

March/April 2020
Volume 1 Issue 2



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Nevada Chapter

Thank you to SIOR for helping us put together our January Adopt-A-Vet Grocery bags and helping us deliver them to our veterans. Thank you also for the all the money your raised for this program..



A big thank you to MGM employees who came out in February to help fill grocery bags for our Adopt-A-Vet program.



Paralyzed Veterans of Nevada, Nevada Chapter

www.nevadapva.org

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Mission Statement

The mission of Nevada PVA is to improve the quality of life of U.S. military veterans and others who have spinal cord dysfunction through the use of adaptive sports, recreation, wellness programs, outreach, education, research and support.

Disclaimer

The Nevada Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America is a non-profit organization. We do not ask for or receive any money from any federal or state agencies. All of our funds are received mainly from donations. All members of the Paralyzed Veterans of America have sustained a spinal cord injury or disease. This newsletter is a publication of the Nevada chapter and is meant to inform its readers of Chapter activities, legislation, and other matters of concern to veterans and/or members of the disabled community. The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of Nevada PVA, its officers, board members, the editor or production staff.



President/Executive Director Report *by Dan Kaminski and Julie Johnson*



The Galileo Neuromuscular Fitness Program is up and running at the Southern NV VA Hospital.

As we stated in the last newsletter NV PVA purchased this equipment for the VA to help hundreds of veterans with improvement of circulation/spastic management/range of motion, increase bone mass, helping to prevent osteoporosis and so much more. A huge thanks to the Elks and the Nevada Veterans Foundation for their donations.

Our Adopt-A-Program has grown once again and we are now serving 130 veterans every month. Nevada PVA delivers to the veterans place of residence a weeks of food and a months of hygiene products (clothing when needed).

We rely on our amazing volunteers to fill the bags for Adopt-A-Vet every month. January we had the largest group to date, the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors. Thank you Patti Dillon for coordinating all these amazing people and a huge thanks for also raising \$5,750. In February we had a group of MGM employees who filled the bags. If you or your group would like to volunteer please give us a call.

This is a very busy time of year for us with weather being so nice March, April and May we have a lot of events happening so please check our calendar for more information on our Trapshoot, Pistol shoot, General Membership & Awards Banquet, Walk, Run & Roll 5k, Open House, and Day at the Lake on pontoon boats. The KT Wellness group, which we sponsor, has lots of outings coming up as well. They will be going to the Springs Preserve, Neon Museum, Pinball Hall of Fame, and the Hollywood Car Museum.

Happy St. Patrick's Day, Happy Spring, Happy Easter,

Happy Paralyzed Veterans of America April Awareness Month

Upcoming Events

March 13-15	Annual Trapshoot
April 4	General Membership Meeting
April 18	Walk, Run and Roll
April 23	Open House
May 2	Annual Fishing Trip

Public Awareness Month

As stated above, April is Public Awareness Month for PVA, come out to join us for any or all of our events and help celebrate and bring awareness to our chapter.

Sports Report

By Mike Romanowski

The Las Vegas Silver Bandits wheelchair basketball team, supported by Nevada PVA and the City of Las Vegas Parks & Rec, held two wheelchair basketball tournaments at Dula Gymnasium in Las Vegas.

The first tournament was the inaugural January Jackpot, and was held January 11-12 and featured the Silver Bandits, Tucson Lobos, Michigan Drive, Possibilities Rolling Bears, Seattle Sonics and CSULB Flying Wheels. The Silver Bandits fought hard and came away with the tourney championship on points after finishing with a 2-2 record.

The second tournament, the inaugural Full Court February, was held February 1-2 and featured the Silver Bandits, Tacoma Titans, Possibilities Rolling Bears, Portland Rolling Blazers and CSULB Flying Wheels. The Silver Bandits once again finished 3-2 and beat the eventual tournament champs, the Possibilities Rolling Bears.

There is still time to register for our Pistol and Trapshoot. You can come out to the range the day of and sign up.

You can sign up for our 5K, Walk, Run and Roll by going to our website and clicking the registration button. We are also offering a Groupon for this event so you can click on that link before signing up.

We will also be hosting our annual fishing trip on Lake Mead on May 2nd. Keep an eye out for details or you can call the office to sign up. We get a group fishing license so you don't have to get one yourselves. We supply the fishing equipment, as well as bait, lunch and drinks. Don't miss out.

