

MAY 11, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President will greet the Multiple Sclerosis Mother and Father of the Year in the Oval Office at 12 noon.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society annually selects the multiple sclerosis mother and father of the year.

The selection is traditionally made prior to the kickoff of the Multiple Sclerosis Hope Chest Campaign, which runs from Mother's Day to Father's Day.

This year's mother is Mrs. Sharon Van Meter, 38, of Iowa City, Iowa. Mother of two children, aged 9 and 13, Mrs. Van Meter continues to be active in community affairs despite her illness.

Ralph M. Rikard, 46, of Montgomery, Alabama, is the MS father of the year, a salesman before he was stricken with MS. Mr. Rikard is the father of three children.

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