



For Immediate Release

**Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to Support
the 28th National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Omaha**

OMAHA – March 6, 2008— Volunteers at the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System have been hard at work planning a spaghetti dinner fundraiser to help raise money and generate awareness for the 28th National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Omaha. The dinner will be held at the Great Plains Paralyzed Veterans of America building located at 7612 Maple St. on Sunday April 6, 2008 from 4-7p.m.

All spaghetti dinner proceeds will directly benefit the National Veterans Wheelchair Games. It is being planned to help Omaha put on a first class event for those who have served our country. Local grocery stores are helping make the event possible by supplying food and other items to support the dinner.

The dinner is open to the public, and will include activities for the whole family. Children can enjoy the moon walk, and there will be a raffle basket auction full of items from area businesses. All proceeds go to the Wheelchair Games. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children ages 3-12. Children under 3 are free.

The National Veterans Wheelchair Games, set to take place July 25-29 at the Qwest Center and other area venues, is a competitive sports event for our nation's veterans who use wheelchairs. It brings together rehabilitation, rigorous competition and camaraderie. One of its goals is for the experienced athletes to serve as mentors to the newly injured veterans and help them learn the many benefits of wheelchair sports. It also helps the new competitors focus on what they have left, and not what they have lost.

More than 500 wheelchair athletes are expected to attend the event in Omaha, coming from across the United States, Puerto Rico and Great Britain. This multi-event sports program is open to military service veterans who use wheelchairs due to spinal cord injuries, amputations, certain neurological conditions, or other mobility impairments. Representing every branch of service, the veterans attending served from WWII to the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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National Veterans Wheelchair Games



2/2/2/2 Spaghetti Dinner to Support 2008 Veterans Wheelchair Games in Omaha

The 2008 National Veterans Wheelchair Games are being hosted in Omaha by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System and the Great Plains Paralyzed Veterans of America. Now in its 28th year, the event is being held in Nebraska for the first time this July. It is the largest annual wheelchair sports competition in the world.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Lindsay Woracek at (402) 995-5773; or by e-mail at Lindsay.Woracek@va.gov.

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