



DMAVA Highlights

September 1, 2006

Volume 5, Number 36

*NJ Dept of Military
and Veterans
Affairs*

Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth
The Adjutant General

Brig. Gen. Maria Falca-
Dodson
Deputy Adjutant General

Col. (Ret) Stephen G. Abel
Deputy Commissioner for
Veterans Affairs

Contacting us is easy!

Public Affairs Office

SSgt. Barbara Harbison
Barbara.harbison@njdmava.state.nj.us

Or

609-530-7088

We're on the Web!
www.state.nj.us/military

News For your Views

Health & Fitness Fair - September 7

The Health and Fitness Fair is held annually to educate Federal employees and active duty members and families on their health benefits and entitlements...and to maximize participation in those benefits. This year's fair will be held Thursday, Sept. 7, at the National Guard Joint Training Center (Bldg 3601) on Fort Dix.

Informative briefings will be held continuously from 9:45 a.m.-3 p.m. Briefings and events include:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 7:30 a.m. | 5k Fun Run/Walk |
| 9 a.m. | Opening Ceremony |
| All Day
providers | Briefings from Active Duty and Federal Employee Health providers |
| 3 p.m. | Closing ceremony and prize giveaways |

Things will kick off with the Adjutant General of New Jersey, Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, presiding over the opening ceremony. Representatives from health providers such as Tricare, Aetna US Health, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, HealthNet Federal Services, US Family Health Plan, Keystone and AmeriHealth will be conducting seminars and briefings – averaging about 15-30 minutes each – from 9:45 a.m. until the closing ceremony at 3 p.m. In addition to the seminars, there will be more than 50 vendors and door prizes. Some of the prizes include:

- Trip to Shades of Green in Walt Disney World Resort Package
- Tickets to Sesame Place
- Fitness Center gift certificates
- Weekend car rental gift certificates
- T-Shirts

For more information, contact Heidi Evans at 609-562-0846 or heidi.ann.evans@us.army.mil.

Ceremony, plaque dedication in memory of Staff Sgt. Carvill

The Schmidt-Hoeger VFW Post # 3149 of Carlstadt, N.J., will honor the memory and sacrifice of New Jersey Army National Guardsman Staff Sergeant Frank T. Carvill. On Thursday, Sept. 28 at 11 a.m., during a special ceremony, a plaque will be placed on the Memorial Stone in the Memorial Park of Carlstadt at the corner of Division Ave. and Hackensack St. Everyone is invited to attend the ceremony.



Veterans' Organizations

Contact Information

State Veterans Service Council
Mr. Richard Clark
RJClark21@msn.com

NJ Advisory Committee for Women Veterans
Mrs. Anna Hoffman
AnnaMHoffman@gmail.com

BG William C. Doyle Cemetery Advisory Council
Mr. William Rakestraw
warjrnj@msn.com

Veterans Hotlines



Benefits & Entitlements
1-888-8NJ-VETS
(1-888-865-8367)

Mental Health
1-866-VETS-NJ4U
(1-866-838-7654)

NJ World War II Memorial



For information or to make a donation, call 609-530-7049

Veterans receive N.J. Distinguished Service Medal in ceremony

During the 'One Mall a Month' stop for the DMAVA Veterans kiosk at the Quarkerbridge Mall on Route 1 in Lawrence, nine Mercer County veterans were on hand to receive the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal for their service in the Global War on Terrorism.

Fellow Iraqi veteran Lt. Col. Mark Preston, commander of the N.J. Army Guard's 1-150th General Aviation Support Battalion from West Trenton presented the medals to the New Jerseyans who served in combat.

The medal ceremony was part of the three-day visit of the department's kiosk as part of the Veterans Outreach Program. The kiosk makes a monthly appearance at major shopping malls across the state.

Armed Forces Voter's Week, Sept. 3-9

Service members serving away from their voting residence will submit a Federal Post Card Application SF-76 for registration and/or to request absentee ballots.

State voting rules are available in the 2006-07 Voting Assistance Guide, available online at <http://www.fvap.gov>.

Fort Dix Annual Retirement Day, Sept 16

On Saturday, Sept. 16, Fort Dix will host their annual Retiree Appreciation Day. This is a day that Fort Dix has set aside to honor the retired community with guest speakers, information tables, refreshments, medical screenings and a luncheon. The day's activities, held at Griffith Field House, begin at 8 a.m. and end at 2 p.m.

