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U-CAN NEWSLETTER

June 2024

Hello,

June is just around the corner with the official start of summer coming -June 20th.

I love this time of year when we gather for graduations, family reunions, weddings,

summer BBQ’s and being outdoors!

There are lots of summer activities to check out, **U-CAN** has 2 events planned:

**Motown Museum Tour, Sunday, July 21, 2024, Detroit MI.**

**Toledo Mudhens Game, Sunday, September 8, 2024.**

Family and friends are welcome!

To learn more about these events and others, visit the **Upcoming Events** Section

at the end of the newsletter.

Need information on how to apply for a disability placard. Visit the Secretary of

State website for all the information on what you need to apply;

<https://www.michigan.gov/sos/all-services/disability-parking-placard>

**Fun Michigan Summer Events and Activities….**

Looking to get out and enjoy the warm Michigan summer! There are lots of fun

outdoor activities around the state! Visit the website for more information;

<https://www.michigan.org/events>

***Act of Kindness story…***

Michigan Woman set to celebrate her first Mother’s Day at home since emerging

from a five-year coma, CBS News, May 10, 2024;

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/michigan-woman-5-year-coma-first-mothers-day-at-home-jennifer-flewellen-peggy-means/>

How compassion, not just free tuition, helped one Ohio student achieve his

College dreams, CBS News, May 17, 2024;

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/compassion-hope-toledo-chris-rowland-pete-kadens-college/>

***And now for a few laughs….***

Enjoy this sketch from SNL from 2015 titled, “Star Wars: The force Awakens Teaser,”

From NBC and posted to youtube;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCXkgFjfr9M>

**U-CAN Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 4, 2024, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Los**

**Amigos Mexican Restaurant, 2851 E. Michigan Ave, Ypsilanti Charter Twp, 48198.**

The Reservation is under Carla/U-CAN for the outdoor covered patio (rain or shine

we will be protected).

**Please note the meeting will only be held in-person only.**

**Zoom will return for the July 2, 2024 meeting.**

**Take a look ahead….**

**July 2- Ice cream social, group discussion**

**August 6- UM Adaptive Sports & Fitness**

**September 3- Katherine Voorhorst, physical therapist from UM MedRehab**

**Quote for the month**: “Health is the greatest gift, contentment the greatest wealth,

faithfulness the best relationship”- Buddha

**Articles**

* Key findings from the Hanger Institute for clinical research and education annual report, May 8, 2024 (the findings are helpful for amputees and clinicians) ; <https://livingwithamplitude.com/hanger-institute-amputee-clinical-data-annual-report/>
* Connecticut bill to lower wheelchair repair wait times gets passed in Senate, May 8, 2024; <https://ctmirror.org/2024/05/08/ct-wheelchair-repair-time-bill/>
* Update to article from May Newsletter, the 2024 Easter Seals Disability Challenge winners were announced on May 10th. Here is the list of winners with 2 of them being amputees, variety.com, May 10, 2024;

<https://variety.com/2024/film/news/easterseals-disability-film-challenge-2024-winners-1235998827/>

* Do E-bike bans violate amputees’ rights, livingwithamplitude.com, May 15, 2024; <https://livingwithamplitude.com/amputee-disability-rights-ada-ebikes-mackinac-island-michigan/>
* Naturally occurring substance found in pomegranates can improve Alzheimer’s disease, sciencedaily.com, May 22, 2024; <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2024/05/240522130313.htm>
* Scientists learn how to control muscles with light, sciencedaily.com, May 22, 2024; <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2024/05/240522225156.htm>
* How AI and bionics are helping Ukranian soldiers return to action, cnn.com, May 22, 2024; <https://edition.cnn.com/2024/05/22/tech/how-ai-and-bionics-are-helping-ukrainian-soldiers-return-to-action/index.html>
* When the doctor wears a prosthesis, livingwithamplitude.com, May 29, 2024; <https://livingwithamplitude.com/alexandra-capellini-amputee-doctor-compassion/>

**Research Corner**

* ***University of Illinois PHD student*** is studying how users of prosthetic limbs choose and

adapt to their prostheses.

