

NJDMAVA HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH 6, 2015



Cedar Creek High School Honored by Department of Defense for Extraordinary Support of Employees Serving in the Army Reserve

By Donna Clementoni, ESGR

Egg Harbor City, N.J.– New Jersey Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), a Department of Defense office, announced February 27th, 2015 that Cedar Creek High School was honored with an “Above and Beyond Award” in recognition of extraordinary support of their employees who serve in the New Jersey Guard and Reserve.

Army National Guardsman SPC Gabriel Arce, a Business Education Teacher at Cedar Creek High School, nominated his employer for the award stating that the school “has always been extremely supportive of my military career.” In addition, when he had to put on the uniform to serve his country, the Guardsman cites “there was never any reason to feel as though my position was at risk and I knew that I would be welcomed back to work with open arms.”

Supportive employers are critical to maintaining the strength and readiness of the Nation’s Guard and Reserve units. According to Don Tretola, New Jersey ESGR State Chair, “The ESGR Above and Beyond Award was created by ESGR to publicly recognize American employers providing extraordinary patriotic support and cooperation to their employees, who like the citizen warriors before them, have answered their nation’s call to serve.

Cedar Creek High School joins with thousands of American employers who have reviewed and amended their current human resources policies to ensure compliance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. Many employers provide above and beyond support with pay differential to offset the loss of wages, and extension of health care benefits which complement coverage provided by the military when their employees are mobilized.

Department Supervisor, Stacey Culleney, was also recognized with a “Patriot Award” for her outstanding support of SPC Gabriel Arce. Arce, a member of the Army National Guard 328th Military Police Company out of Cherry Hill, N.J., attested that his supervisor “regularly inquires on my progress in the military and the status of the impact on my family. If there is ever any reason that I need to take time off to partake in a military event, there is never any hesitation on (Stacey Culleney’s) part for me to attend.”

SPC Arce cited the flexibility and assistance of the Greater Egg Harbor Regional School District, Principal

James Reina and Supervisor Stacey Culleney for allowing him to serve both his country and his civilian job as a teacher at Cedar Creek.

Cedar Creek High School Principal signed a ‘Statement of Support’ that attest that they recognize that the National Guard and Reserve are essential to our nation’s security.

The Greater Egg Harbor Regional School District are American Patriots who understand the meaning of ESGR’s motto “WE ALL SERVE.”



Pictured left to right, Supervisor Stacey Culleney(left) received a Patriot Award for her support of Business Education Teacher and Army National Guardsman Gabriel Arce (2nd from left). Principal James Reina (right) holds the “Above and Beyond Award” that was presented to the school by Sarah Goodman on behalf of EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE, a Department of Defense operational office.



American Legion donates second bus to Paramus Home

Bob Salvini, Commander of the Bergen County American Legion Post 170 presents bus keys to Dianne Tabroni-Felder, CEO of the Paramus Veterans Memorial Home in Paramus, N.J., March 4, 2015. Members of Bergen County's American Legion gathered the \$70,000 in funds in order to purchase the bus on behalf of the Paramus Veterans Memorial Home, who will use the bus to take residents on field trips. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht/Released)

Story by Kryn Westhoven/DMAVA PA

For Bob Salvini, it's hard to believe only 16 months have passed since he proposed raising money to purchase a handicapped accessible bus for the Paramus Veterans Memorial Home. The first bus was delivered last April, with enough money left over for a second bus. Salvini presented the keys to the second bus this week.

He's not done. With \$7,000 left over and \$10,100 donated by the Rotary International District 7490, the community and veterans service organizations are well on their way to purchasing a third bus.

"We know what the challenge is to provide our fellow veterans with a quality of life...allowing them to get out of the home," said Salvini, Bergen County American Legion commander.

The idea to replace the aging buses at the home came after all three were down for repairs and the local American Legion or VFW posts were having a tough time getting residents out of the building.

Nearly a dozen times a month, Paramus home vet-

erans are invited out to a dinner, bingo or a shopping trip. The buses can handle up to 16-passengers and the seats fold up to accommodate wheelchairs with the built in lift.

When it comes to Veterans helping Veterans that caring goes on every day as the three veterans homes run by the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs according to deputy commissioner, Ray Zawacki. "This bus epitomizes that support."