Camden Riversharks present Military Appreciation Night

The Camden Riversharks and Lourdes Health system are presenting a Military Appreciation Night at Campbell's Field on Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. All active military personnel, including reserves and National Guard will receive free admission to the game – just come in uniform or show your military ID. Retired veterans or family members of military personnel will pay \$5 for their tickets (a \$3 discount off the regular price.)

Everyone is encouraged to bring a donation of coffee or other nonperishable coffee cart supplies to support troops in the field. There will be donation points around the arena for item drop off.

Rivershark players will wear specially designed military jerseys during the game. After the game, the jerseys will be auctioned off and the proceeds will go to a Military Hospitality Fund sponsored by the Lourdes Health Foundation.

Order tickets at 1-866-SHARKS9 or www.Riversharks.com.

Hand washing can prevent sickness

As the weather starts to cool, remember cold and flu season is just around the corner. While a flu vaccination is the best way to prevent the flu, clean hands is an important weapon when it comes to keeping the germs from spreading. Here are some hand-washing tips from the CDC:

- Wash your hands with soap and clean running water for 20 seconds.
- Wet your hands with clean running water and apply soap.
- Use warm water if available.
- Rub hands together to make a lather and scrub all hand surfaces.
- Continue rubbing hands for 20 seconds -- the time it takes to sing "Happy Birthday" twice.
- Rinse hands well under running water.
- Dry hands using a paper towel or air dryer.
- If possible, use your paper towel to turn off the faucet.
- If soap and water aren't available, use an alcohol-based product to clean your hands.



**New Jersey Freedom
Loans**

What is a Freedom Loan?

- * Up to \$10,000
- * Annual APR 6%
- * Term: 5 years (no pre-payment penalty)
- * Unsecured Loan (no collateral required)

Who is eligible to apply?

NJ residents who are:

- * Members of the National Guard or Reserve
- * Mobilized for one year or longer to fight in the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) - excluding routine training.

Or

- * Served 90 or more consecutive days in the GWOT on federal or state active duty (excluding routing training) and have received orders extending cumulative active duty a year or longer.

How do I apply?

- * Contact participating banks. Call or visit your local branch office to obtain an application.

Rolling Thunder Freedom Run, Sept. 17

Rolling Thunder Chapter2 is holding Freedom Run XI on Sunday, **Sept. 17** at Warinanco Park, Roselle, N.J. Departure time is 8 a.m., riding to N.J. Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, Holmdel. You will need \$3 to cover tolls, expenses and donation to the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation and Vietnam Era Education Center. For more info, please call 609-971-3544.

Fill Your Date Book

NJNG Appreciation Day at the beach, Sept. 4

Sept. 4 is New Jersey National Guard Appreciation Day at The Jenkinsons Boardwalk in Point Pleasant Beach. Open only to NJ National Guard Personnel (with IDs) and their immediate family, festivities will start at 11 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. NJNG members will present military ID at the welcome table on the Boardwalk (foot of parkway, opposite the aquarium). They will be issued VIP wristbands entitling the wearers to free passage to the beach, unlimited rides, Fun House entrance and aquarium.

Due to limited parking in Point Pleasant Beach, continuous shuttle service will be provided from the Sea Girt Armory to Jenkinsons from 10:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

All attendees are invited to attend the Labor Day Concert honoring troops given by Air Guard Chaplain Alphonse Stephenson and the Orchestra of St. Peter By The Sea at 7:30 p.m., concluding with a huge fireworks display at 8:45 p.m.

Special show offered on Sept. 11 at Tweeter Center, Camden

On **Sept. 11**, the Pennsauken Alliance for the Performing Arts is planning a special presentation, "Proud To Be An American." The show will honor all who have given the last full measure to protect our liberty by recognizing our veterans of all wars, our police, firefighters, everyday service personnel and those who perished on 9/11. This year's show will be at the Tweeter Center on the Waterfront in Camden, N.J. "Proud to be an American" is a show you will always remember, a day "We Shall Never Forget."

Admission is free and the show starts at 7:30 PM. Please visit our website at www.papashows.org for additional information.

3rd Annual Frank T. Carvill scholarship dinner Sept. 21

The third annual Frank T. Carvill scholarship dinner honoring Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas H. Slowinski will be held Thursday, **Sept. 21**, at The Landmark II, 26 Route 17 South, East Rutherford, N.J., 07073, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Cost is \$85 per ticket, for a full buffet dinner, open bar and a live band. For tickets, call 201-457-9000.

Military pricing on tickets to Sesame Street show

The Theater at Continental Airlines Arena, East Rutherford, is offering discount tickets to military members and their families to attend Sesame Street Live "Elmo Makes Music." The show will be held on **Sept. 21** and 22 at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., Sept. 23 at 10:30 a.m. 2 and 5:30 p.m. and Sept. 24 at 1 and 4:30 p.m. Tickets range in price from \$8-22 each depending on day and show time.

