

DMAVA Highlights

June 3, 2010 Volume 12 Number 20



Welcome Home, Dad

1st Lt. Brian Bradke kisses his wife, Tiffany's belly upon his return from Iraq. Airmen from the 177th Fighter Wing returned from a deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on May 23, 2010. U.S. Air Force Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA

Jersey Guard Fallen Heroes to be honored Saturday

Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General of New Jersey, cordially invites you to attend a Global War on Terrorism Memorial Tree Dedication Ceremony honoring our four fallen Soldiers: Staff Sgt. Frank T. Carvill, Staff Sgt. Humberto F. Timoteo, Sgt. Ryan E. Doltz and Spc. Christopher M. Duffy on June 5 at 11 a.m. at the N.J. Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, 101 Eggert Crossing Road, Lawrenceville, NJ. Military dress is ACUs for Army, ABUs for Air and business attire for civilians. This event will take place rain or shine.



VETS COMMUNITY OUT IN FORCE FOR CEREMONY

By Sgt. Wayne Woolley, DMAVA Public Affairs Specialist

Representatives from more than two dozen veterans' organizations participated in the State Memorial Day Ceremony on Saturday at Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Wrightstown.

More than 1,000 people attended the ceremony, which included a flyover by two New Jersey Air National Guard F-16 Fighting Falcon fighter jets and the presentation of wreaths to honor America's fallen service members.

Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the Adjutant General, said it was fitting that New Jersey's Memorial Day Ceremony is held at the busiest state veterans cemetery in the nation, averaging nearly 3,000 internments each year

"I can think of no better place to begin a Memorial Day than among the 38,815 veterans who call this hallowed ground their final resting place," Rieth said.

The general said it was important to remember the true meaning of the holiday and not let it be lost in all the other activities of the weekend. But remembering those who died protecting the American way of life should be cause for celebration.

He said the line from the World War II icon, Gen. George S. Patton, summed it up best: "It is foolish to mourn the men who died. We should thank God such men lived."



Chief Warrant Officer 3 Patrick Looney hands a memorial wreath to Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno, center right, Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the Adjutant General, right, and retired Col. Stephen G. Abel, DMAVA's deputy commissioner for Veteran Affairs at the state Memorial Day Ceremony on May 29 at the Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Cemetery. U.S. Air Force Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA

Retirement workshops for PERS, TPAF members

The Division of Pensions and Benefits is offering Retirement Workshops to members of the PERS and TPAF who plan to retire between July 1, 2010 and January 1, 2011.

- Workshops are being held at the New Jersey Forensic Science Technology Center in Hamilton Township (Mercer County), N.J.

- Workshop times are at either 9 a.m. or 1 p.m. and are currently scheduled for June 4, 7, 11, 15, 18, 21, 25, and 30.

- Members interested in attending must register online using the link on the Division's Web site. Go to: www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions and click the link for "Retirement Workshops". Seating is limited – additional dates may be added but cannot be guaranteed.

During the workshops, our representatives will take a step-by-step approach to explain topics that include retirement benefits, beneficiary options, group life insurance, the taxability of your pension, and health benefits in retirement.

If attending, members must print an Estimate of Retirement Benefits using the Member Benefits Online System (MBOS) and bring it to the workshop (retirement estimates will not be provided at the workshop). To register for MBOS go to: www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/mbosregister.shtml and follow the registration instructions. Estimates obtained from MBOS are the same estimates obtained when visiting the Division's offices and use identical salary and service information.

Due to the recent increase in retirement applications, members must use the online Retirement Application available in MBOS. Submitting the application through MBOS reduces the chance of any delays in receipt of your application and provides for the fastest processing. Please also note that paper retirement applications will not be available and will not be accepted at the workshops.

Photo information

Officers and NCOs can now schedule their DA photo appointment online for the N.J. National Guard photo studio at Joint Force HQ, Fort Dix.

Just visit fill out a work order, DA 3903, online at www.vios.army.mil, but you must log in with your CAC card. For assistance or more information registering on VIOS, contact Staff Sgt. Jorge L. Vazquez, G6 Network Control Center at 609-562-0333.

The studio accepts appointments for any week day from 8-10 a.m. or anytime during JFHQ drill weekends. For more information on studio hours contact Kryn P. Westhoven at (609) 847-2215.