A member of the American Legion gets a tour of a bus during a dedication ceremony at the Paramus Veterans Memorial Home in Paramus, N.J., March 4, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht/Released)



U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Steven Ferrari, New Jersey Army National Guard 42nd Infantry Division Assistant Division Commander and New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NJDMVA) Director of Healthcare Services, right, Raymond Zawacki, Deputy Commissioner for NJDMVA, center, and members of the American Legion tour a bus during a dedication ceremony at the Paramus Veterans Memorial Home in Paramus, N.J., March 4, 2015. Members of Bergen County's American Legion gathered the \$70,000 in funds in order to purchase the bus on behalf of the Paramus Veterans Memorial Home, who will use the bus to take residents on field trips. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht/Released)

Please read this very important message from the NJ Motor Vehicle Commission so that you can assist your members in obtaining and using this well-deserved designation.

Veteran's Honorary Designation

New Jersey thanks our military veterans who proudly served to protect our freedom. To honor you, a special designation has been created for display on your driver's license or non-driver ID card.

On March 1, 2015, in an effort to provide this recognition to you as quickly as possible, the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) will begin issuing custom-designed stickers to those veterans who wish to display them on their driver's licenses or non-driver ID cards. The MVC will notify those of you who requested these stickers at a later date when a permanently imprinted veteran's designation is available.

Beginning March 1, you may request your honorary veteran's recognition sticker in person or by mail.



Vehicle Maintenance



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Eiler Gomez Mejia stencils the shape of tools onto foam to be placed in tool boxes on Feb. 26, 2015, at Atlantic City Air National Guard Base, N.J. Gomez, with the 177th Fighter Wing's Logistics Readiness Squadron, does this to help keep accountability of where tools are placed.

Energy Conservation Tip of the Week

**Reflective roofs - more than
a fashion statement**

Did You Know...

By adding a reflective coating to your roof or avoiding dark colored roofing materials, you can reduce the amount heat coming into your home.

This will decrease how much you need to use your air conditioning during the summer. Also, this reflective layer will help prevent expansion and contraction of your roof, which can help extend the life of your roof. (Source: www.progress-energy.com)

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

NJDMAVA VETERANS OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

A DMAVA VSO will be present at each event to assist any veteran

March 14

VA Town Hall Meeting: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Claims Clinic: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Lawrenceville National Guard Armory

151 Eggert Crossing Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

March 16

Newark Veterans Job Fair

Rutgers University, Newark – Paul Robeson Campus
Center, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

350 Martin Luther King Blvd., Newark, NJ 07104

March 19

Veteran Career Fair & Military Expo

Rider College, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrence Township, NJ
08648

New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

PO Box 340
Trenton, NJ 08625-0340

1-888-8NJ-VETS(8387) or www.state.nj.us/military



Raymond L. Zawacki, Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs (609-530-7062)
Laura Branham, Executive Secretarial Assistant (609-530-7045)
Chuck Robbins, Assistant to DCVA/Outreach Coordinator (609-530-8855)

Fax: 609-530-7191

Veterans Healthcare Services (DVHS)

<p>Brigadier General Steven Ferrari, Director 609-530-6967 Dorina Myers, Sec 609-530-6766 Ernie Razzano, Health Professions Recruiter 609-530-6767 Virginia Fiess, QA Coordinator 609-530-6979 Vacant, Admin Analyst 609-530-6940 Fax: 609-530-6970</p>	<p>Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home Joseph Brandspiegel, CEO Jennifer Pajak, Sec 132 Evergreen Road, PO Box 3013 Edison, NJ 08818-3013 732-452-4102 Fax: 732-603-3016</p>	<p>Paramus Veterans Memorial Home Dianne Tacron-Felder, CEO Diane Callaghan, Sec 1 Veterans Drive Paramus, NJ 07652 201-634-8525 Fax: 201-967-8658</p>	<p>Vineland Veterans Memorial Home Boris Reisesek, CEO Sharon Davis, Sec 524 North West Boulevard Vineland, NJ 08360-2895 856-405-4207 Fax: 856-656-6714</p>
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Veterans Services (DVS)

