

# VFW National Home for Children

## Press Release

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### **National Home Resident Selected for National Honor**

**Eaton Rapids, Mich.** – National Home resident Hunter Hammerschmidt has been selected by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary as the 2007-2008 Buddy Poppy Child. Hammerschmidt continues a 75-year tradition by representing the VFW National Home for Children at the VFW National Convention in Kansas City, Mo. on August 18-23.

The Buddy Poppy Child is selected annually from National Home residents between the ages of 6 and 12. Applicants write and record a speech about their interests, family and why they appreciate the opportunity to live at the National Home.

Eight-year-old Hammerschmidt is a member of the National Home's Single Parent Family Program with his mother and younger brother. He will begin third grade in September and continue his favorite subjects of gym and music. He is very active in hockey and enjoys playing with all the friends he has made at the National Home.

Hammerschmidt's responsibilities will include traveling to the VFW National Convention and the Military Order of the Cootie National Convention to present his speech, meeting organization members and participating in convention activities as a representative of the National Home. His year of service will end next summer.

Ten National Home residents will also attend the convention and serve as the opening act at the convention's Patriotic Rally. The National Home "Patriots Chorus" will perform before a crowd of more than 15,000 people.

Since 1922 the Veterans of Foreign Wars has held its annual poppy drive to raise money for needy and disabled veterans and their families. A portion of the proceeds benefits the privately funded National Home for Children. Each year since 1930, children from the National Home have been chosen as Buddy Poppy Children.

Since 1925 the VFW National Home for Children has been providing for the children and families of our nation's veterans, while at the same time serving as a living memorial to our nation's heroes. For more information on the National Home, please call (517) 663-1521, toll-free at (800) 424-8360 or visit [www.vfnationalhome.org](http://www.vfnationalhome.org).

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