

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Men's organization founded in 1882 on the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. The Knights of Columbus has grown from several members in one council to more than 14,000 councils and 1.8 million members throughout the world. The Knights of Columbus work in their local communities with organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Life Blood, Neighbors helping Neighbors, American Association on Mental Retardation, Fayette Cares, and the American Wheelchair Mission Organization. In the past decade, the Knights of Columbus has donated more than \$1.325 billion to charity, and provided nearly 626 million hours of volunteer service in support of charitable initiatives.

This year, Council 14482, out of Somerville, TN, in conjunction with other West Tennessee and Memphis area Knights of Columbus councils and assemblies, are organizing a concert to raise money to purchase wheelchairs for veterans. The concert will be on Friday April 30, 2010 at 7:30 pm (doors open at 7:00 pm). The concert will be held at The Bartlett Performing Arts and Conference Center. The concert will feature RCA & Sun Records Recording artist, the original Great Ball of Fire, Jason D. Williams. Jason's style is described as Rockabilly; Boogie Woogie; Roots of Rock & Roll; Americana. The opening act will feature the talents of the powerful guitarists with a compelling soulful voice of Preston Shannon. Tickets will cost twenty-nine dollars.

This fundraising event is very important to the West Tennessee area. If this event can raise \$16,500, the price of one container of wheelchairs, then 110 wheelchairs will be delivered, this year, to the Memphis Veterans Medical Center. In the past two years, over 2,000 wheelchairs – with a total value of \$1 million – were donated to veterans in selected cities across the country. This year, there is an opportunity for the West Tennessee community to honor the men and women that serve our country and our community of West Tennessee.

There are several opportunities for the West Tennessee Community to help. The community can purchase tickets and/or make donation by contacting the Knights of Columbus member listed below. Also, The Knights of Columbus are looking for corporate sponsors and partners to purchase advertising space. Members of our community can support our veterans by contacting:

Jim Alberding
(901) 465-0036
E-mail: Jimalberding@att.net

For more information about the Knights of Columbus Wheelchairs for Veterans program, go to: <http://www.kofc.org/un/eb/en/news/releases/detail/496526.html>