Participant Requirements:

* Over 18 years of age
* Speak English
* Have used 3+ prosthestic limbs in your lifetime
* Be willing to share photos of prostheses (2 minimum)

Participation involves a 2-hour interview via phone or video chat (ex. Zoom) where we will

discuss the process of choosing and adapting to new prostheses.

Participants will be reimbursed $40 for their time and additional $10 for providing

feedback.

For questions or to learn more about this study, please contact:

Marty Health

Email: [mheath6@uic.edu](mailto:mheath6@uic.edu)

Steven Jones

Email: [sjones@uic.ed](mailto:sjones@uic.ed)

* ***An Eastern Michigan University Orthotics and Prosthetics Master's student*** is examining

the effects of physical activity habits among those with limb loss / limb difference have on

their ability to perform different activities.

Some of these activities will be standard tasks such as walking on a level ground & cleaning

the house. Other questions will be more specific such as the ability to run or do yard work.

The study will be completed in survey format. The survey will be completed in Google

Forms and is completely anonymous. The information you provide will be compared to

other anonymous responses to identify correlations and trends.

Participation is completely voluntary and can be terminated at any point in the survey; <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1X7JZqpv45b219yOCs1j8xnVWLsxoFUWZ4_Na1SNBAgo/viewform?edit_requested=true>

For questions or to learn more about this project, please contact:

Noah Krichau

Email: [nkrichau@emich.edu](mailto:nkrichau@emich.edu)

* ***University of Michigan Research Center for Group Dynamics*** is working on gathering small focus groups of **wheelchair users** to learn about experiences and challenges of mobility with chairs, particularly when outside.

They are looking into at possible technological features and designs that could be added in the future and what would be useful to wheelchair users.

Participation Requirements:

* Wheelchair user
* Know how to use Zoom

Each focus group will take place for an hour or one-and-a-half hour sessions and will be

conducted **remotely via Zoom.**  Only one session is required.

Participants will be reimbursed $50 for an hour session or $75 for a 90- minute session.

Payment can be by check or by Amazon.com e-gift certificate.

For questions or to learn more about this project, please contact:

Dr. David Dunning

Phone: 734-763-0063

Email: [ddunning@umich.edu](mailto:ddunning@umich.edu)

* ***Undergrad students at the University of Chicago*** are currently working with the Polsky

Center on a research project that is aiming to improve prosthetic usability.

They would like to hear about your experiences with your prosthetic devices- what are

your likes/ dislikes, how can the devices be improved upon, etc.

Participation Requirements:

* Age 18 years or older
* One or more amputation
* Complete a 5-10 minute survey online;

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ljZiJWps7eFCzr8Vo1oO2lLXtsBDon3g8kCItBgin1c/viewform?edit_requested=true>

For questions or to learn more about this project, please contact:

Katja Edwards

Email: [katjae@uchicago.edu](mailto:katjae@uchicago.edu)

Phone: 312-894-9066

* ***The Veterans Health Administration*** is conducting research on how well upper limb

prosthetic users can do everyday activities and comparing the abilities of people who use

different types of prosthetic systems. The study will provide evidence to help consumers

and clinicians make informed choices about upper limb devices.

Participation Requirements:

* 18 years of age or older
* Ability to understand English
* Have a unilateral, upper limb amputation at the transhumeral, elbow disarticulation, transradial, or wrist disarticulation levels
* Have a body powered, myoelectric or hybrid prosthesis that fits and is in good working condition

Participants will be reimbursed for their study visit time and effort as well as travel

expenses and accommodations.

For questions or to learn more about this study, please contact:

John Davey

Phone: 401-273-7100 X16535

* ***The University of Michigan*** ***Powered Prosthetic Lab Research*** is looking for volunteers to

participate in research studying the design and control of powered prosthetic legs.

This research studies the design & control of powered prosthetic legs and will help new

prosthetics improve quality of life.

Participation Requirements:

* Age 18 – 70 years old
* Single AK (above knee) amputation

Participants will be compensated $40 an hour for their time.

Testing sessions will take place on the University of Michigan North Campus.

Testing includes walking, stair climbing, sit-stand, and other lower-limb activities in a

laboratory environment.

For questions or to learn more about this study, please contact:

Robert Gregg, Professor

Email: [rdgregg@umich.edu](mailto:rdgregg@umich.edu)

Phone: 734-763-1156

* ***Michigan Medicine*** is currently collaborating with MedStar Health Research Institute and

The Curtis Hand Center in Baltimore on a clinical trial evaluating a new surgical method to

Treat neuroma pain.

Participation Requirements:

* Age 18 years or older
* Suffer from chronic pain from a previously amputated finger or other part of hand

Participants will agree to be randomized to one of two surgical groups to treat neuroma

Pain, will also answer questionnaires and take health measurements to record blood

pressure and heart rate.

To learn more about this research study, click on the link below;

<https://www.medstarhealth.org/blog/neuroma-research-rpni>

For questions or for more information about this study, please contact:

Jenni Hamill, study coordinator

Email: [jenberry@med.umich.edu](mailto:jenberry@med.umich.edu)

* ***The University of Michigan has created an Orthotic & Prosthetic Registry***. This is a simple way to connect interested research participants with as many researchers at UM as possible.

Participation requirements:

* 18 years or older
* Currently use an orthotic and/or prosthetic device

If you are interested, please fill out a short survey that is stored in a secure database and

your information will only be accessible by UM research groups. These groups will then

contact you if you are eligible for any future studies. To sign up, please visit the link;

<https://redcapproduction.umms.med.umich.edu/surveys/?s=K4JE8F94TY>

For more information, please contact:

Deanna Gates

Phone: (734) 647-2698

Email: [gatesd@umich.edu](mailto:gatesd@umich.edu)

For a listing of all the current medical specific and/or amputee clinical trials all over the

U.S., visit the WCG CenterWatch website and use the drop-down menu to type in location

(to see if there is a study in your area); <https://www.centerwatch.com/clinical-trials>

**Upcoming Events**

* **U-CAN is hosting 2 Events this summer:**

**Motown Museum Tour, Sunday, July 21, 2024, Detroit MI.**

Cost- $20.00 per person, kids 4 years & younger are free.

Space is limited to 30 people.

Carpool is available, leaving from UM Orthotic & Prosthetic Center

Reservations are required and payment is due no later than July 1, 2024.

**Toledo Mudhens Game (AAA Affiliate of the Detroit Tigers), Sunday, September 8, 2024,**

**Toledo, Ohio.**

Cost is $11.00 per person and includes transportation and a goodie bag for the bus ride.

They give out lots of free giveaways and entertainment throughout the game.

Seats are covered, along the 1st base line and accessible seating is available upon request.

Reservations are required and payment is due no later than August 14, 2024.

For information on what you can bring into the ballpark, visit the website:

<https://www.milb.com/toledo/ballpark/gate-and-bag-policy>

Family and friends are welcome to all events!

**Cash and Checks made out to Michigan Medicine are accepted forms of payment.**

For questions, to make a reservation or for more information, please contact:

Carla Vollmer, 734-975-7432

Email: [cvollmer@med.umich.edu](mailto:cvollmer@med.umich.edu)

* **Dance Mobility- Amputee and wheelchair Ballroom Dance class will be held on Saturday, June 1,2024 from 11:00 am -12:30 pm at the Fred Astaire Dance Studio, 2172, Franklin Rd, Bloomfield Hills.** The classes are free but you must register in advance to attend. Participants are welcome to bring their own dance partner or be paired with a volunteer. For more information or to register, please call: 248-454-1715.

