



River City Daily

Newsletter of the 32nd National Veterans Wheelchair Games

Presented by the Department of Veterans Affairs and Paralyzed Veterans of America

Rollin' in Richmond

The Richmond VA Medical Center and the Virginia Mid-Atlantic Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America are thrilled to host, for the second time in our city, the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, June 25-30, 2012.

This summer, the National Veterans Wheelchair Games return to Richmond where they began 31 years ago on the medical center campus.

Known for its "Virginia is for Lovers" slogan, the state possesses a rich American history, offers a number of scenic nature venues, beautiful art, theater, shopping, delicious cuisine, sports and much more! Virginians are equally well known for their hospitality. National Veterans Wheelchair Games athletes, volunteers, organizers, friends and families should expect no less than the best the city of Richmond offers, along with beaming smiles, cheerful greetings and warm welcomes.

The Greater Richmond Convention Center (GRCC) will serve as the hub of activity for your weeklong stay. GRCC, the state's largest exposition and meeting facility, is one of the most desirable meeting destinations in the Mid-Atlantic region.

During your stay in our capital city, you can indulge your artistic side with visits to the Virginia Fine Arts Museum, the Edgar Allan Poe Museum or the Science Museum of Richmond. Other nearby attractions include The Diamond, a

venue that hosts professional and collegiate baseball, the Virginia State Capitol Building and Virginia War Memorial.

We also have a wide variety of restaurants in our Shockoe Bottom and Carytown communities, close to where the Games will take place. After a delicious meal, you can visit quaint shops to experience our small-town atmosphere.

For the sports fan, Richmond is home to two arena football teams and the Flying Squirrels, a minor league baseball team. And we are, of course, proud basketball fans, being home to the Virginia Commonwealth University men's team (back-to-back NCAA tournaments appearances) and the University of Richmond (in the Sweet 16 last year).

We are very proud to host the Games and excited to share Richmond's history, beauty and hospitality with National Veterans Wheelchair Games athletes, coaches, volunteers and staff!



Science Museum



Edgar Allan Poe Museum

Monday, June 25
Games Kick-off • State Capitol

Wednesday, June 27
Block Party • Science Museum
The Museum has permanent exhibitions on health, energy and natural science and includes hundreds of interactive exhibits, fascinating artifacts, live animals, a theater company and cutting edge technology. The IMAX®DOME creates the ultimate "you are there" experience with the largest film screen in Virginia wrapped around you.

Saturday, June 30,
Handcycling Race • Monument Ave.
Cheer on the athletes racing down Monument Avenue, one of America's most beautiful boulevards. Monument Avenue is the only street in the United States designated a National Historic Landmark. It runs through the heart of Richmond's historic Fan District. A tree-lined grassy mall divides east and west-bound sides of the street and is punctuated by statues memorializing Virginian Confederate participants of the Civil War Robert E. Lee, J.E.B. Stuart, Jefferson Davis, Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, and two additional Richmond natives "Father of the Seas" Matthew Fontaine Maury, and Arthur Ashe, an international tennis star.

And more to come!

Mark Your Calendars!



The Diamond

Venue Update - Hello, athletes!

We're in full swing preparing for this summer's Wheelchair Games and can't wait for you to join the returning athletes as well as newcomers.

We've already settled on all our venues and are now working on maximizing accessibility and spectator views, and getting all the athletic equipment ready for your arrival in June.

Most indoor events, such as air guns, nine-ball, quad rugby, slalom, power soccer, basketball, table tennis and weight lighting will take place at the Greater Richmond Convention Center in the heart of downtown. Outdoor events will be held at various locations around the city.

Event list:

- Archery - Dorey Park, Henrico County
- Bowling - AMF Hanover Lanes, Hanover County
- Swimming - Greater Richmond Aquatic Partnership, Chesterfield County
- Track Events - Sports Backers, City of Richmond
- Field events at Mary Munford Park, City of Richmond
- Hand Cycling event - historic Monument Avenue, City of Richmond
- Motor Rally - campus of our medical facility, McGuire VA Medical Center



Wednesday, June 27, 2012 • 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Sports Backers Stadium

The Kids Day event will take place Wednesday, June 27, as part of the 32nd National Veterans Wheelchair Games. Kids Day offers children from the Richmond area with physical disabilities an opportunity to interact with the many athletes competing in the Games. Under the guidance of these experienced athlete mentors, the children learn about and participate in adaptive sports activities. This year's events include basketball, slalom and t-ball.

Kids Day promotes a fun and active everyday lifestyle to children with physical disabilities while engendering important life skills such as teamwork and determination. Veteran athlete mentors will present the children with medals for participating in this year's Kids Day event.

Kids Day is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required for children to participate. Register Today!

To register for Kids Day, please contact:

Alan Lombardo at Alan.Lombardo@va.gov or (804) 675-5897
Sheila Skipper at sheilas@pva.org or (202) 416-7654



SPOTLIGHT

Name: Joann Jackson
Event Medical Support & Suites Coordinator

In her words.....

Five years ago I watched the closing ceremonies of the National Veterans Wheelchair Games on video. From that moment I knew I had to be a part of this amazing event. My desire is now being realized. During the 32nd NVWG, I have the honor of being a co-chair on the Medical Committee. In this role, I am working with a team to organize all of the clinics providing the medical needs of the participating athletes. There will be clinics, staffed with nurses and a physician, at each event. Each clinic will provide first aid and other medical concerns as needed.

Being a volunteer at the NVWG is a great opportunity. I am honored to be a part of the medical team and to be of service to the participants of the 32nd NVWG.

Richmond Games on the Web



www.wheelchairgames.va.gov



www.pva.org/nvwwg



www.va.gov/adaptivesports/



<http://twitter.com/#!/VAAdaptiveSport>

<http://twitter.com/#!/PVA1946>