DMAVA Green

By Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison, DMAVA Public Affairs Specialist

What can I recycle? That depends on where I live. Research tells me that I can recycle clean plastic types 1-7 in the city of Los Angeles in curbside bins, but where I live in New Jersey, I am only permitted to recycle types 1 and 2 in my blue recycling buckets.

As I wander through recycling Web sites, I find that there is a number of kinds of cans that my family uses and tosses in the recycling bin; how can I tell the difference and are they all able to be recycled? Again, the local municipality has some say. They will tell you about the tin, steel, aluminum and bi-metal cans; just about all are recyclable. Some areas even want clean aluminum foil and foil dinner trays. How can I tell the difference between the types of cans? Magnets do not stick to aluminum cans.

When it comes to glass, the clear, brown and green glass bottles that come into a house are all ready for the blue bin, but need to be rinsed out first. But do not recycle the broken drinking glass or window pane. Those go into the trash can. It is good to wrap them in newspaper so anyone handling the bag doesn't get cut from the jagged pieces. Also, light bulbs – particularly fluorescent bulbs which contain mercury and must be disposed of during those special hazardous waste days – can not be recycled.

Most paper can be recycled. Some communities have Single Stream Recycling, which means residents can mix all their recycling – plastic, paper and glass – in one container. Paper that has been contaminated with food, waxed paper, waxed cardboard milk and juice containers, oil-soaked paper, carbon paper, sanitary products or tissues, thermal fax paper, stickers and plastic laminated paper such as fast food wrappers, juice boxes and pet food bags cannot be recycled.

Simple rules to follow and everyone and the environment can benefit.

Keep Green!

Quotes

To improve your memory, lend people money.

--Unknown

It isn't so astonishing, the number of things that I can remember, as the number of things I can remember that aren't so.

--Mark Twain

Memory is the cabinet of imagination, the treasury of reason, the registry of conscience, and the council chamber of thought.

--St. Basil

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New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

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Brig. Gen. James J. Grant – Director, Joint Staff

Retired Col. Stephen G. Abel – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs

Maj. Yvonne Mays – Public Affairs Officer

Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison – Public Affairs Specialist

Sgt. Wayne Woolley – Public Affairs Specialist

Wounded Soldier and Family
Hotline
1-800-984-8523

Families

Free day for National Guard, families at Seaside on June 19

Take your family for a ride! Casino Pier at Seaside will open their water park and rides to all New Jersey National Guard Soldiers and Airmen and their immediate family members. You must show your military ID card to get this special gift. Bring your family down to Casino Pier, 800 Ocean Terrace, Seaside Heights, N.J., on June 19; check in is from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. only. If you bring other family members or friends, they must purchase tickets for the park and rides.



Father's Day brunch at Picatinny

Are you looking for a special way to celebrate Father's Day? Come to the Cannon Gate catering, Picatinny Arsenal, June 20 at noon for the Father's Day Brunch.

Cost is \$20 per person, brunch for children 12 and under is half price. Call 973-724-2582 for reservations.



Children's folk ballet in NYC, free tickets for military, veterans

The Korean War 60th Anniversary Memorial Committee is presenting The Little Angels, the children's folk ballet of Korea on June 15 at the Manhattan Center in New York.

There will be two shows, at 3 and 7:30 p.m. All veterans and active duty military can receive free tickets to the event.

To get a ticket request form, call 973-916-0158, or e-mail LittleAngelsJune15@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.kw60project.com. The Manhattan Center is located at 311 West 34th Street, New York, NY 10001.

DoD offers interactive education resource for military families

Department of Defense Education Activity's Educational Partnership proudly presents "Students at the Center," an interactive educational resource for everyone involved in the education of the children of our military service members. It has a lot of information for families, military commands, school officials and more. Check out the Web site at <http://www.militaryk12partners.dodea.edu/studentsAtTheCenter>.

Free community nights at the Franklin Institute for families

The Franklin Institute is introducing Target Community Nights at the Franklin Institute – free educational and fun-filled science nights, from 5-8 p.m., sponsored by Target. Everyone is welcome: join the fun and experience The Franklin Institute's exhibitions, special programs and themed activities.

Activities include FREE:

Access to all of The Franklin Institute's hands-on exhibits like Sports Challenge and The Giant Heart; tickets to the Tuttleman IMAX Theater; 3D shows in The Franklin Theater; live science shows; Fels Planetarium shows; and access to the Joel N. Bloom observatory. The monthly schedule varies and not all community nights offer free IMAX tickets, nor are the free IMAX tickets for feature length films.

The dates of the 2010 Target Community Nights are: June 16, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20 and Nov. 17.

You will be asked to register when you arrive; the registration desk opens at 5 p.m.

Check out Blue Star Flag Program

Grantham University's Blue Star Flag program has been providing Blue Star Flags to Service members and their families since 2006. Grantham University is also offering scholarships and grants to Servicemembers and veterans. For further information about the Blue Star Flag program, please go to: <http://www.mybluestarflag.com>.

Guard Youth Camp July 11-17

Applications are now available for the 2010 New Jersey National Guard Youth Camp being held at Sea Girt, July 11-17. To download an application, go to: http://www.state.nj.us/military/familysupport/youth_camp.html or contact your nearest Family Assistance Center.

State Family Programs

101 Eggert Crossing Road, Lawrenceville
Toll-free number 1-888-859-0352
Family Assistance – 609-530-6834/6884
State Youth Coordinator – 609-530-6836
Military Family Life consultants – 609-530-6835/6886
Yellow Ribbon Program – 609-530-6846/6853/6859
Military OneSource 1-800-342-9647; NJ 609-530-6867
Survivor Outreach Services – 609-530-6864
Fax – 609-530-6871

Military and family members health insurance questions should be directed to:

Tricare – Sgt. 1st Class Louis Tuck, 609-562-0865
US Family Health Plans – Pam Worley, 732-977-8531
VA Medical – Michelle Stefanelli, 973-676-1000, ext. 1727

Et Cetera

Vietnam Museum to host toy exhibit from an turbulent era

On June 12, at 1 p.m., the Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center will host a discussion on *Dolls and Toys of the 1960s & 1970s* by N.J. collector and former Five and Dime store owner, Steven Stegman.

The discussion will highlight objects currently on display in the traveling exhibit, *Growing Up in the 1960s-70s: A Flash Back in Time*. The exhibit is a collection of over 50 toys from the 1960s-70s from The Toy Museum located in Brooklyn, N.Y. This exhibit will be on display at the Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center in Holmdel, N.J through the end of August 2010. Educators who attend the lecture will receive Professional Development Credit hours.

Following the post-World War II economic boom, mass production of dolls and toys exploded in the Vietnam era. G.I. Joes were first produced in 1964 helping little boys act out their pride for their father's tour of duty. Barbie, who was popularized by Mattel in the 1960s, has remained youthful even after celebrating her 50th birthday last March. Other featured objects on display include Star Trek figures, Etch A Sketch, Trolls, Legos, Nerf balls, dollhouse furniture, teddy bears, and much more. Children and those young at heart will love learning about the toys from the past during one of America's most difficult decade.

For more information please call 732-335-0033 or visit our Web site at www.njvfmf.org. Adult admission is \$4; student and senior citizen admission is \$2; and children under 10 are admitted free. Admission is free for veterans and active-duty military personnel.

The Vietnam Era Educational Center is located adjacent to the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial off the Garden State Parkway at exit 116. The Educational Center is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.



New Jersey Air Guard Staff Sgt. Anne McKenzie, an electrician, installs an overhead light fixture in a trailer her unit recently re-located at Baghdad International Airport. U.S. Air Force Photo by Master Sgt. Louis Conzo.

Guidance for online LMS training

By Paul Serdiuk, Training Coordinator

As the State of New Jersey and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs moves forward with the new online training called Learning Management System (LMS), all of your training records from this date forward will be captured and recorded on LMS.

Any training that you may have previously taken through HRDI will be transferred into LMS in the future. As a precaution to insure that you do not lose any training records, take a few moments to find and print a copy of your current training transcript from HRDI. Once your records have been transferred, you will be notified. Then check to insure your recorded training has been carried over. Call Paul Serdiuk at 609-530-6878 for more information.

Cribs and mattresses available

If you are an E4 or lower, you are eligible for free cribs and mattresses, changing table, lamps, and more. Those interested should call Catherine Parks at 609-876-8746.

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Joint Base thrift shops the answer for Crowded closets, tax write offs

Wouldn't it be great to clean out your closets – and get a tax break at the same time? There is. Consider making a donation to the McGuire Thrift Shop at 3446 Broidy Road on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. Donations of gently-used goods, such as clothes, tools, bicycles, furniture, and sporting goods are welcome. The hours are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and the same hours on the first Saturday of the month. All proceeds are reinvested back into the military community. Volunteers are welcome. The thrift shop also accepts consignments from 10 a.m. till noon. Call 609-754-2368 for more information. And while you're on the Joint Base, check out the Dix Thrift Shop. The shop has an ever-growing array of clothes, golf equipment, household items, gardening tools as well as clothes. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the first and third Saturday of each month; and from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month. For more information, call Sylvia at 609-723-2683. Both thrift shops are looking for volunteers.

Veterans & Military

Organizations combine to help veterans re-entering workforce

Bergen County Community College, the G.I. Go Fund and the Bergen County Workforce Investment Board, present "Veterans Re-entering the Workforce." The event will be held on June 8, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Technology Building of the Bergen Community College.

This program features a job fair with numerous employers, employment readiness sessions and resource rooms with job coaches.

There is no fee for this event. Proof of military service is required.

For more information call Jackie Lue Raia at 201-301-1247 or Diane Fewkes at 201-301-1249. Or visit the program on Facebook at veteransjobfair@gmail.com.

Employment assistance training for OIF/OEF veterans

The New Jersey National Guard is working with the Veterans Training Initiative to help Iraq and Afghanistan veterans with employment assistance training. VTI helps veterans identify military skills that translate to the civilian workplace and the best way to highlight those skills during a job search. The organization provides assistance in resume writing, interview techniques and helps translate military term into the language of business. A seminar on these topics will be held June 5 and 6 at Colts Neck High School. For more information, please visit www.vetranstransition.net or contact Kacie Glbraith.

Monmouth University looking for volunteers for veterans program

Monmouth University is looking for volunteers to help launch its Yellow Ribbon Mentorship Program to help student-veterans as they pursue their degrees at the West Long Branch university.

Paul Gaffney, the university president a retired U.S. Navy vice admiral, said he envisions the mentorship program as an extra benefit to students who are attending the school using the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008.

Although the tuition assistance provided under the act is substantial, Gaffney wants the university to also be able to respond to all of the needs of their student-veterans. The volunteers could assist university staff with needs such as job networking, fellowship, and family help.

Gaffney believes students who have served in the military would benefit from having mentors who are veterans. If you live in the general vicinity of Monmouth University, and are interested in volunteering or finding out more...please contact program coordinator Jose Siandre at Jose.Siandre@glacialenergy.com.

FDU hosts workshop for vets

Fairleigh Dickinson University will host the first ever Vets4Vets workshop at its campus in Madison on June 25-27.

Vets4Vets is a non-partisan veteran organization dedicated to helping Iraq and Afghanistan-era veterans feel good and heal from any negative aspects of service and war through the use of peer support.

This workshop is free and open to all OEF/OIF veterans in New Jersey. The workshop includes free transportation, food and lodging. To learn more about Vets4Vets, visit at <http://www.vets4-vets.us>

To register, fill out the workshop registration form on the website and email it to Info@Vets4Vets.us, or fax it to 520-325-0772. Registration forms must be received by June 11. Once your form has been received, Vets4Vets will contact you with additional workshop details.

Ultimate Warrior Career Workshop slated for June 9

Out there looking for a job? Looking to change career fields? Come to The Ultimate Warrior Career Workshops and Job Fair at The Timmerman Center on June 9 and 10 for workshops, services and opportunities to meet with companies who are hiring.

On June 9, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. there will be technical workshops and services. Workshops include interviewing tips and techniques and meeting with career and job coaches.

On June 10, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., a job fair with recruiters from defense contractors and private sector employers will be present.

For more information on the event or to register to attend, contact Sgt. Maj. James Clark at 301-674-9427, james.clarksr1@us.army.mil or Sgt. 1st Class Loranda Taylor, 609-864-2559, loranda.mitriece.taylor@us.army.mil.

Uniform for the event will be ACUs. No child care is available on site. Everyone must have a copy of their resume on a CD or hardcopy; thumb drives are not authorized.

Find out if Troops to Teachers is for you

The Troops to Teachers program is designed to assist separating or retiring military personnel in pursuing a rewarding second career in public education (elementary, secondary or vocational) while also facilitating employment in public schools. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education and administered by the U.S. Department of Defense through DANTEs, the long term goal of the program is to help improve American education by providing mature, self-disciplined, experienced and dedicated personnel for the nation's classrooms. New Jersey's Troops to Teachers office has counseled hundreds of interested military personnel, advising them on routes and programs to achieve full teacher certification in New Jersey, and referring them to school districts for employment.

To learn more, call 800-680-0884 or e-mail at tttnj@doe.state.nj.us for briefing and program information. You can also visit the program on the web at: www.nj.gov/education/tttnj.

Calendar

Veterans, military eligible to receive free tickets to Mets games

From Tony Ntellas, Field Service Coordinator Wounded Warrior Project

The Wounded Warrior Project has been contacted by the New York Mets. They have asked us to help them with their program, "Welcome Back Veterans." Visit <http://www.welcome-backveterans.org/> for more information. The Mets would like to honor people that have served in the United States Military. The honoree will receive a total of four tickets for free, front row third baseline. During the third inning, the veteran will be honored on the huge play-by-play screen in center field.

If you are interested, provide the following information as soon as possible. Those veterans who participated last year are not eligible to participate again this year.

Needed:

Game Date - pick a game from one of these dates: June 5, 9, 10, 23, 24, 25, and 26. Find more information about the games at http://mlb.mlb.com/schedule/index.jsp?c_id=nym&m=04&y=2010.

Four pictures via e-mail (in military uniform if possible)

Biography with the following: title, branch, rank, name, e-mail, cell phone, list of awards and decorations, date of entry in service, branch of service, dates of service, where were you stationed, brief description of duties while there. Also, let the program know if you would like the tickets mailed to your home. If so, include your full mailing address.

Send everything to Tony at atntellas@woundedwarriorproject.org.

Guard families holding Band of Brothers Memorial Poker Run

The families of the four New Jersey Army National Guard Soldiers who were killed in Iraq in June 2004 are honoring the memory of their fallen heroes with the Band of Brothers Memorial Poker Run which will be held on June 6, 2010.

The families are asking for their friends' and communities help and support with the event. All donations – monetary or otherwise – will be greatly appreciated and acknowledged on the day of the event. All donations are tax deductible. Individuals or organizations donating \$1,000 or more will have their names listed on the Run T-shirt.

All profits will be divided among the Friends of Frank Carvill Foundation, the SGT Ryan E. Doltz Memorial Foundation and the Duffy and Timoteo families.

For more information visit www.RememberingRyan.org.

Texas Hold'em, Picatinny July 31

As the song says – "You have to know when to hold' em, know when to fold' em" and the Texas Hold'em Tournament is there to see if anyone knows when that is. The tournament will be held July 31 at the Cannon Gate Catering at 11 a.m. Cost is \$40 per person. Call 973-724-2582 for reservations; seating is limited. Prizes will be awarded for the top ten players.

Remember another line from the song: "every hand's a winner and every hand's a loser."

DMAVA picnic is on calendar for June 17

It's that time again – time for the DMAVA/JFHQs Picnic! This year it will be held on June 17, next to the HSCOE building on the DMAVA campus at approximately noon. Cost is \$10 now; \$15 at the entrance.

The menu will be sausage, hot dogs, hamburgers, potato and macaroni salads, cole slaw, baked beans, ice cream and beverages. Dress is appropriate summer attire.

There will be a town hall meeting at 11 a.m. prior to the picnic. Attendance at the town hall meeting is mandatory. For those employees who do not choose to attend the picnic, it will be a full and normal workday and they must return to their regular duty station. Buses will be provided for those attending the town hall meeting from the Dix/McGuire areas.

Payment can be made to your department representative:

DMAVA – Darlene Laarz, 609-530-6992; Dawn Baulo, 609-530-6717; Tina Taylor, 609-530-7170; and Karen Hansen 609-530-6868.

Fort Dix – Barbara Alcott, 609-562-0870; and Bonnie Gaskell, 609-562-0925.

HSCOE – Kevin Hearn, 609-530-7069.

Veterans Outreach Campaign schedule

The DMAVA Veterans Outreach Campaign has kiosk displays at malls throughout the state and other special events to help veterans and their family members discover and apply for the benefits they are eligible to receive.

June	Wildwood Convention Center
3-4	Elks State Convention**
9-11	American Legion State Convention**
16-18	Veterans of Foreign Wars State Convention
July 6	The Music Pier on the Ocean City Boardwalk, 11 a.m.
July 30	First Energy State Park, Lakewood** Lakewood Blue Claws Veterans Appreciation Night
August 29	TD Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater** Somerset Patriots Veterans of America Day

**Outreach events only