Justice of ALS Veterans Act of 2019

by Jason McDonald, NSO

House Resolution 4748 was introduced on October 18, 2019 by U.S. Representatives Gilbert R Cisneros Jr (California) and Brian Fitzpatrick (Pennsylvania). This Resolution is being proposed to extend the benefits for dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) to surviving spouse of veterans who die from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

Under current law a higher rate of DIC, also known as a kicker, is only payable to the surviving spouse if the Veteran was rated totally disabled for a continuous period of at least eight years immediately preceding death and the surviving spouse must have also been married to the Veteran for the entire eight year period.

Unfortunately, due to the rapid progression of ALS, the average survival time is three years making it nearly impossible for a vast majority of the Veterans to live long enough to meet the current eligibility requirements. "Survivors should not be denied a benefit others receive simply because the service-connected disease their Veterans acquired made it nearly impossible for them to meet an eight-year life expectancy requirement," said Heather Ansley, PVA's Associate Executive Director of Government Relations.

This bill has not been passed or voted on as of you. To track the status of the proposed legislation you can visit <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4748/text?r=19&s=1>. Please contact your representatives office and encourage them to support this bill.

1st District	Dina Titus	202/225-5965
2nd District	Mark Amodei	202/225-6155
3rd District	Susie Lee	202/225-3252
4th District	Steven Horsford	202/225-9894

Advocacy/Legislation

During March PVA Advocacy & Legislative representatives will travel to Capitol Hill to meet with representatives on topics of great importance to our veterans. Some of the topics to be covered are listed below:

Protect Access to VA's Specialized Services

Improve Access to VA's Long Term Services and Supports

Access to IVF

Care for Women Veterans with SCI/D

Benefits Improvement for Catastrophically Disabled Veterans

Benefits for the Surviving Spouses of Catastrophically Disabled Veterans

Improve Access to Air Travel for Passengers with Disabilities

Protect and Increase Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Preserve and Strengthen Financial and Health Security for People with Disabilities

Disaster Response and Recovery that Meets the Needs of People with Disabilities

For more information on these issues go to our website www.nevadapva.org and look at the January Washington Report.

MORE AGENT ORANGE LOCATIONS REVEALED

In January, VA released an updated Department of Defense list of locations outside of Vietnam and inside the US where tactical herbicides were used, tested, or stored. This update was intended to improve the accuracy and communication of information for disability claims of herbicide exposure in response to a Government Accountability Office 2018 report. Locations listed in the United States are Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, New York, Texas, Tennessee, and Utah. Additional countries where these tactical herbicides were used include Cambodia, Canada, India, Johnston Atoll, Korea, Laos, and Thailand. If you feel you may qualify for benefits due to exposure, we encourage you to contact your [NSO](#) for assistance in filing a claim.

**NATIONAL CRISIS HOTLINE 1/800-273-8255
VETERANS PRESS 1**

Step Outside Program

On February 1st my wife and I went to Red Lobster for their Lobsterfest. Lobsterfest is great every year and a great bonus of lobster lovers. *Taylor Bocclair*



A promotional poster for the National Veterans Wheelchair Games 40th Anniversary. The background is a dark, textured checkered pattern. In the upper left is a circular logo with a stylized figure in a wheelchair. To its right, the text "NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES" is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below this, a blue banner contains the text "40TH ANNIVERSARY" in white. The central figure is a man with a beard and tattoos, wearing a blue athletic shirt and a white helmet, sitting in a wheelchair and raising his right fist in a celebratory gesture. At the bottom, the dates "JULY 3-8, 2020" and location "Portland, OR" are displayed in large white letters. To the right of the location is the website "WheelchairGames.org". Below the dates, it says "Co-Presented by:" followed by the logos of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Paralyzed Veterans of America.

