in the morning (though some feel they can't get out of bed and 'face the world').

- Having a poor appetite, no interest in food and losing weight (though some people overeat and put on weight — 'comfort eating').

- Losing interest in sex.
- Finding it difficult to concentrate.
- Feeling restless, tense, anxious and irritable.
- Losing self-confidence.
- Avoiding other people.
- Finding it harder than usual to make decisions.
- Feeling useless and inadequate.
- Feeling guilty.
- Feeling hopeless.

Thinking about suicide is also very common. If you are feeling this way, talk to somebody about it right away. If you think somebody else might be thinking this way, ask them about it. It will not make them more likely to commit suicide.

There is no magic test or scan that can determine if someone is depressed. Often, it's usually diagnosed after a person has experienced a low mood for more than two weeks and it's affecting their quality of life and daily activities, accompanied by three or four of the common symptoms listed above.

Treatments can include seeing your general practitioner or a family counselor. Often, if someone is actually ill from depression, they'll be referred to a psychiatrist or community psychiatric nurse. Psychotherapists are also helpful; it was this type of doctor who helped me. Many find just psychotherapy is helpful, but others find medication is needed to help combat depression.

I think after personally living with this illness, my biggest obstacle in getting help was to first realize how it was affecting my life and that is was in no way a sign of weakness. Depression really does hurt and often affects not only the person suffering, but also those who have to watch and feel helpless. I ask you all to watch for signs in yourselves and those you love — and then seek help right away.

Life is full of challenges; depression does not have to be one of them. I am living proof. I hope you have a safe and wonderful start to spring! I look forward to seeing each of you at the MPVA Open House and also at the summer picnic.

## Depression Studies

Recently, I was contacted by a woman who is doing a study about caregivers and would love to get more to participate. Here is some of the information she sent to me. If you are interested, please contact the people noted below.

Study #1: Stress, Coping and Quality of Life of Caucasian and African-American Caregivers of Persons With a Spinal Cord Injury. This is a two-year study funded by the Paralyzed Veteran's Association Research Foundation. For more information or to participate, please contact: Marian Gormley at 775-233-3109. Email: mariang@unr.nevada.edu.

Study #2: Work Environment and Quality of Life Outcomes: A Comparison of Informal and Formal Caregivers of Persons With a Spinal Cord Injury.

This is a three-year study funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. For more information or to participate, please contact: Sunny Roller at 734-971-1335. Email: elsol@med.umich.edu.

Study #3: Understanding the Healthcare Needs of Public Insurance Recipients With Tetraplegia: A Family Perspective. This study is funded by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. For more information or to participate, please contact: Colette Duggan at 313-745-1070. Email: cduggan@dmc.org.

### Caregiver Eligibility for All Three Studies:

- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Be a family member, friend, neighbor, significant other or employee of a home health agency (Study #2) providing caregiver services.
- Spend at least 10 hours per week providing caregiver services.

### Time Required:

1-1/2 hours to complete an interview and survey instruments.

### Compensation:

Volunteer participants will be paid \$25.00 for their time and effort. ♿



# Government Relations & Advocacy

By Bonnie L. Welbaum

## Legislative & Advocacy Priorities

In March, I attended the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) Legislative/Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C. The main focus of the conference was providing us with the tools to effectively carry out PVA's legislative and advocacy priorities for the upcoming year.

During the week I had an opportunity to visit with 13 members of the Michigan Congressional Delegation. The visits allowed us an opportunity to educate them on issues important to our membership. As usual, the issue that dominated the conversation was Veteran Affairs Health Care funding for FY 2009.

Some in Washington thought the 2008 VA Budget was too generous. The Independent Budget for 2009 may be more challenging to get passed. Despite record funding for '08, the Administration's Veterans Health Care package may still fall short on meeting veterans' needs. We advocate that all recommendations of the Independent Budget be accepted.

Elimination of co-payments for Category Four Catastrophically Disabled Veterans is a right PVA worked hard to earn. It ensures that veterans with catastrophic injury would have a "high" enrollment category (VA rating). Veterans were given this category to protect their enrollment in VA programs regard-

less of whether their injuries were "service-connected" or their level of personal income. PVA believes all Category Four Veterans should be treated equally and everyone in that category should be exempt from fees or co-payments. It concerns us this policy could change.

PVA supports the VA's specialized services. We want the federal government to feel free to maintain its discretionary spending. Services, as spinal cord dysfunction care, are central to the mission and responsibility of the VA. PVA counsels Congress that the Veterans Administration properly funds and enhances its specialized Health Care Services for veterans with severe disabilities.

We will also urge Congress to pass the BRAVE Act, the "Benefit Rating Acceleration for Veteran Entitlement" Act. A veteran may be determined by the VA to be 100 percent disabled, but a second evaluation is required by the Social Security Administration when applying for work-related benefits. PVA wants the process streamlined so the SSA automatically recognizes a person as "100 percent disabled" when the VA makes the determination.

*Continued on page 9*



# Sports & Recreation

By Scot Severn

## Winter Sports Opportunities

### Wheelchair Games

The Michigan wheelchair games will take place on May 8th-10th 2008. Come out and join us and put yourself to the test. You may be able to accomplish much more than you think! For more information visit [www.michiganwheelchairgames.org](http://www.michiganwheelchairgames.org)

The Ohio wheelchair games will take place the following weekend, May 15th-17th, on the campus of Ohio State University in Columbus. Join Wheelin' Team 457 as they go for 5 years in a row as the top small team.

The National Veterans Wheelchair Games will take place this year in Omaha, Nebraska on July 24-29th. Deadline for entry is April 15th and you must have a physicians release before your registration can be completed.

Drop me a line at [ssevern@michiganpva.org](mailto:ssevern@michiganpva.org) or call me at 989-225-7053

Michigan Wheelchair Games

May 8-10th

Sterling Heights Michigan

Sports include: Shooting, Weightlifting, Swimming, Track and Field, Bowling, Billiards and Table Tennis.

### Storm in the Heartland

Congratulations to the MPVA sponsored Michigan Storm for winning the Heartland North Regional Championship for the second time in the last three years, not to mention their 4th tournament win this season. The Storm now moves on to the Heartland Sectional playoff event in Saginaw, MI on Mar 7th-9th. Visit The Storm at [www.stormrugby.com](http://www.stormrugby.com)

### Wheelchair Softball

We are in the process of forming a wheelchair softball team in the Detroit area. We're looking for players and sponsors and volunteers. If you would like to help make this team a reality Drop me a line at [ssevern@michiganpva.org](mailto:ssevern@michiganpva.org) or call me at 989-225-7053

### Turkey Time

Michigan PVA will again partner with Wheelin' Team 457 to host their 3rd annual spring turkey hunt. Dave and Carol Clemens have once again opened their home to be the base camp for the La-peer area hunt. Last year 16 hunters took 12 birds! That's a great success rate. This year's hunt will be May 2-4th. For more information call John Stockdale at 989-635-0090

### Coming up

Are you interested in playing sports not sure where to go or how to get started? Come to the Washtenaw county recreation center: 2960 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor MI 48104. Thursday nights from 7:45-9:45pm. There will be different activities going on each week. The program is free of charge. However, the recreation center charges admission to get into the gym, \$4 for residents and \$5 for non-residents with disabilities.

For more information contact:

Mary Stack

734-971-0277 x56

[mstack@aacil.org](mailto:mstack@aacil.org)

### Bowling

Join the Ann Arbor CIL for Bowling Thursday Feb 14, 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20 from 1-3pm. Meet us at Colonial Lanes, 1950 S. Industrial Hwy, Ann Arbor. Only \$7 for the day; this includes three games of bowling and shoes. Transportation is NOT provided, so please meet us at the bowling alley. RSVP is required for this event! Please respond to Mary Stack at 734-971-0277 x56 or [mstack@aacil.org](mailto:mstack@aacil.org)

### Multiple Sports

Independence Township Parks and Recreation is putting together a competitive sports team for individuals ages 7 and up with physical disabilities. Events include: Slalom, Swimming, Hand Cycling, Bocce, Bowling, Track and Field, Table Tennis and Powerlifting. Some indoor practice dates have been set for February and March.



Please contact Kelly Hyer at 248-625-8223 or [khyer@twp.independence.mi.us](mailto:khyer@twp.independence.mi.us) if you are interested in more information about the team.

## Michigan Victory Games

May 15-18th, 2008

At Michigan State University, East Lansing

Sports include: Swimming, Powerlifting, Track and Field, Cycling, Boccia, Slalom, Bowling and Table Tennis.

For more information Contact:

Mary Stack 734-971-0277 x56 [mstack@aacil.org](mailto:mstack@aacil.org) <http://www.michiganwheelchairgames.org/>

## Govt. Relations, cont.

The Dole-Shalala Commission Report and Veterans Disability Benefits Commission Report will be discussed. PVA feels both are positive steps for service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Still, two main ideas must be implemented. PVA wants all current benefits or services for today's veterans to remain as they are, without any reduction of resources. Also, we ask that the distinction between combat and non-combat related disabilities be disregarded as well as where the disabling event took place. The view from PVA is that the Veterans Disability Benefits Commission report is fairer, and further addresses the needs of all past, future and current veterans. We encourage Congress to incorporate both reports into any legislation introduced.

