

VFW National Home for Children

Press Release

3573 S. Waverly Road ~ Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 ~ vfwnationalhome.org

Contact: Sara Lyon
Public Relations Specialist
(517) 663-7012
slyon@vfwnationalhome.org

For Immediate Release
August 1, 2007

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Traveling Exhibit to Visit Local Children's Home

Eaton Rapids, Mich. – Tears, hugs and closure will be experienced at the VFW National Home for Children in Eaton Rapids. From August 9-13, the traveling exhibit known as The Moving Wall will stay on the campus of the non-profit children's home at 3573 S. Waverly Road, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827. The half-size traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial allows those who are unable to travel to Washington D.C. to see it in their own community, find the names of their loved ones and take as much time as they need to reflect on The Wall's meaning.

There is no admission fee to visit The Moving Wall which will be open to the public 24 hours daily from 2 p.m. August 9 until 8 a.m. August 13. Highlighted events include the opening ceremony on August 9 at 4 p.m. with keynote speaker James Goldsmith, Past VFW Commander-in-Chief; wreath laying ceremonies presented by veterans and other groups from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on August 11; and closing ceremonies on August 12 at 7 p.m. with guest speaker Jack Devine, National Vice President of Vietnam Veterans of America. Attached is an updated detailed schedule.

During The Moving Wall's stay there will be 24-hour honor guards on duty with 24-hour volunteer wall aides available to assist the public. There will also be an Information Tent to answer general questions from the public and to meet the needs of volunteers.

The Moving Wall will be escorted to the National Home on August 8 by area police departments and veteran motorcycle groups, including Rolling Thunder, Proud Veterans and Patriot Guard.

For more information, please call (800) 424-8360 or visit vfwnationalhome.org. Donations in support of this special event will be accepted by calling (866) 483-9642.

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.vfwnationalhome.org.

###

A Community of Promises Kept.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial
THE
MOVING WALL
at the VFW National Home for Children
3573 S. Waverly Rd., Eaton Rapids, MI 48827
www.vfwnationalhome.org ~ (800) 424-8360

- The Moving Wall, a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington DC, will be open to the public on the campus of the VFW National Home for Children from 2:00 pm August 9, 2007 through 8:00 am August 13, 2007.
- Honor Guards will guard the Moving Wall around the clock.
- A Directory of Names Tent will be staffed to assist visitors 24 hours daily.
- The Michigan Remembrance Wall will be featured in the Community Center Auditorium daily.
- Information Tent volunteers will provide general information and services to visitors and volunteers.
- National Home Field House and Community Center will be open for rest room facilities - 24 hours.

August 8 Wednesday

Wall escorted to the National Home by Rolling Thunder, Proud Veterans & Patriot Guard.
Arrival at National Home scheduled approx. 2:00 pm.

August 9 Thursday

Morning Volunteers and National Home staff set up the Moving Wall.
2:00 pm Wall open to the public.
4:00 pm Opening ceremony:

- Guest Speaker – James Goldsmith, Past Commander-in-Chief, VFW
- Wreath laying in Memory of Elgie Hanna, the only National Home alumnus killed in action in Vietnam. Mr. Hanna is buried in the National Home section of the Rosehill Cemetery in Eaton Rapids.

August 10 Friday

1:00 pm Reading of the names of casualties from Michigan begins.

August 11 Saturday

1:00 pm Wreath laying by Motorcycle groups & other civic organizations
3:00 pm Wreath laying by UAW Veterans Committees
5:00 pm Wreath laying by Veterans organizations – not limited to the following

American Gold Star Mothers	Non-Commissioned Officers Association
Gold Star Wives of America	Polish Legion of American Veterans
Blue Star Mothers	Veterans of Foreign Wars
American Legion	Vietnam Veterans of America
AmVets	American GI Forum
Catholic War Veterans	The Chosin Few
Disabled American Veterans	Military Officers Association of America
Jewish War Veterans	Women's Army Corps Veterans Association
Marine Corps League	Sons of the American Revolution
Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America	Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Military Order of the Purple Heart	Daughters of the American Revolution
	Michigan Association of County Veterans Counselors

August 12 Sunday

7:00 pm Closing Ceremony:
Guest Speaker – Jack Devine, National Vice President, Vietnam Veterans of America

August 13 Monday

8:00 am Volunteers and National Home staff disassemble The Wall for departure.

A Community of Promises Kept.