* **University of Michigan Adaptive Sports & Inclusive Sports Experience (UMAISE) has their summer events schedule posted, these include:** Adaptive Kayaking, adaptive fishing, yoga in the park, handcycling and hiking club. For more information or to register for these events, please visit the website; <https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/pmr/patient-care/therapeutic-other-services/umaise-university-michigan-adaptive-inclusive-sports-experience/offered-programs>
* **Adaptive MOGO is back and open till October 26, 2024.** Adaptive MoGo offers cycling options for riders of all abilities, accommodating a wide range of rider needs. With 17 cycles including recumbent tricycles, upright cargo tricycles, hand tricycles, tandem bicycles, tandem tricycles, side-by-side quadricycles, and a box-bike. There are two locations, each with their own hours and inventory of cycles; Detroit Riverwalk and Ferndale. For more information on how to reserve a bike, for hours and cost, please visit the website;

<https://mogodetroit.org/mogo-for-all/adaptive-mogo/>

* **Michigan Adaptive Sports is hosting 3 Adaptive Kayak Clinics throughout the summer at Independence Oaks County Park, 9501 Sashabaw Rd, Village of Clarkston, MI 4834:**

June 28, July 26 & August 16.

Cost is $35 /Member, $45/ Non-Member

For more information, contact: Brook Hall: [Brooke.miadaptivesports@gmail.com](mailto:Brooke.miadaptivesports@gmail.com)

* **Move United**, the nation’s largest network of community-based adaptive sports & recreation organizations released it’s competitions for the 2024 year- 35 total in 24 states and Michigan will be hosting 2 of them:

**Thunder in the Valley Games in Bridgeport, MI** Archery, para powerlifting, shooting, and track & field Michigan, hosted by *Sports Unlimited, Inc*, **May 31- June 2, 2024.**

For more information, contact: Mary Kunz, [gemgirl1873@gmail.com](mailto:gemgirl1873@gmail.com), 989-225-0545

**2024 Miller Family Open, June 28-June 30th, hosted by the University of Michigan Adaptive Sports & Fitness.**

For more information, please visit the website; <https://rsvp.umich.edu/event/24MillerFamilyOpen/summary>

Contact: Erik Robeznieks, [erikrob@umich.edu](mailto:erikrob@umich.edu)

Phone: 734-358-0038

* **Michigan Amputee Golf, June 26, July 26-28, and August 16, 2024.** For more information about these events please visit the website; <https://www.maga.golf/events>
* **Lucky Fin Project Weekend, July 26-28, 2024, Embassy Suites by Hilton Detroit Troy Auburn Hills.** General Admission is $20, children under 24 months are free. The Weekend will include family friendly activities, special guests, catered lunch, live entertainment, silent auction and music! Children 24 months and younger Free. For more information or to register for this event, please visit the website;

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lucky-fin-project-weekend-2024-tickets-874135602117>

* **Step Up 5K Fun Run, for people of all ability levels, August 3, 2024, Frankenmuth, MI.** For more information about this event, please visit the website;

<https://www.bremerprosthetics.com/5k>

* **Amputee Coalition National Conference, August 8-10th, 2024, Hyatt Regency Atlanta, GA.** Registration is open and for first time attendees can apply for a scholarship that will pay for your registration. For more information about this event, visit the website;

<https://web.cvent.com/event/58aadbcc-aa31-4131-bb2e-0805995e8606/websitePage:cf593ef0-d788-4686-9cf4-bde9435cf572?rp=e5c678f2-95a5-4da5-94df-2d0ca230f4a3>

* **First World Sanctioned USA Para Dance Sport Competition held August 10-11th, 2024 Detroit-Dearborn, MI**. For more information about this event, please contact:

Cheryl Angelelli at [dancemobility@rimfoundation.org](mailto:dancemobility@rimfoundation.org)

Katie Spillane at [kspillane@rimfoundation.org](mailto:kspillane@rimfoundation.org)

* **Mary Free Bed has a list of summer events and clinics held throughout the summer**. To find out more information, please visit their website;

<https://maryfreebed.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/maryfreebed/eventList.jsp>

Be safe and welcome to summer!

Carla & Brittany