

DMAVA Highlights

June 17, 2010 Volume 12 Number 22



The 177th Fighter Wing, New Jersey Air National Guard held a Hometown Heroes Salute honoring more than 450 of New Jersey's Citizen-Airmen on June 13. The Airmen recognized in this ceremony included those who deployed for more than 30 consecutive days in support of Operations' Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Noble Eagle and other peacekeeping operations across the globe since Sept. 11, 2001. The purpose of this program is to celebrate and honor the significant contributions of the Airmen, their families, communities and those special supporters to the mission of the United States Air Force and the Air National Guard. As a result, it is one of the ANG's largest recognition endeavors in history. U.S. Air Force Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA.

Governor Chris Christie, back row business suit, poses with Soldiers and Airmen of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard, along with their families after holding a news conference at the State House in Trenton and signing proclamations in support of Flag Day on June 14, 2010. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.



Plan for longer trips to and from work when traveling I-295

From the office of James Hogan, NJDOT Executive Director, Statewide Traffic Operations

This weekend, the I-295 Exit 45 to Exit 57 Project will be moving to the next stage of construction. Starting Friday June 18, lane closures will be put in place that will result in only two lanes of traffic being available in each direction. Northbound I-295 traffic will be relocated to the southbound roadway during this stage. This traffic pattern should be in place by Sunday June 20. This traffic pattern is expected to be in effect until later this summer.

Along with this traffic shift, some ramps to/from I-295 will also be closed.

Please see www.NJCommuter.com for more information on the project along with the scheduled ramp detours.

In order to avoid the expected delays, it is suggested that motorists use either Route 130 or the New Jersey Turnpike as alternate routes during this time. It is also suggested that you call 511 or go to www.511NJ.org to find out the latest traffic information before you leave for home or work.

Thank you for your patience while this construction work is underway.

4th of July Celebrations in the area

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst is set to host the annual Fourth of July celebration at the Doughboy parade grounds from 3 to 10 p.m. July 4 on Dix.

The event is FREE and open to the general public.

Entertainment will include: bouncy castles, a stilt walker, a magician, a balloonist, face painters and will include live rock-band performances by The Steve Marshall Band, Government Cheeze and The Benjamins. The highlight of the evening will be a fireworks display scheduled for 9:30 p.m..

Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Options include hamburgers, hot dogs, cheese steaks, kettle corn, funnel cakes, cotton candy, soft drinks and more.

Spectators are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs to the parade grounds. Pets, coolers and glass/plastic bottles will not be allowed onto the installation.

The Wrightstown, Brown Mills and Pemberton gates will open at 2 p.m. for all non-Department of Defense ID cardholders. DOD cardholders attending the event are encouraged to use the McGuire main gate.

This Independence Day celebration is a community outreach event allowing us to thank our surrounding communities and honor the birth of our nation.



Join Fort Hamilton when they celebrate our nation's Independence Day on Sunday, July 4. Monica, B.o.B and Wendy Williams have been confirmed to be at the event.

There will be a free picnic for the military and their families, 3-5 p.m. with music and games will be there to make the day even more enjoyable!

No outside coolers or food permitted on the installation for this event.

The concert begins at 7 p.m. and is open to all service members (active duty/reserves/National Guard) and their families, veterans, retirees, DoD civilians of Bay Ridge and Bensonhurst VA Hospital and first responders (FDNY/NYPD). Non-military/first responder affiliated civilians must be sponsored by someone with proper identification to attend this event.

Check out the Fort Hamilton Facebook page (www.facebook.com/fort.hamilton) and get a chance to be one of 60 Soldiers who will be part of a meet and greet with the artists.

Call 718-630-4772 or 718-630-4935 for more information.

DMAVA Green

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

It doesn't matter where you shop, cleaning supplies can really hit the wallet. And some of them are full of some nasty ingredients that smell or take your breath away. The purchase a box of baking soda – you can find a 16 ounce box for less than a dollar in your local grocery store – can find you cleaning everything from your mouth to your sports equipment.

Neutralize bad breath odors – a teaspoon in a half glass of water: swish, spit and rinse.

Insect bites – make a paste of baking soda and water, apply as a salve to the area.

Itchy skin – shake some soda into your hands and rub it into your damp skin after a shower.