If you are interested in purchasing tickets, please e-mail Barbara.harbison@njdmava.state.nj.us or call (609) 530-7088 for the form needed to send with payment for the tickets.

Honorable Mention

Guard gate now has phone line

The Guard Booth Telephone Number is 609-671-6623.

Effective immediately all Directors, Managers, Supervisors and Employees that

* Guardmembers, Reservists, or family members with Power of Attorney must submit copies of current mobilization orders with the bank's Freedom Loan application.

Current participants:

- ☺ Commerce Bank
1-888-751-9000
- ☺ Credit Union of NJ
609-538-4061, ext. 401
- ☺ First Morris Bank & Trust
1-888-530-2265
- ☺ Manasquan Savings Bank
732-223-4450
- ☺ North Jersey Federal Credit Union
1-888-78NJFCU
- ☺ Peapack-Gladstone Bank
(908) 719-BANK
- ☺ Pennsville National Bank
856-678-6006
- ☺ PNC
1-866-PNC-4USA
- ☺ Sovereign Bank
1-877-391-6365
- ☺ Sun National Bank
1-800-691-7701

interface with outside personnel for hosting on-site meetings here at the Lawrenceville Headquarters are directed to notify the security guard when expecting scheduled visitors.

You are to provide the date, time and name of the visitor in advance whenever possible, also the DMAVA employee they are visiting and/or meeting they are attending. The Guard will issue a visitors parking permit. If you are expecting a large party for a meeting or event please provide a roster of attendees, with the meeting date time and location to the gate guard prior to the event.

Civil Air Patrol looking for BDU donations

The New Jersey Civil Air Patrol is the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. They perform inland search and rescue missions, aerial reconnaissance for homeland security and disaster relief missions. CAP has an active cadet program and aerospace education program for young people. All of the members are unpaid volunteers and must purchase their own uniforms, although CAP does try to provide uniforms for their cadet members without charge to them.

CAP is looking for donations of BDUs (woodland pattern) in wearable condition for use by their members. They can use pants, shirts, field jackets and caps. They will also accept Air Force Service Dress uniforms for cadet's use.

If you have uniforms to donate, please contact Maj. Rick Ulmer, (732)364-7755 or e-mail: caplawyer123@comcast.net. He will make arrangements for pick-up.

Tax-free in New Jersey!!

Does your shopping list have either a U.S. Flag or New Jersey flag on it? One good piece of news – the sales tax hike does not affect that purchase; in fact purchase of either flag is TAX FREE in New Jersey. Please visit the following web page to check out the particulars: <http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/index.html?flag.htm>.

Army offers free courses for Soldiers, DA civilians

If you are an Army Soldier or DA civilian, you can access more than 2,600 information technology, business, self-development and 30 foreign language courses for FREE through Army e-Learning. Visit www.us.army.mil and select "my education." In Fiscal Year 2006, almost a quarter million courses were completed. Some of the top 10 courses of the month for July were: Rosetta Stone Spanish and Arabic, Windows XP: Fundamentals, Accounting Fundamentals and Encryption Technologies.

DMAVA Hotline

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Emergency Hotline is:

1-866-232-5798

You will hear the following message:

You have reached the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Emergency Information Number. Please listen to the following menu choices and select an appropriate option:

State employees – press 1
Federal employees – press 2
National Guard employees – press 3

Affordable vacation spots around the world

Are you looking for an affordable vacation spot? The Armed Forces Recreation Center has resorts around the world for members of the Armed Forces, their families and other members of the Total Defense Force. Room rates are based on rank, pay grade, duty status, room size and/or room location. Reservations are required, policies vary by location and guests may not stay more than 30 consecutive days or register again within the following 90-day period. But if you are thinking of Hawaii, Germany, South Korea or Orlando as a possible vacation destination, this just may be the ticket! Visit <http://www.armymwr.com/portal/travel/recreationcenters/> for more information.

Doyle cemetery seeks volunteers

Contact name
and number for
DMAVA
Highlights

Please submit any
articles and all
and information
to:

PAO Office
DMAVA Highlights
ATTN:
SSgt. Barbara
Harbison

DEADLINE IS
NOON
THURSDAY

Barbara.Harbison@njmava.state.nj.us

Or by calling
609-530-7088

The Cemetery is working toward designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. We are enlisting the support of community volunteers for Outreach & Education. Scouting Groups, Veteran Service Organizations, Youth Groups, and other interested individuals are encouraged to contact Iven C. Dumas 1st Sgt, USMC (Ret) Assistant Superintendent, at (609) 758-7250 ext. 17 or by e-mail at Iven.Dumas@njdmava.state.nj.us.