<p>Albert J. Bucchi, Director 609-530-6962 Cheryl A. Henderson, Sec 609-530-6975 Fax: 609-530-7075</p>	<p>Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery Iven Dumas, State Supt – 609-738-2424 Genia DiBella, Sec – 609-738-2404 Cyndi Dzurisin, Interment Office Supervisor, – 609-739-2407 Dennis Maconber, Honor Guard, – 609-753-7505 350 Provinceline Road, Wrightstown, NJ 08562 609-738-2400 Fax: 609-753-0169 <i>Maintenance/Cemeteries/Memorials</i> Joseph Arroyo & Kenneth Smith Supervisor, 609-738-2406 Fax: 609-756-3490</p>	<p>Vietnam Veterans Memorial 1 Memorial Lane, PO Box 548, Holmdel, NJ 07733 732-335-0033 Fax: 732-335-1107</p> <p>Korean Memorial Boardwalk/Brighton Park, Atlantic City, NJ 08401</p> <p>War World II Memorial W State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608</p>	<p>Veterans Haven South Walter Nail, Supt – 609-561-4948 Vacant, Asst, Supt – 609-567-3715 301 Spring Garden Road, PO Box 80 Winslow, NJ 08095 609-561-0269 Fax: 609-567-5186</p>	<p>Veterans Haven North Sean VanLaw, Supt – 908-537-1960 Laura Blaine, Sec – 908-537-1963 200 Sanatorium Road, Suite 101 Glen Gardner, NJ 08826 908-537-1999 Fax: 908-537-1990</p>
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<p>State Approving Agency-GI Bill Programs Charles Rowe, Bureau Chief – 609-530-6842 Mansel Meyer, Education Prog Asst – 609-530-6848 Lynn Yesalonia, State Admin – 609-530-6858 Joan Edwards, State Admin – 609-530-6948 Fax: 609-530-7196</p>	<p>Veterans Benefits Bureau Patricia A. Richter, Bureau Chief – 609-530-6949 Elizabeth Schofield, Prin Staff Officer – 609-530-6954 Paul Kale, Staff Asst – 609-530-6826 Cynthia Barnes, Sec – 609-530-6868 Michele Johnson, Sec – 609-530-7035 Fax: 609-530-6970</p>	<p>Veterans Service Offices Chris Kulkoski, VSO Training Officer – 609-530-7050 Joseph Bucco, State Supervisor – 609-530-6830 Christopher Wambach, State Supervisor – 609-530-6863 Joseph E. Nyzio, VSO – 609-530-6857</p> <p>VA Regional Office/Philadelphia Vacant, VSO – 215-381-3033 5000 Wissahickon Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144</p>
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<p>Atlantic City/Cape May Edmond Famigiotti, VSO Vacant, Sec 1008 Absecon Boulevard, Atlantic City 08401-1999 – (Atlantic City Army) 609-441-3060/3061 Fax: 609-441-3899 (closed alternate Fridays)</p>	<p>Bergen/Passaic Richard Mannes, VSO Titus Osagwu, Sec 125 State Street, Suite 109, Hackensack 07601-5435 201-996-8050/8051 Fax: 201-996-8009</p>	<p>Burlington Charles Piscopo, VSO Bernadette Whitman, Sec 555 High Street, Suite 6A, Mt. Holly 08060 609-518-2273/2274 Fax: 609-518-2275</p>
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<p>Camden/Gloucester Joseph Frost, VSO Diane Rosci, Sec 658 N Evergreen Avenue, Woodbury 08096 – (Woodbury Army) 856-853-4184/4185/4186 Fax: 856-384-3781 (closed alternate Fridays)</p>	<p>Essex/Union Lorena Huggins, VSO Helen Banks, Sec 20 Washington Place, Room 431, Newark 07102-3174 973-297-3336 Fax: 973-642-0830</p>	<p>Hudson Vacant, VSO Vacant, Sec 678 Montgomery Street, 2nd Floor, Jersey City 07306 – (Jersey City Army) 201-536-3401 Fax: 201-536-3404 (closed alternate Fridays)</p>
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<p>Mercer William McDonnell, VSO Theresa Tomecheck, Sec 151 Eggerts Crossing Road, Room 136, Lawrenceville 08648 – (Lawrenceville Army) 609-871-6697/6696 Fax: 609-671-6698</p>	<p>Middlesex/Somerset Joseph Battito, VSO Vacant, Sec 1060 Hamilton Street, Somerset 08873 – (Somerset Army) 732-937-8347/6348 Fax: 732-937-8417 (closed alternate Fridays)</p>	<p>Monmouth Robert Brown, VSO Rita Hyland, Sec 630 Bangs Avenue, Suite 320, Asbury Park 07712-6904 732-775-7009/7005 Fax: 732-775-3612</p>
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<p>Newark Liaison/VA Regional Office Robert Maulano, VSO Michael Dorobis, Sec 20 Washington Place, Newark 07102-3174 973-297-3230 Fax: 973-648-2356</p>	<p>Ocean Nicholas Petrozzino, VSO Iris Perez, Sec James J. Howard Outpatient Clinic 970 Route 70, Bridg, 08724-3550 732-840-3033/3034 Fax: 732-840-0399</p>	<p>Salem/Cumberland Leigh R. Pottle, VSO Vacant, VSO Catherine Raniolo, Sec 524 Northwest Boulevard, Vineland 08380-2895 856-405-4388/4390/4389 Fax: 856-696-6499</p>
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<p>Sussex/Morris William Robinson, VSO 479 West Clinton Street, Dover 07801 – (Dover Army) 973-366-0245/6347 Fax: 973-366-0360</p>	<p>Warren/Hunterdon *Sibley Smith, VSO/Ombudsman Lisa Szymanski, Sec 550 A Route 57 Port Murray 07865-9482 908-689-5840/5845 Fax: 908-689-5879 *Flemington, 4 Gauntt Place, Flemington, 08922 (Wednesday) 908-284-6146</p>
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NJ VETS LIST - (October 2014)