PVA backs the Restoration Act of 2007. This is a bill amending the definition of "disability." It protects those whom Congress intended to protect from discrimination and assures they are, indeed, covered under the ADA, by keeping courts from using "mitigating measures" when determining whether an individual "qualifies" under the law.

The Inclusive Home Design Act was introduced by Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) to "require all newly constructed, federally assisted, single-family houses and town houses to meet minimum standards of visitability for persons with disabilities." Some of the standards falling under visitability are accessible entrance, interior doors, environmental controls and bathrooms. PVA supports the Inclusive Home Design Act. We want to make life easier and resources available for our returning disabled soldiers who served their country honorably.

Good Announcement! The first mileage reimbursement increase in 30 years took effect Feb 1, 2008. One million eligible veterans will have their mileage reimbursement doubled from 11 cents per mile to 28.5 cents per mile. This is for travel to Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical facilities. Funding for VA from the 2008 appropriations act provided this. The deductible amounts applied to certain mileage reimbursements are \$7.77 for a one-way trip or \$15.54 for both ways. There is

## Bass Fishing Tournament

The Brain Injury Association of Michigan is proud to announce the 2nd Annual "Tips-up for the Troops" Charity Bass Tournament.

This special event is confirmed for Saturday, June 14th, 2008 at Kent Lake, Kensington Metropark, Brighton, Michigan. This pro-am style bass fishing event will provide a fun filled day on the water for some of our veterans that have sacrificed so much for our freedom. We would like to field at least 50 boats, with the boater (Pro) and a veteran (Am) fishing as a team. If you know a boater, a veteran, or someone that may like to support this event as a sponsor or volunteer, please have them e-mail the chapter at: [chapterhq@michiganpva.org](mailto:chapterhq@michiganpva.org) or call (248) 476-9000. Please register early as it is a first come, first serve registration. We would like to fill out the field so we can establish the number of veteran's to fish without disappointing anyone and leaving someone out. 🐟

a maximum of \$46.62 per calendar month that can be waived if it causes a financial hardship for the veteran.

Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Businesses (SDVOB) update: An advisory committee in Lansing is working with the Dept. of Management & Budget on this issue. To all Veterans for serving their country with pride, honor and distinction, our nation and the State of Michigan are grateful for your sacrifices. Governor Granholm and Michigan legislators introduced legislation encouraging business owners who are service disabled veterans to bid on state contracts. Under PA91, the goal was recently increased from 3 to 5 percent of total state expenditures for goods, services and construction to qualified service-disabled veteran owned companies. These companies also receive an extended 10 percent pricing preference. FY 2007 was the best year ever for businesses owned by service-disabled veterans. The state's 1,200 contracts valued at more than \$19 billion offers opportunity for all Michigan business owners who happen to be veterans with disabilities. Your business could provide the state with a single item valued at a few hundred dollars or possibly a multiyear contract worth a million or so dollars. Many opportunities are available.

- Visit [www.michigan.gov/buymichiganfirst](http://www.michigan.gov/buymichiganfirst).
- Click on "vendor information" to register as a vendor. (Important: You must be registered!) Review and respond to invitations to bid.

- Follow the "Veterans" link for additional pointers.

Doug Spade at (517) 335-7819 or Mike Clement at [clementm@michigan.gov](mailto:clementm@michigan.gov) can be contacted for further information for service-disabled veterans opportunities.

You can count on me to work hard toward representing you and the Michigan Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America. There is plenty happening in Washington government, and here at home. I will do my best to keep you informed and up-to-date on current issues and how PVA members could be affected. Have a blessed Easter; I hope to see you at our annual Open House on April 17. 🐟



# BIRTHDAYS



|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Joseph C. Haller     | March 01 |
| Christos E. Raftis   | March 01 |
| James D. Delaforce   | March 02 |
| Harold E. Edwards    | March 03 |
| Brian S. Felice      | March 03 |
| Kenneth C. Huber     | March 04 |
| Leonard Davenport    | March 05 |
| Brian E. Sweet       | March 05 |
| Linda S. Froberg     | March 07 |
| Daniel V. Henshaw    | March 07 |
| Thomas A. Stalker    | March 07 |
| Joseph B. McDonald   | March 09 |
| James D. Rudolph     | March 09 |
| David A. Saukas      | March 09 |
| Samuel A. Tocco      | March 09 |
| Howard P. Glover     | March 10 |
| Kenneth G. Timpe     | March 10 |
| Joseph H. Wessels    | March 10 |
| John R. Hammann      | March 11 |
| Edward J. Marshall   | March 11 |
| William H. Parent    | March 11 |
| Steven T. McKay      | March 14 |
| Clark W. DeLoach     | March 15 |
| Gerald F. Leppek     | March 15 |
| Cal Howarth          | March 16 |
| Stephen J. Egged     | March 16 |
| Gary L. Wood         | March 16 |
| Michael W. Ballard   | March 17 |
| Gary L. Calhoun      | March 17 |
| Peggy A. Campbell    | March 18 |
| Richard J. Idolski   | March 18 |
| Charles J. Modzinski | March 18 |
| David T. Highland    | March 19 |
| Jane E. Brown        | March 19 |
| Dennis W. Barton     | March 19 |
| William F. Durfee    | March 19 |
| Clark B. Shuler      | March 19 |
| Joseph T. Franz      | March 20 |

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Marshall C. Wittliff  | March 22 |
| Duaine F. DePotic     | March 23 |
| Carl L. Richard       | March 23 |
| Derry L. Williams     | March 23 |
| Michael J. Ziebell    | March 24 |
| Lewis G. Biddinger    | March 25 |
| Gary L. Mallory       | March 25 |
| David S. Williams     | March 25 |
| Gordon Beerbower      | March 26 |
| Edwin Z. Mays         | March 28 |
| Robert J. Angiano     | March 29 |
| Stacey Boyd           | March 30 |
| Bradley R. Gomoluch   | March 30 |
| William J. Jones      | March 30 |
| Kenneth R. Landenberg | March 30 |
| Roosevelt Steverson   | March 30 |
| George G. Wood        | March 30 |
| Bruce E. Beresh       | March 31 |
| Ronald E. Jervis      | March 31 |
| Lewis D. Johnson      | March 31 |
| Carl A. Pardon        | March 31 |
| Kevin J. Stone        | March 31 |
| Eugene C. Wilber      | March 31 |



|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Larry J. Bennett    | April 01 |
| William B. Bresette | April 01 |
| Elmer L. Hardy      | April 03 |
| Harvey Nussbaum     | April 03 |
| Lester Woodworth    | April 03 |
| Jerry R. Carter     | April 04 |
| Dale W. Verrill     | April 05 |
| Deborah K. Ward     | April 05 |
| Giovanni Bonacci    | April 06 |
| Gordon E. Lantz     | April 07 |
| James T. Rajda      | April 07 |

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Thomas A. Huber           | April 08 |
| Henry J. Verner           | April 08 |
| David A. Feldman          | April 08 |
| Carl F. Hedley            | April 09 |
| Willie J. Henry           | April 09 |
| Alan J. Pomranka          | April 10 |
| Paul R. Schoonover        | April 12 |
| Ben L. Sincler            | April 12 |
| Ronald S. Sams            | April 13 |
| Jack E. Teachout          | April 13 |
| Michael F. Harris         | April 14 |
| Walter J. Miller          | April 15 |
| Catherine Morrison Graham | April 15 |
| Joseph M. Connelly        | April 16 |
| Mary L. Dixon             | April 16 |
| Millan J. Vasher          | April 16 |
| Timothy G. Agajeenian     | April 18 |
| Jonas Hicks               | April 19 |
| Bobby R. Newsome          | April 19 |
| George W. Kennon          | April 20 |
| Leroy D. Robbins          | April 20 |
| John C. Gretziner         | April 21 |
| Orville L. Hoath          | April 21 |
| Christian Key             | April 21 |
| Theodore A. Fisher        | April 23 |
| Robert E. Williams        | April 23 |
| Kevin W. Bennett          | April 24 |
| Tommy J. Meadows          | April 24 |
| Vince Pellerito           | April 24 |
| Christopher Kemp          | April 24 |
| Paul J. Simasko           | April 24 |
| Barbara A. Schoen         | April 26 |
| Paul E. Bazner            | April 27 |
| William J. Falzon         | April 28 |
| William D. Newland        | April 28 |
| Mark L. Carnes            | April 29 |



# Students participate in the Disability Awareness Day at Sandusky Middle School Wheelchair Basketball Challenge





**PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA**

*2008* **Awareness** WEEK  
*Courage to Serve, Passion to Lead*



**Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America Awareness Week**

**April 13th -19th**

**M**PVA invites you to attend our annual MPVA Awareness Week Open House. The event takes place at the MPVA headquarters on Thursday April 17th from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Attendees will enjoy educational displays by sponsors whose products or services enhance the quality of the life for people living with spinal cord injury of disease. Snacks and refreshments will be available all day, and we've planned for sunshine and warm weather so that everyone can check out and explore the latest in adaptive vans and other mobility products. Join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of the past and look forward to continue the mission while having the "Courage to Serve and the Passion to Lead!"



MICHIGAN PARALYZED  
VETERANS OF AMERICA  
A Member Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America  
40550 Grand River Avenue  
Novi, MI 48375

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March/April 2008