JT2DC Memorial Walkway offers engraved pavers

The Joint Training and Development Center (JT2DC) recently unveiled the Memorial Walkway to the center. The purpose of the pond and walkway are to serve as a reminder that there are Soldiers in harm's way protecting the freedoms that we all cherish and enjoy.

The concept of the Memorial Walkway was to have Soldiers create a mark by dedicating inscribed bricks. Soldiers have chosen to honor loved ones, family members, friends, and personnel with whom they served.

Anyone interested in purchasing an engraved paver for \$50, can contact Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy Maskery at (609) 562-0539.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of New Jersey

Membership

Give our state a larger voice by becoming a member of the Enlisted Association. The increased numbers will help us speak on all legislative issues that will benefit you and your families. The association works hard for you at the Federal & State level on all important issues. Visit the web site EANG-NJ.org, click on *Become a Member* for the application and find out more about what the association does.

Conference

The Enlisted Association invites you to the Annual Conference at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Atlantic City West, **October 6-8, 2006**, to Honor and Salute our Airmen and Soldiers who supported the War on Terrorism. Saturday during the Military Ball will be our way to say thank you for their dedication and sacrifices that they and their families shared. Friday night will feature a Hawaiian luau with a show and an Army and Air challenge. Our mission is to have fun. Visit our web site EANG-NJ.org, click on *EANG-NJ Conference* to find out more. Thank you for your support. You can reach the membership chairman Jerome Zebrowski at (609) 214-6959 or jcptfalc@aol.com or co-chairman Edward Goetschius at (609) 965-1972 or esgtmaj@comcast.net.

For the Families

Marriage Enrichment Seminar

Due to the success of the Marriage Enrichment Seminars, also known as Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP), we have requested and have been approved for additional funding. Another seminar has been scheduled for **Sept. 22-24**. This will be the last seminar for FY06. If you have never attended the seminar, call Marie Durling at 609-562-0739 for more information and or to register. This seminar is open to all NJNG Soldiers. Soldiers that have been deployed will be given priority.

Guard Family Action Plan

The Guard Family Action Plan (GFAP) identifies issues of concern to Guard members, spouses, parents, children, retirees and civilian employees. The GFAP determines actions necessary to resolve issues and assigns responsibility for actions to the proper staff agency.

The proper staff agency begins at unit level within the chain of command and can include the Departments of the Army and Air Force and the Congress of the United States. You can submit an issue along with your recommendation for a solution through the GFAP website at www.gfap.org. If you have any questions, you can call Marie Durling in the State Family Programs Office at 609-562-0739.

Quote for the week

If I had my life to live over, I would start barefoot earlier in the spring and stay that way later in the fall. I would go to more dances. I would ride more merry-go-rounds. I would pick more daisies.

-Nadine Stair

Spouses invited to go on orientation flights

The 108th Air Refueling Wing would like to extend an invitation to the spouses of New Jersey Army and Air National Guardsmen and women who would like to see an aerial refueling up close.

This is a great opportunity for spouses to see the skills needed to fuel an aircraft more than 20,000 feet in the air. Seats will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you are interested, please call Staff Sgt. Beth Pritchard at (609) 754-4173 or e-mail at elizabeth.Pritchard@njmccgu.af.mil for the form needed to request a seat.

Guard members who would like an orientation flight or would like to nominate their bosses for a flight can also contact Staff Sgt. Pritchard for information and forms.

Family Programs on the calendar

Sept. 2, 8 p.m.	Peter Nero and the Philly Pops, Atlantic City Hilton and Resorts
Sept. 16, 10 a.m.	Kid's Crafts, Burlington Armory
Sept. 17, noon	42 nd RSG Family Day, Somerset Armory
Sept. 17, noon	250 th Signal Bn Family Day, Westfield Armory
Sept. 23	Mystery and Silent Auction at Cookstown VFW
Sept. 24, 9:30 a.m.	Iron Horse Cavalry – Motorcycle Poker Run; Riverdale Armory start, Morristown Armory end.
Sept. 30, 10 a.m.	Reunion workshop, Lawrenceville Armory

Family Readiness Group Meeting schedule

Bordentown Armory – B Co 250th SBF & Co D 250th BSB – **Sept. 16**, 10 a.m.

Hammonton Armory – 119th SB Corps – **Sept. 21**, 7 p.m.