E-mail your Highlights submissions to: mark.olsen@dmava.nj.gov by close of business Wednesday

**STRONG BONDS
TWO EVENTS**

When: March 13, 2015 – March 15, 2015

What: 7 Habits of Highly Effective Soldiers (Singles)

What: Active Relationships (Couples)

Where: The Hotel ML
915 Route 73
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

*Childcare is not provided.

To find out more on Strong Bonds, contact SGT John Schwartz (609) 324-7039 or visit www.strongbonds.org (ALL DEPENDENTS MUST BE REGISTERED IN DEERS)



NJDMAVA HIGHLIGHTS is published weekly under provisions of AR 360-1 and AFI 35-101 by the Public Affairs Office of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for all members of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard, their families, the New Jersey veterans community, retirees and civilian employees. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force, the National Guard Bureau, Veterans Affairs or the State of New Jersey. Letters may be sent to: NJDMAVA Highlights, Public Affairs Office, NJDMAVA, PO Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340. E-mail to: pao@dmava.nj.gov

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cuniff – 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
Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen – Layout, photographer
Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley – Writer, photographer
Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht – Photographer, graphic artist



Upcoming information sessions

Mount Laurel Library
100 Walt Whitman Avenue
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054
Mar. 6, 20: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (hourly)
POC: Josephine Grey
(347) 501-2308

AAFES (storefront)
Coast Guard Base
Cape May Training Center
Cape May, NJ 08204
Feb. 27: 12 – 3 p.m.
POC: Josephine Grey
(347) 501-2308

Military & Family Support Center
Lakehurst NAS, Highway 547
Building 488 Walsh Road
Lakehurst, NJ 08733
Feb. 26: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
POC: Pam Kwiat, (646) 341-2545

Jim Saxton Community Center
3811 South Boiling Street
McGuire AFB, NJ 08641
Mar. 3: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
POC: Pam Kwiat, (646) 341-2545

108th Wing Airmen & Family
Readiness Office
3327 Charles Blvd
McGuire AFB, NJ 08641
Mar. 11: 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
POC: Pam Kwiat, (646) 341-2545

Toms River Armory
1200 Whitesville Road
Toms River, NJ 08753
Mar. 5: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
POC: Pam Kwiat, (646) 341-2545

Jersey City Armory
678 Montgomery Street
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Feb. 26: 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mar. 5, 12, 19: 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
POC: Darrel Hutchinson
(646) 354-0126

Newark Armory
120 Roseville Avenue
Newark, NJ 07107
Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25: 12 – 5 p.m.
POC: Darrel Hutchinson
(646) 354-0126

Camden County Veterans Affairs
3 Collier Dr. Lakeland Complex
Blackwood, NJ 08012
Mar. 9, 23: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. (hourly)
POC: Wil Acosta, (646) 300-1312

3RD ANNUAL VETERAN CAREER FAIR & MILITARY EXPO
MARCH 19, 2015 9 A.M. - 1 P.M.

In support of our veterans, military community, and their families, Rider University will host a career fair and military expo.

Last year, over **100 LOCAL EMPLOYERS** and support organizations were in attendance to provide information on job opportunities, career advice, networking and career search strategies.

This event is **FREE** for employers and job seekers! Register in advance on our website:
rider.edu/veterancareerfair
609-896-5033 or ccs@rider.edu

Open to veterans, military service members, and dependents at 9 a.m.
Open to the public and all students at 11 a.m.

RIDER UNIVERSITY
Ranked a **best college** for Veterans
U.S. News & World Report

The
Department of Veterans Affairs
TOWN HALL MEETING with *Veterans, Family Members, and Survivors*
Hosted by *Michael Blazis*
Director, Newark Regional Office

WHO: Veterans, their families and Survivors, and any organization or individual who works with or on behalf of Veterans

WHAT: Town Hall Meeting & Claims Clinic

WHERE: Lawrenceville Armory
151 Eggert Crossing Road
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

WHEN: Saturday, March 14, 2015/11AM – 1PM
Claims Clinic 10AM – 3PM

WHY: To share information, hear feedback, and answer questions on VA benefits, including compensation, pension, insurance, loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and education benefit programs

For more information contact Jennifer Myers at 973-297-3384 or
Jennifer.myers6@va.gov



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs