

VFW National Home for Children

Press Release

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Cooties Spread Christmas Cheer

Eaton Rapids, Mich. – Christmas came early for the kids at the VFW National Home for Children. From December 11-12, National Home residents celebrated Christmas with friends, family, lights, gifts and Mr. Claus himself.

On Friday evening, Santa, Mrs. Claus and his helpers from VFW District 8 of Michigan hopped aboard the National Home's fire trucks to deliver packages to all the children at the Home. The lights and sirens announced his arrival at each home bringing gifts and warm wishes for the holiday.

Christmas fun spilled into the following day as the National Home celebrated the annual Cootie Christmas festival and Florida "Picnic in the Snow" party. Children put on their Christmas best and the Cooties' endless Christmas cheer provided for a day of fun festivities. The annual program, held in the National Home's Community Center, featured a delicious meal, Christmas songs, and a craft sale.

Of course, the man in red stole the show, as only he can do, lighting the faces of the children and spreading his joy. The kids shrieked in excitement as Santa made his grand appearance. Santa handed out generous gifts from the Military Order of the Cootie, each child getting a turn to whisper into his ear what they wanted for Christmas.

This was the 81st year the Military Order of the Cootie and the Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary brought Christmas cheer to the families at the National Home. MOC Supreme Commander, Maurice Theriac and MOCA Supreme President, Pam Hamilton joined the MOC Grand of Michigan and MOC Grand of Florida leadership, along with Cooties from across the nation, to bring Christmas to the National Home residents.

The staff and residents of the VFW National Home greatly appreciate the warmth and friendship of such a special group of people. The children will forever hold the memories of this Christmas experience unique to the National Home.

Since 1925 the VFW National Home for Children has provided Help, Hope and Honor for the children and families of our nation's military and veterans. For more information please call (517) 663-1521, toll-free at (800) 424-8360 or visit www.vfnationalhome.org

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Help ★ Hope ★ Honor