Cleaning bathroom tub, tile and sinks (works on fiberglass and glossy tiles too) – sprinkle lightly on a clean, damp sponge and scrub. Rinse and wipe dry. Need more power? Make a paste with the soda, coarse salt and liquid dish soap; let it sit for a short time and then scour it off.

Cleaner clothes – add a ½ cup of baking soda to your liquid laundry detergent.

Sports equipment – sprinkle baking soda in gym bags, golf bags, sneakers when not in use (shake out before wearing) to deodorize. Clean golf irons without scratching with a paste of 3 parts of soda to 1 part water and a brush; rinse thoroughly.

Freshen your child's teddy bear – sprinkle your favorite stuffed animals with baking soda and let them sit for 15 minutes; brush off.

Of course, you can always place an opened box in the back of your refrigerator to neutralize odors.

When you are done cleaning and sitting down to relax, dissolve three tablespoons of baking soda in a tub of warm water and soak your feet, then gently scrub. Ahhh.....

Keep Green!

Quotes

When down in the mouth remember Jonah - he came out all right.

--Thomas Edison

Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort.

--Franklin D. Roosevelt

These are three rules of dealing with all those who come to us: (1) Kindness; (2) Kindness; (3) Kindness.

--Bishop Fulton J. Sheen

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

Families

School looking for sponsor families for Cadets

The USMA Prep School is looking for families to be a part of an effective and beneficial program – the Cadet Candidate Sponsorship Program.

Interaction with sponsor families throughout the year help motivate and refresh the Cadet Candidates. Participation in this worthwhile program will offer the CCs a “home away from home,” and at the same time families will positively influence the life and decisions of these outstanding young people.

If you are interested in participating in the program send an email to Faiza.Evans@usma.edu by August 1. Applications will be e-mailed to potential participants; the completed application must be returned no later than August 10.

For questions about the sponsorship program or an application contact Sgt. Evans at 732-532 -0585.

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.mybluestar-flag.com>.

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.



Take a trip to Broadway to see 'Billy Elliot'

Sign up now open to see “Billy Elliot” on Broadway on Sept. 22. The bus will depart Picatinny Arsenal at 9:45 a.m. and have free time before the show. The cost is \$135 per person and includes charter bus transportation and Orchestra seats. Don't miss out on this Elton John musical Tony Award winner!! Call the “Take Off” Center in building 34 at 973-724-4014 and book your seats.

Sittercity: new military childcare program

Your Sittercity membership is funded by the Department of Defense and is available at no cost to you! Go to www.sittercity.com/DOD to register.

Activate your membership today and find local sitters and military care providers- only takes 2 minutes.

Sittercity is America's largest and most trusted online source for in-home caregivers with over 1 million nationwide caregiver profiles. Sittercity helps you find:

- Babysitters: For after-school, hourly care, school vacations, deployment and PCS, extended work hours, special needs children, and anytime you need a sitter.
- Nannies: For full and part time, infant and young child care
- Certified CDH/FCC care providers
- Care providers who are authorized access to an installation
- Elder care providers, dog walkers, housekeepers and tutors

Your Sittercity membership gives you online access to local caregivers with profiles that include background checks, parent reviews, references, a 4-Step screening process, pictures and more.

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

New Jersey Credit Union rep to visit DMAVA June 29

By Paul Serdiuk

A representative from the New Jersey Credit Union will be at DMAVA Central on June 29, in Conference Room A from 10 a.m.-noon. There will be a brief overview of what the credit union offers and then individual sessions.

If you are interested in attending, contact Paul Serdiuk at 609-530-6878.

What is the difference between a Credit Union and a bank?

CUNJ is an institution that carries all the same products and services as your current one, but we are not-for-profit. We have restricted membership availability, but through the Credit Union of New Jersey's relationship with your corporation, YOU are eligible for membership!

Why should you join a Credit Union over a bank?

In addition to savings and checking accounts, currently The Credit Union of New Jersey has some of the most competitive loan rates that you can find:

- Auto Loans as low as 3.24%
- Home Equity Line of Credit as low as 2.74%
- Personal/Unsecured Loans as low as 9.75%
- Subsidized Student loans as low as 5.6%

'Toast to Dennis' will take place June 26 in Rumson

The Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Fund will host its second annual *Toast to Dennis*, on June 26, at the home of Randy and Maureen MacDonald, Rumson NJ.

Funds raised from the event will benefit the Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Fund. Lt. Zilinski was killed in action while deployed in Iraq on Nov. 19, 2005. The fund was created in 2006 to honor his memory and spirit for life. All proceeds raised on behalf of the fund are used to support programs that assist wounded soldiers and their families, and to provide scholarships in Dennis' name to his alma mater, Christian Brothers Academy.

Retired Army Colonel James Costigan, a resident of Freehold, has been tapped to chair the event committee. John Grifo, owner of Grif's Seaside Catering located in Seaside, will prepare an extensive menu with an array of fresh seafood and hors d'oeuvres.

Guests can take part in live and silent auctions. They can also enjoy the entertainment of The Jazz Lobsters, all for a good cause.

Contact Christine Burke Eskwitt 732-688-8079 or cburkeassociates@comcast.net, for reservations or more information. Tickets are \$100 per person. Valet parking will be provided.

For more information visit: www.runwithdennis.org. Donations may be sent to: Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Fund, PO Box 35, Holmdel, NJ, 07733.

Congressman Holt looking for veterans for Oral History Project

By Terry Dearden, DMAVA Government Relations

New Jersey Congressman Rush Holt wants to interview veterans for the Library of Congress Veteran Oral History Project. He is looking to contact Veterans of all conflicts to share their story to be videotaped and recorded. Any Veteran interested should contact Matthew Hall in Congressman Rush Holt's office at 609-716-0497.

Army Soldier Show on the stage at JBMDL June 22-23

If you are looking for some entertainment this year, you can find it at the U.S. Army Soldier Show which is making four stops in the area between now and November. Pick a date and come watch the music and stage show that the Soldiers give to their audience.

June 22 – 7 p.m. – Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Timmerman Center, building 5441, 8th Street.

June 23 – 3 p.m. – Joint Base MDL, Timmerman Center

Sept. 25 – time to be announced – Morris Knolls High School, 50 Knolls Drive, Rockaway (Picatinny Arsenal)

Nov. 4 – 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. – Expo Theater, building 1215, Avenue of Memories, Fort Monmouth

For more information on the show, visit <http://www.armymwr.com/recreation/entertainment/soldiershow/default.aspx>.

Traveling Vietnam Wall to be in Florence, June 24-27

The traveling Vietnam Wall will be at the Fountain of Life Center, 2035 Columbus Rd., Florence Twp., June 24-27. The event is free to the public.

Included in the event will be a Cost of Freedom Memorial, Walk of Heroes display, 9/11 memorials, World War II tribute, guest speakers, and live music. Each day will have special events. For more information, visit www.flcnj.org.

177th JAG chosen for War College

Lt. Col. John F. O'Connell, a Staff Judge Advocate for the 177th Fighter Wing, was selected to attend the Department of Defense Senior Developmental Education Program more commonly known as War College. He will be attending the Industrial College of the Armed Forces at the National Defense University located at Fort McNair, Washington, D.C.

O'Connell is a veteran of Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom.

He has a projected graduation date of June 9, 2011 at which time he will be awarded a Masters of Science in National Security and Resource Strategy.

Veterans & Military

Veterans with disabilities can get free hunting, fishing licenses

If you are a honorably discharged veteran with a service-connected disability and a New Jersey resident – you are entitled to free New Jersey hunting and fishing licenses, permits and stamps. Your disability must be declared by the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to be a service-connected disability of any kind for this benefit.

To find out the procedures needed to get certified, necessary documents and any restrictions, visit www.njfishandwildlife.com/dvinfo.htm. Questions can be directed to Sylvia Hall at 908-637-4125 or Sylvia.Hall@dep.state.nj.us.

Troops to Teachers helps military lead in classroom

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, consider attending one of the upcoming program briefings at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. Contact 800-680-0884 or via 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.

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.

Fast-running soldiers needed to try out for NJ Guard ATM team

So Soldier, think you're fast?

Why not compete to represent the New Jersey Army National Guard at the Army 10-miler on Oct. 24 in Washington, D.C.?

The tryout will be held on Aug. 3 at the National Guard Training Center at Sea Girt. Show time is 6 a.m. at Building 35. The competition is open to both sexes and all ranks from within the Army Guard.

Soldiers who make the team will be placed on temporary duty for the race and their registration will be paid.

If you can't make the tryout, but want to try to represent the state at the big race, the posted results of a race 10 miles or longer can be used as a qualifier as long as that race is held within two months of the race.

For more information about competing, contact Sgt. 1st Class Melanie Rowton by email at Melanie.rowton@us.army.mil. For general information about the race, visit www.army10miler.com.

Invitation extended by JWV Post 972 to all veterans

An invitation is extended to all military personnel to join the Lt Seth Dvorin Post 972 of the Jewish War Veterans. The veterans meet on the first Wednesday of the month at the Marlboro Jewish Center located at 103 School Road West, Marlboro, N.J. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m.

Second Lt. Seth Dvorin was a native of Monmouth County who made the ultimate sacrifice while proudly defending the American way of life and liberty. Lt Dvorin was killed in Iraq Feb. 3, 2004. The post was renamed in May of 2004 to honor Lt. Dvorin.

Post 972 covers Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Anyone interested in joining this post or a similar post should contact Richard Berg at r2d2b2@optonline.net or Richard Dvorin at ltsethdvorinpost972jvw@comcast.net.

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.vets4vets.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.

Calendar

'The Little Angels' return to area for free performance in D.C.

The Little Angels – the Children's Folk Ballet of Korea – has added another performance to their tour. There will be a full stage set up on the grassy field beside the National War Memorial which is close to the Lincoln Memorial. The show will be on June 25, the day the Korean War began. It will begin at 11 a.m. and conclude at 1 p.m.

For more information, go to www.kw60june25.com.

Play golf on Aug. 2, support the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation

On August 2, the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation will be holding its 16th annual Golf Tournament at the Olde York Country Club in Columbus, N.J.

Registration and the range open at 8 a.m., along with a continental breakfast. The tournament starts at 10 a.m. with a shot-gun start. Lunch and refreshments will be on the course. A post golf reception with awards and silent auction and raffles will be held after playing is through.

The outing provides a major source of funds for the Foundation's work throughout the year. The foundation welcomes individual and foursome golfers, as well as others who would want to sponsor a hole, donate a prize for our auction or raffle, or choose one of the other sponsorship options available.

If you would like more information on the events or to RSVP your participation, call the office at 732-335-0033 ext. 100., or visit www.njvnmf.org and click on the "events" button.

Enjoy Skyhawks baseball July 9 on Military Appreciation Night

Military Appreciation Night at the Sussex Skyhawks Baseball at Skylands Park, Augusta, N.J., is on July 9. Gates open at 5 p.m., with the game starting at 6:05 p.m. The game is followed by fireworks sponsored by the Picatinny Credit Union. Everyone is welcome. Buy your tickets from Picatinny and save. Tickets are \$9 each. Call or stop by the "Take Off" Center in building 34 to reserve your seats. Tickets will be distributed the week prior to the game. To reserve your seats, or if you have any questions, please call Linda or Janet at 973-724-4014.

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."

NGANJ clambake, concert at Sea Girt on July 10

The National Guard Association of New Jersey is hosting a Clam Bake on July 10, 2-4 p.m., at the Sea Girt Training Center. It will be followed by a concert by the New Jersey National Guard Army Band at 5 p.m.

Cost is \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under. The menu will include steamed clams and crabs, hot dogs, hamburgers, barbecue chicken, corn on the cob, salads and refreshments.

To register, send a check made payable to "NGANJ," along with the Guard member's name and unit and number of adults and children attending to:

NGANJ – Clam Bake
PO Box 266
Wrightstown NJ 08652

Bus trip to Broadway

Picatinny Arsenal MWR has done five bus trips to "Jersey Boys" on Broadway. Is there interest in another one? E-mail linda.pienkos@us.army.mil or call 973-724-4014 if you are interested. If we get enough people who want to go, we will purchase the tickets.

The date will be Oct. 26, with show time at 7 p.m. The bus will depart the Arsenal at 3 p.m. and return at 11 p.m. The price will be approximately \$95 for front mezzanine seats and charter bus transportation.

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.

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

Deadline

Want to place an event or article in DMAVA Highlights?

Deadline for articles is noon Wednesday.

Send submissions to barbara.harbison@njdmava.state.nj.us.