

Daughter receives father's medals and flag four decades after his death



By Spc. Oscar Baldriche, 444th MPAD

Loved ones gathered at The Outlet Collection-Jersey Gardens Mall in Elizabeth Tuesday to posthumously honor a Korean Conflict and Vietnam War veteran nearly 40 years after he was killed in action in Vietnam.

The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMAVA) awarded Sgt. 1st Class Robert H. Wescott Jr., the Distinguished Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal, which was proudly accepted by his daughter Christine Hamilton-Wescott, who was three-years-old when her father was killed in action.

In addition to the medal ceremony, the one thing that made this event unique was Hamilton-Wescott was also presented with a U.S. flag by Brig. Gen. Alfonse Stephenson, Air National Guard Director of Chaplains. "This flag is presented on behalf of a grateful nation, as a token of our appreciation for the honorable and faithful service rendered by your loved one," said Stephenson.

"A folded flag is presented to the next of kin to honor those who have served and have made the ultimate sacrifice," said Stephenson.

"This means more to me than you can imagine," said Hamilton-Wescott, as she embraces a framed picture of her father. "I am very proud of him and I know that he loved his country and all the Soldiers in his unit."

"Today, I am proud to say that after so many years my father was never forgotten and that his memory will always be with me," said Hamilton-Wescott.

The ceremony marked the start of a three-day visit of the veterans outreach kiosk where veterans and their family members can learn more about benefits or entitlements that they could be eligible to receive. The Veterans Outreach Program is an effort by the DMAVA to talk one-on-one with veterans or their family members about the wide variety of state and federal veterans' benefits.

Energy Conservation

Energy Conservation Tip of the Week

Many homes only need water heater temperatures to be set at 120 degrees for proper operation. If your water heater is set to 140 degrees, be sure to turn it down to save \$36 to \$60 per year in water heating costs and reduce the chance of scalding.

Did You Know?

Celebrated on April 22, Earth Day is a world-wide event held every year to show support for environmental protection. Earth Day was first held in 1970 and is now celebrated by more than 190 countries.

If you would like more information about our energy and water conservation efforts, please contact Christopher Moore, Energy Manager at christopher.moore@dmava.nj.gov.





2014 Hiring Our Heroes Veterans Event - Camden, NJ Susquehanna National Bank Center One Harbour Boulevard Camden, NJ 08103 May 14, 2014

HIRING FAIR: 10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP: 8:30 A.M.

This American Legion- and ESGR-sponsored hiring event is being hosted by the Susquehanna Bank Center and conducted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation; Camden County, Board of Freeholders; the Camden County Office of Veterans Affairs; the American Legion Camden County Executive Committee; the Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DOL VETS); New Jersey Committee, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR); the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NJDMAVA); the New Jersey State Parole Board; the NewJersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development (NJ LWD); NBC News; and other local partners.

EMPLOYERS

Must register for FREE at

JOB SEEKERS

Reserve Con Register for FRE

A workshop for veterans and other military job seekers that focuses on resume writing, tips for successfully navigating hiring fairs, military skill translation, and interviewing will start at 8:30 a.m. To register for Hiring Our Heroes Employment Workshop, visit hiringourheroes.org.

Registration questions? Please contact hiringourheroes@uschamber.com or call 202-463 5807

























2014 Hiring Our Heroes Veterans Event - Somerville, NJ Stevenson - D'Alessio American Legion Post #12 232 Union Avenue - Somerville, NJ June 18, 2014

EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP: 8:30 A.M.

HIRING FAIR: 10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M

This American Legion-, Merck- sponsored hiring event is being conducted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, the Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DOL VETS), the New Jersey Committee of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Goodwill Industries International, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, the New Jersey State Parole Board, NBC News, and other local partners.

EMPLOYERS

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A workshop for veterans and other military job seekers that focuses on resume writing, tips for successfully navigating hiring fairs, military skill translation, and interviewing will start at 8:30 A.M. To register for the Hiring Our Heroes Employment Workshop, visit HiringOurHeroes.org.

For registration questions, please contact us at hiringourheroes@uschamber.com or call 202-463-5807.



















Find Hiring Our Heroes online:



Download the free Hiring Our Heroes mobile appl All our powerful tools and resources at your fingertips.







REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY HUEY HELICOPTER DEDICATION

May 7th was created by legislation in 1991 as a unique day in New Jersey to honor all those who served in the military during the Vietnam Fra from 1959 to 1975. As part of this year's ceremony the Foundation will unveil its newly restored Huey Helicopter at the Vietnam Era Museum.

A special thanks to our donors and volunteers for making Operation Huey Restoration a reality.



WEDNESDAY • MAY 7, 2014 • 11:00 AM

New Jersey Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center

GUEST SPEAKER

Rocky Bleier

Vietnam Veteran Four-time Super Bowl Champion

REMARKS BY

Major General Clark W. Martin

USAF (Ret'd) & Chairman, NJVVMF

Brigadier General Michael L. Cunniff Adjutant General of New Jersey

Al Sever

116th Assault Helicopter Company

Ken Gurbisz US Army, 1968-1970

Rob Briant, Jr.

Utility Transportation & Contractors Association



ABOUT THE NEW JERSEY VIETNAM VETERANS' MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The New JerseyVietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation offers a meaningful and engaging experience that recognized Vietnam Veterans and encourages and fosters a thorough understanding of the Vietnam Era including the politi

1 Memorial Lane (Garden State Parkway Exit 116) • Holmdel, NJ 07733 • 732.335.0033 • WWW.NJVVMF.ORG





2014 Hiring Our Heroes Veterans Event – Trenton, NJ Samaritan Church 531 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard Trenton, NJ 08618 **April 30, 2014**

HIRING FAIR: 10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP: 8:30 A.M.

This American Legion-sponsored employment event is a being conducted by U.S. Chamber of Commerce; local Chambers of Commerce; New Jersey Committee, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve; The American Legion; Department of Labor Veterans Employment & Training; the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; the New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development (NJ LWD), the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMAVA), and the New Jersey State Parole Board. We are particularly grateful to American Legion Post 182; our hosts at Samaritan Baptist Church; and the Concerned Pastors of Trenton and Vicinity.

EMPLOYERS

Must register for **FREE** at www.hiringourheroes.org

JOB SEEKERS

Veterans, Active Duty Military, Members Of Guard And Reserve Components, Military Spouses Register for FREE at www.hiringourheroes.org Walk-ins always welcome

A workshop for veterans and other military job seekers that focuses on resume writing, tips for successfully navigating hiring fairs, military skill translation, and interviewing will start at 8:30 a.m. To register for Hiring Our Heroes Employment Workshop, visit hohworks.eventbrite.com/

For registration questions, please contact hiringourheroes@uschamber.com or call 202-463-5807.



























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HELP WITH CONCUSSIONS IN VETERAN'S HANDS TODAY

By Hans Petersen, VA staff writer

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has developed Concussion Coach, a mobile application that provides portable tools to recognize symptoms and to identify and make use of coping strategies.

It's designed to meet the needs of Veterans and others who have suffered mild to moderate concussions.

The Concussion Coach application is designed to educate users about concussions, related symptoms, treatments and to enable users to recognize and assess symptoms.

In developing the Concussion Coach, we applied the clinical recommendations...to better understand the nature and consequences of injury to the brain.

It also identifies resources for managing symptoms, planning tools to build resilience, and provides access to crisis resources, including personal support contacts and ways in which the user can obtain professional healthcare.

Its development came about as a result of knowledge gained by VA medical staff in treatment of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

Concussion Coach is available for mobile Apple devices (iPhone, iPad, and IPod Touch)

from the App Store and will be available to Google Play later in 2014.

Brain injuries caused most often from falls and accidents

While combat injuries to Service members and injuries to professional athletes gain media attention, TBI is most often caused by falls, vehicle accidents and violence. TBI is a major cause of death and disability worldwide, especially in children and young adults.

The application is a useful tool and is not intended to replace professional diagnosis, medical treatment or rehabilitation therapies

for those who need them.

"We believe that Concussion Coach will support treatment with a healthcare professional by providing portable, convenient tools for the user to recognize symptoms and cope with concussion-related problems," said Dr. Micaela Cornis-Pop, Speech Pathologist and lead expert for the application.

"In developing the Concussion Coach, we applied the science and the clinical recommendations that have emerged from the recent efforts of researchers and practitioners across many agencies, organizations, and institutions to better understand the nature and consequences of injury to the brain," she added.

Concussion Coach was collaboratively developed by the Department of Veterans Affairs' Rehabilitation and Prosthetic Services and the National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Dis-

order and the Department of Defense National Center for Telehealth and Technology.

For additional information, go to the Concussion Coach website at http://www.polytrauma.va.gov/ConcussionCoach.asp.

Concussion Coach Mobile App Available now on the App Store. Coming to Google Play in 2014. Learn about: -concussions, related symptoms, and treatment symptoms, and treatment symptoms of available treatments -sleep and tools to help manage sleep problems -symptoms of analotisty and PISD and the relationships to concussions -irritability and tips to help manage it produces to the concussions -irritability and tips to help manage it Build Realince your distress from 0 to 10. Besid on your rating you underse store to 10 to 10. Besid on your rating you underse store to 10 to 10. Resources & Bupport Build Realince your distress from 0 to 10. Resources & Bupport The future. Select a coping tool, or begin by identifying a your distress from 0 to 10. Build Realince your specific symptom. Ret avour distress again after using the tools and receive from the reduction of the selection of the selection

effort between the Department of Veterans Affairs
peartment of Veterans Affairs
National Center for Telehealth and Technology (T2).

Clean out your medicine cabinets







TRICARE beneficiaries have a safe and easy way to dispose of expired prescription drugs.

The Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA's) National Prescription Drug Take-back Day is April 26. Sites will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for people to bring excess prescription drugs that otherwise could be abused or contaminate the environment.

A 2011 national survey on drug use found that Americans are twice as likely to regularly abuse prescription drugs as they are to regularly use cocaine, hallucinogens, heroin and inhalants combined. The same study found more than 70 percent of people abusing prescription pain relievers got them through friends or relatives, often without their knowledge.

During DEA's last take-back day in October 2013, Americans disposed of more than 647,211 pounds of prescription drugs. The last seven take-back days have collected more than 3.4 million pounds of unused medication.

Prescription and over-the-counter "solid dosage" drugs—tablets and capsules—are accepted, but intravenous solutions, injectable medications and needles are not. Illegal substances such as marijuana or methamphetamine are accepted.

To find a collection site click "Locate Collection Sites" at www.deadiversion.usdoi.gov/drug_disposal/takeback. Many military installations will participate in this event, including; Portsmouth Naval Medical Center in Norfolk, VA Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.; the Naval Medical Center in San Diego; and Fort Benning, Ga.



TICHTICETY'S



Brig. Gen. Steven Ferrari, right, director of Veterans Healthcare Services at New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, presents a centennial letter from the Adjutant General of New Jersey to Rudy Zajac April 21, 2014 at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Paramus. Zajac, who turned 100-years-old on April 18, served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1945, acheiving the rank of private first class. (NJDMAVA photo by Tech. Sgt. Armando Vasquez/Released)



Volunteers stand in front of the refurbished New Jersey Army National Guard UH-1D Huey helicopter as it arrived at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Holmdel April 15, 2014. The aircraft was lifted later that day onto the pedestal in Huey Plaza outside the Vietnam Era Museum and Educational Center. The Huey will be dedicated on May 7 as part of the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Remembrance Day ceremony starting at 11 a.m. (Courtesy photo)



Elks Lodge #2428 from Brigantine, N.J., prepared and served a home-cooked dinner to the residents and staff of Veterans Haven-South. Additional food and financial donations were provided by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6964, from Brigantine, and VFW Post 9462 from Absecon. There were two carving stations along with Sons of the American Legion crew. (Courtesy photo)



The Joint Training and Training Development Center received a pair of new leaders April 12, 2014 at the facility on Joint Base-McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. Col. John E. Langston, left, the new JT2DC commander, passes the unit colors to Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy D. Marvin. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Master Sgt. David Moore/Released)



Brig. Gen. John DiNapoli, Assistant Adjutant General of the New Jersey Army National Guard, discusses the Guard's safety philosophy during the 34th Annual Safety Stand Down, held at National Guard Training Center at Sea Girt, N.J., April 13, 2014. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Master Sgt. David Moore/Released)



Services for Jobseekers who are **Veterans**

Our commitment: Those who stood first in line to defend our freedom are first in line to reap the benefits of freedom: a good education, a good job and a good life.

At New York

At New Jersey's One-Stop Career Centers, you get priority referral to all jobs and training opportunities you qualify for. Our Veterans Representatives will help you find prospects that are right for you. Vets can

- sign up for free job search workshops
 get one-on-one help developing a resume
- · learn about career training programs
- receive notice of veterans job fairs throughout New Jersey.

Vet Reps — your personal career specialists

Vet Reps know all the current programs and services available for military veterans. Your Rep will keep you informed about new resources and benefits, including federal initiatives such as:



Gold Card

f you are unemployed and served after 9/11, the Gold Card
offers intensive services to increase your chances of success i If you are unempoyed and served and enterports of the Color Card of Color State o

GI Bill : On-the-lob Annrenticeshin Training

us unii : un-uie-) un apprenticesing i training In this Veteras Affairs program, veterans and their depen-dents can learn a trade by participating in apprenticeship o on-the-job training rather than by attending classes. Learn more at http://www.state.nj.us/military/sau/index.html.

My Next Move

At MyNextMove.org/vets, enter basic information about your military branch and job to see civilian career options that tap your service experience and skills. Also:

- learn how to create a resume that highlights the value of your military experience to civilian employers
- learn how to advance your job search with the O'NET Inter-est Profiler, an online tool that connects your interests with the world of work. If you didn't receive an interest assess-ment as part of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP), the O'NET Interest Profiler gives you comparable information.

Veterans Job Bank

The National Resource Directory specializes in helping wounded veterans make the transition to civilian life. At NRD.gov/employment, learn about a new job search engine for military personnel that

- streamlines your job search by offering job postings from military-friendly employers worldwide
- searches by keyword, military occupation code and location
- s gives tips on how to highlight your military experience, using language employers look for, in your OnRamp jobseeker's profile.

Jobs4Jersev.com

Find job opportunites that are relevant to your skills and inter-ests through OnRamp, New Jersey's premier smart job-search tool. Forward-thinking employers Know the true value of veter-ans, so be sure to identify yourself as a veteran in your profile so they can find you. Find OnRamp at Jobs/Jersey.com.

Jersey Job Clubs

Jersey Job Clubs Jersey Job Clubs give you the tools and support you need to find a job. We'll help you develop valuable new skills and improve those you already have. There are 23 local Jersey Job Clubs throughout New Jersey.





Local Veterans Representatives

Veterans Representatives at One-Stop Career Centers offer personal assistance to both employers and veteran jobseekers. In addition to helping veterans overcome employment barriers and find jobs, we help employers identify qualified veteran candidates for their hiring

Atlantic County	(Pleasantville
------------------------	----------------

Howard Garabedian 609-813-3908 609-813-3932 Richard Schaeffer

Bergen County (Hackensack)

201-329-9600 x5643 John Bautz

Burlington County (Burlington)

609-518-3909 Art Henry Henry Bass 609-518-3917 609-518-3907 Stanley Sinicki

Camden County (Camden)

856-614-3186 Darryl O'Hannon

Cane May County (Wildwood)

609-729-0997 Jacqueline Blaydes

Cumberland County (Vineland) Angel Gutierrez

856-696-8371

Essex County (East Orange)

Joseph Siegal 973-395-3215 Gary Edwards 973-395-3217 Jason Sutton 973-266-1823

Essex County (Newark)

Eddie Aikens 973-648-6252 Peter Cullen 973-648-3706 Thomas Cole (VA Regional Office) 973-297-3211

Gloucester County (Thorofare)

Ricky O'Hara 856-853-4174 Edwin Morgan 856-384-3723

Hudson County (Jersey City)

Robert Fletcher 201-369-5205 x3747 201-217-4676 Kimberly Johnson Daniel Wright 201-795-8892

Hunterdon & Somerset Counties (Somerville)

John Kelly 908-704-3015 Louis Scibelli 908-575-3230

Mercer County (Trenton)

Thomas Thorn 609-292-3096 609-292-3059 Lois Bunch Lester Shelly 609-292-0656

Middlesex County

Veronica Jones (New Brunswick) 732-418-3359 Grisselle Aviles (New Brunswick) 732-937-6288

Monmouth County (Neptune)

732-775-1566 x191 Donald Alexander Victor Alvarado 732-775-1566 x165

Morris County (Dover) John Lehnert

973-361-9050 Deborah Allen 973-361-9050

Ocean County (Toms River)

732-286-5624 Jimmy Hoffman Albert Stahl 732-286-5624 Joseph E. Dorey 732-286-5624

Passaic County (Paterson)

973-977-4144 Raymon Pelletier Wendel Green 973-977-4376 Angelica Rivera-Lindo 973-916-2646

Salem County (Salem) Latoya Hopewell

Sussex County (Newton)

John Lehnert 973-393-2775

Union County

Laurence Carter (Elizabeth) 908-965-3939 908-412-3717 or 908-412-7971 Dale Alexander (Plainfield)

Warren County (Phillipsburg)

908-859-0400 Michael Vicari

856-351-2215

HIGHLIGHTS



US Family Health Care, a Tricare Prime option providing a civilian based managed care network, will be holding Question and Answer sessions to provide information for servicemembers and families.

USFHP pushes forward effective Jan. 1, 2014, and they are adding an extra benefit to their already robust benefit package! Eye glasses for \$0 to low cost. To hear more about USFHP and this added benefit, come to one of their upcoming information sessions listed below:

Fort Dix Housing Community Center

Bldg. 1134 Hemlock Street, JB-MDL April 7 / 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact: Josephine Grey at 347-501-2308

JB-MDL McGuire Library

2603 Tuskegee Airmen Ave, JB-MDL April 28 / 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact: Pam Kwiat at 646-341-2545

JB-MDL McGuire Housing Jim Saxton Community Center

3811 South Boiling Street, JBMDL April 8 / 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact: Pam Kwiat at 646-341-2545

108th Wing Airmen & Family Readiness Office

3327 Charles Blvd, JB-MDL April 16 / 1 to 4 p.m. Contact: Pam Kwiat at 646-341-2545

Bordentown Library

18 East Union Street, Bordentown, NJ April 17 / 12 to 4 p.m. Contact: Pam Kwiat at 646-341-2545

Picatinny Arsenal Army Community Service

Bldg. 119, Dover, NJ April 15 and 29 Contact Darrel Hutchinson at 646-354-0126

Pemberton Community Library

16 Broadway Street, Brownmills, NJ April 14 / 12 to 4 p.m. Contact: Pam Kwiat at 646-341-2545

Mount Laurel Library

100 Walt Whitman Ave, Mount Laurel, NJ April 11 / 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact: Josephine Grey at 347-501-2308

Camden County Veterans Affairs

3 Collier Dr., Lakeland Complex, Blackwood, NJ April 7, 14, 21 and 28 / 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact: Wil Acosta at 646-300-1312

NJDMAVA Bldg

IASD Section, 101 Eggerts Crossing Road, Lawrenceville, NJ April 16 / 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact: Josephine Grey at 347-501-2308

177th Fighter Wing

Bldg. 229, 400 Langley Rd., Egg Harbor Twp, NJ April 3 / 12 - 4 p.m. Contact: Josephine Grey at 347-501-2308

NJNG Jersey City Armory

678 Montgomery Street, Jersey City, NJ May 1, 8, 15 and 22 / 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact: Darrel Hutchinson at 646-354-0126

NJNG Toms River Armory

1200 Whitesville Road, Toms Rive, NJ April 10 / 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact: Pam Kwiat at 646-341-2545

NWS Earle

Bldg. C29, 201 Highway 34 South, Colts Neck, NJ April 23 / 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Contact: Pam Kwiat at 646-341-2545

Call 1-800-241-4848 option 3 or visit www.usfhp.net for more information.

New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff – The Adjutant General Brig. Gen. James J. Grant – Director, Joint Staff Raymond Zawacki – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs Chief Warrant Officer 3 Patrick Daugherty – Public Affairs Officer Army Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley - Public Affairs Specialist Air Force Tech. Sgt. Armando Vasquez – Public Affairs Specialist