







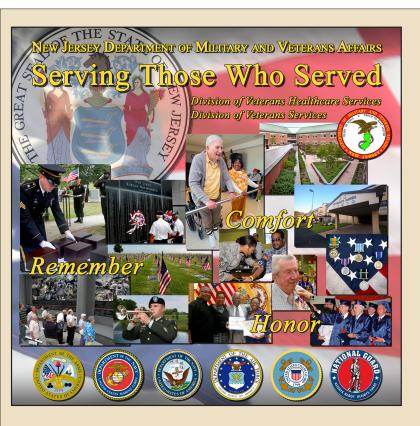
The DMAVA cafeteria is now OPEN

3 AM to 2:30 PM during work days









New Jersey Department of Military & Veterans Affairs Veterans Outreach Campaign

LIVINGSTON MALL

April *9, 10 & 11

* Medal Ceremony at 11:00a.m. on Tuesday, April 9
Kiosk hours 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
112 Eisenhower Parkway, Livingston, NJ 07039
(Essex County)

CHERRY HILL MALL

June *4, 5 & 6

* Medal Ceremony at 11:00a.m. on Tuesday, June 4 Kiosk hours 10 a.m. – 8p.m. 200 Route 38, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002 (Camden County)

GOV SPONSORS TRAINING WORKSHOP DESIGNED TO HELP VETERANS RECOVER FROM GAMBLING ADDICTION

TRENTON – Counselors from throughout the state attended a training workshop March 21, to learn techniques to treat military veterans and others who are addicted to gambling.

About 20 clinicians, many of whom specialize in treating addictions in the military community, attended a training session sponsored by the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and administered by the Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, Inc. (CCGNJ).

"We want people to know that compulsive gambling is treatable and people can recover," DMHAS assistant commissioner Lynn Kovich told the attendees, noting that gambling problems are often hidden and underreported, especially in the military community.

The workshop is one of a series to provide special training to healthcare professionals and one of several recent efforts promoting March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month, as proclaimed by Gov. Chris Christie.

The training is part of a broader initiative to educate the public about compulsive gambling and its warning signs, as well as to raise awareness about the treatment available to help people recover.

With representatives and counselors from New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affair (DMAVA), Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, and Veterans Haven North participating in the workshop, today's session included a focus on veterans with problematic gambling habits.

"We look forward to using what we learn here today and bringing it to our military and veteran community," DMAVA deputy commissioner Raymond Zawacki said as the workshop began. "Today's training is another step in the right direction to assist veterans back on the path to a productive life."

Although this month – known by many for March Madness – is the focus of nation-wide attention to problem gambling; treatment is available all year through programs funded by DMHAS.

"More than 350,000 New Jerseyans are problem gamblers or at high risk of becoming problem gamblers", said Kovich. She noted that the American Psychiatric Association next month is scheduled to officially declare compulsive gambling as an addiction.

The vast majority of gamblers are not compulsive, but people should be aware of

the warning signs that a loved one might need help.

Some of these include: Gambling until you have no more cash left in your pockets; chasing your losses to win back money you lost; growing debts and unpaid bills; Needing financial help from others because of gambling; selling personal or family items to finance gambling; gambling alone and longer than you intend; spending increasing amounts of time gambling; lying to cover up the extent of your gambling; jeopardizing relationships, work, or school because of gambling; less productive at work; increasing marital problems; neglecting family and personal needs to gamble instead; abusing alcohol or other drugs; suicide attempts; trouble sleeping because you are thinking about gambling; and gambling after arguments, disappointments, or frustrations.

With an annual allocation from DM-HAS of \$850,000, CCGNJ works with 35 agencies statewide to provide education and treatment to problem gamblers and maintains a 24-hour confidential hotline, 1-800-GAMBLER and the website http://www.800gambler.org that lists additional resources.



More than 110 veterans looking for jobs got the opportunity to meet with employers at the Hiring Our Heroes job fair held at Rider University March 21, 2013. The Rider student recreation center floor in Lawrenceville was filled with more than 70 employers and 19 veteran service organizations. Veterans can use the Hero To Hired website https://h2h.jobs/ to start a job search. (Photo by Kryn P. Westhoven, NJESGR)



Col. Mark A. Piterski, left, commander 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, hands the 50th guidon to Command Sgt. Maj. Edward Santiago, right, during a change of authority March 24, 2013 at the brigade's headquarter at the Lawrenceville Armory. Santiago assumed the responsibility as the 50th IBCT's senior noncommisioned officer from Command Sgt. Maj. Michael V. Rigby. (Army National Guard photo by Capt. Vincent Solomeno/NGMMNJ/Historian)

Military Appreciation Day

Place: Casino Pier, Seaside Heights

800 Ocean Terrace

Date: Saturday, 8 June 2013

Time: 0900 – 1500 Hours for bracelet pick-up

Waterpark opens at 1000 Hrs and rides open 1200 Hr

Rain Date: Saturday, 15 June 2013

Soldiers/Airmen and Family members are cordially invited to attend "Military Appreciation Day" at the New Jersey Shore.

You will be required to show a Uniformed Services Military ID to obtain ride bracelets for you and your dependants only. Friends and extended family members will not receive bracelets.

- ** check in through the side entrance of the Breakwater Beach Waterpark on 800 Ocean Terrace off Grant Ave. between 0900 Hrs – 1500 Hrs (3:00 pm)
- ** Waterpark opens at 1000 hours, rides open at noon.
- ** Each Military Family will receive a debit card (one) worth \$25.00 to be used to play games at the Casino Pier. (slot machines, ski ball, pin ball games)
- ** Bracelets are good for use at the Waterpark and all Pier rides (Carousels, safari train, kiddie boats)

 EXCLUDING the go-carts and the Skyscraper ride.

Thank you......for serving our Country!

Rides may be at a minimum due to Hurricane Sandy & We are hoping to have all rides open by Memorial Day





Please Join us For a Financial Resiliency and Wellness Town Hall

1300 Wednesday 17 April 2013 Joint Military & Family Assistance Center 1048 US HWY 206 Bordentown, NJ 08505 RSVP NLT 15 April to SPC Williams

michelle.m.williams2@us.army.mil (609) 324-7033

PATRIOT CONNECTIONS

Veteran, Military, Law Enforcement and Patriot Related EVENTS and NEWS in NJ, PA and surrounding areas...

SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS ONLINE AT;

WWW.PATRIOTCONNECTIONS.ORG

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