NATIONAL VETERANS
**WHEELCHAIR
GAMES**

40TH ANNIVERSARY

JULY 3-8, 2020
Portland, OR • WheelchairGames.org

Co-Presented by:

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Paralyzed Veterans of America

**January Adopt-A-Vet
Society of Industrial and Office Realtors**



February Adopt-A-Vet MGM Employees





March

Ben F. Keechler	04
Robert (Wes) Jensen	05
William D. Burns	13
Jerry D. Bench	13
Ramon W. Collins	17
Michael R. Romanowski	17
Darryl L. Garnett	18
Jose L. Gonzalez	19
Josephine B. Owens	19
Darrin X. Newland	20
Stanley E. Smith	21
Douglas N. Nagoshi	22
Alan K. Marsh	24
Laverne Wood	27
Marc A. Fenn	28
R. Chris W. Christensen	31



April

Gary D. Price	01
Randal E. Slutz	03
Larry R. Freezor	05
Lawrence E. Brown	09
Jason L. Mullholland	11
Edwin G. Collins	12
Brad J. Whiting	13
Roger E. Dauffenbach	14
Robert G. Jones	17
Terry R. Christian	22
Jeanette Miller	24
William F. Geller	27

The person who says it cannot be done should not interrupt the person who is doing it. *Chinese Proverb*

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Veterans Transportation Service (VTS)

Veterans can schedule transportation through their VA primary Care Provider or by calling the VTS office at 1/844-859-5074. Please schedule transportation ahead of your appointment time.

Help Support Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America

Our organization number is **YY152**



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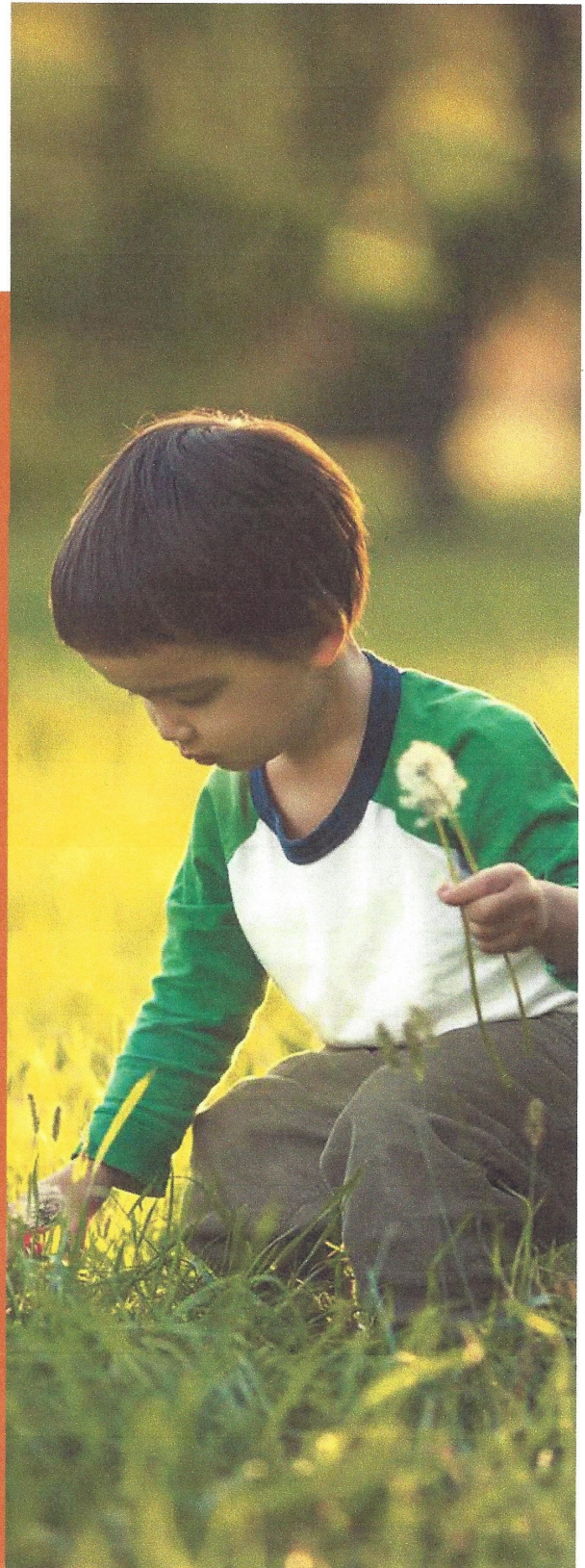
Helpful Information

What purchases qualify?

Just about everything you purchase during your regular shopping trips! The only exclusions are alcohol, tobacco, postage stamps, Smith's Gift Cards, re-loadable Gift Cards and debit cards, lottery and promotional tickets, Western Union, fuel and sales tax.

Remember, there's no cost to participate in this program, and you'll still earn fuel points on eligible purchases every time you shop.

*0.5% based on eligible purchases.
See Helpful Information for exclusions.





The ReWalk Exoskeleton-Suited for Your Mission



Retired Army Sergeant Terry Vereline crosses the finish line of the 2019 New York City Marathon after walking 26.2 miles in her ReWalk Exoskeleton. She received this device in 2014 and has used it to take nearly 1,000,000 steps in the past five years.

**Did You Know That
Paralyzed US Veterans
May be Eligible For a
ReWalk Exoskeleton?**

**Contact ReWalk for
More Information**

**rewalk.com/contact
or 508.251.1154 Option 2**

What is *Your* Mission?

Whether your goals include experiencing the proven health-related benefits of exoskeleton assisted walking, standing to hug a loved one or completing an entire marathon, ReWalk can help you achieve them.

ReWalk Robotics
200 Donald Lynch Boulevard,
Marlborough, MA 01752
www.rewalk.com



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Thank You!

Donor Spotlight **MGM Resorts Foundation**

Thank you for your generous grant for our Adopt-A-Vet Program

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Make a donation today!

Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization.

Tax ID #31-1647467. Your gift is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Donations can be made in any amount. They will accumulate from January 1—December 31. Donors will be printed in our monthly newsletter unless otherwise requested. To make a donation go online to www.nevadapva.org or call 702-646-0040.

Community Partners

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Heaven Can Wait Animal Society

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Smith's

Race 2 Erase 22

The Dana and Christopher Reeve Foundation

The Grand Canyon Tour Company

The NV Energy Foundation

Total Wine & More

United Way of Southern Nevada

Walmart Foundation



Las Vegas VA Medical Center Locations

Mailing Address: VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System, 6900 North Pecos Road, North Las Vegas, NV 89086

Main Number: 702-791-9000 **Toll-Free Phone:** 1-888-633-7554 **VA Pharmacy:** 702-791-9076

Toll-Free Nurse Advice Line: 1-877-252-4866

	Northeast Primary Care Clinic 4461 East Charleston Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89104	702-791-9050
	Northwest Primary Care Clinic 3968 North Rancho Drive North Las Vegas, NV 89130	702-791-9020
	Pahrump Community Based Outpatient Clinic 2100 East Calvada Boulevard Pahrump, NV 89048	775-727-7535
	Southeast Primary Care Clinic 1020 South Boulder Highway Henderson, NV 89015	702-791-9030
	Southwest Primary Care Clinic 7235 South Buffalo Drive Las Vegas, NV 89113	702-791-9040
	Community Resource and Referral Center 926 West Owens Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89106	702-791-9077
	Mike O'Callaghan Federal Medical Center 4700 North Las Vegas Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89115	702-653-2227
		EMERGENCY CARE ONLY
	Psychosocial Rehab Recovery Center 3525 W. Cheyenne Avenue North Las Vegas, NV 89032	702-791-9060
	Vet Center - Las Vegas 1919 South Jones Boulevard, Suite A Las Vegas, NV 89146	702-251-7873
	Vet Center - Henderson 400 North Stephanie Street, Suite 180 Henderson, NV 89014	702-791-9100
	Women's Health Center Temporarily at Northeast PCC 4461 East Charleston Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89104	702-791-9050

Getting Paralyzed Veterans Walking Again with Indego®



New VA Program offers eligible veterans an Indego® Exoskeleton at no cost.

What is Indego?

A robotic device that enables veterans to walk again.

Indego is an FDA-approved exoskeleton worn around the waist and legs that enables individuals paralyzed from spinal cord injuries to stand and walk, offering a new level of independence.

Indego can currently be used with spinal cord injury levels of T3 to L5 in community or home settings. The device offers:

- Lightweight, modular design
- Slim profile compatible with most wheelchairs
- Rapid setup and breakdown for easy transportation
- Can be used with forearm crutches or walker

Contact us today to find out if you are eligible to receive an Indego exoskeleton.

Email: support.indego@parker.com

Phone: 844-846-3346



Watch Marine Veteran Steve Holbert's story at www.indego.com/veterans



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