Jersey City Armory – D Co 2-113th – **Sept. 20**, 7 p.m.

Lawrenceville Armory – 50th PSB – **Sept. 21**, 7 p.m.; 50th Fin Bn – **Oct. 14**, 2 p.m.

Morristown Armory – 3-112th & 5/117th –

Newark Armory – A, B, E Co's 2-113th Inf – **Sept. 20**, 7 p.m.

Port Murray Armory – 2-102nd Arm –

Teaneck Armory – 50th SBM – **Sept. 21**, 7 p.m.

Toms River Armory – C/3-112th FA –

Vineland Armory – 5/117th Cav – **Sept. 9**, TBD

West Orange Armory – B Co 5/117th Cav – **Sept. 23**, 1 p.m.

Woodbury Armory – Trp C 5.117th Cav –

Recreation and Sports

Trenton Thunder offers reduced tickets to military personnel, vets

The Trenton Thunder baseball team and its community partner, the Trenton Vet Center, have collaborated to sponsor reduced ticket prices for veterans and their families during the 2006 Trenton Thunder baseball season.

A regular \$9 season ticket has been reduced to \$7 for veterans and their family members.

Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard, separated, and retired veterans are eligible for this program. Interested veterans must have a picture I.D. and provide proof of their veteran status by showing one of the following documents:

8 Military I.D. card.

- ⌘ Federal Department of Veteran Affairs medical I.D. card
- ⌘ DD Form 214

Anheuser Busch extends complimentary ticket program

Anheuser Busch has announced its program offering free amusement park tickets to the service members and their families has become so popular it will be extended another year. The "Here's to the Heroes," is open to active duty service members, active members of the National Guard or Reserve, and up to three direct dependents for one complimentary admission per year. Participants can go online to fill out a form for free admission at <http://www.herosalute.com/>.

The amusement parks participating in the program are: *Sea World* parks in Orlando, Florida; San Diego and San Antonio; *Busch Gardens* parks in Tampa, Florida, and Williamsburg, Virginia; *Sesame Place*, a children's play and water park, near Philadelphia; *Adventure Island* water park in Tampa; and *Water Country USA* water park in Williamsburg.

Operation Oasis vacations for military personnel

Operation Oasis Outreach at Sandy Cove, North East, Md., offers a free, 3-day, 2-night time for rest and relaxation for military personnel who were deployed to the Middle East area during OIF/OEF with their spouse and children. Sandy Cove is located at the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay. If you are interested, contact Carol Lee Lynch: toll free 1-800-287-4843 or e-mail c.lynch@sandycove.org.

Picatinny Waterpark and Golf Course open to Vets, Guard, families

Picatinny Arsenal Morale, Welfare and Recreation Office are proud to announce new opportunities for Veterans. As part of the Army's "Always a Soldier" program, Picatinny's Frog Falls Waterpark and Golf Course are now open to veterans as well as Active Duty and Retired Military and Reservists. Frog Falls Waterpark offers annual memberships to veterans through our partnership with Rockaway Township Recreation. Active Duty and Retired Military and Reservists can purchase an annual membership or visit the Waterpark for a \$3 daily fee. Guest passes (for non-dependents) can be purchased at the gate for \$7 (limit of 4 per visit). Please call (973) 724-7275 for more information. Picatinny Golf Course is also open to Veterans. Please call (973) 724-GOLF for more information.

Memorial Golf Tournament, Sept. 11

The 3rd Annual Tom Laffey Memorial Golf Tournament will be held Monday, **Sept. 11**, with a 10 a.m. shotgun start at The Meadows at Middlesex Golf Course, Plainsboro. The tournament is sponsored by The Keeping the Faith Foundation which was created in 2004 by the children of Tom and Virginia Laffey as a way to honor the memory of their parents. The proceeds from the annual golf tournament are donated to a special cause; this year's proceeds will be given to the family of 1st Lt. Howard Gwin, whose daughter Ashleigh has been diagnosed with Krabbe Keukodystrophy. For more information about the tournament, please call Bill Laffey (732) 822-5814, Helene Wahl (732) 922-6539 or Tom Laffey Jr. (732) 846-1775.

LT. Col. Dave Savino Memorial Golf Tournament

The 10th Annual Lt. Col. Dave Savino Memorial Golf Tournament will be held at the Fountain Green Golf Course, Fort Dix on Monday, **Sept. 18**. Format will be two person scramble (best ball). Donation to play is \$85 per person which includes greens fees, cart, refreshments and door prizes. A buffet lunch will be held after the tournament. For more information, call 609-754-2048.

Governor's Surf Fishing Contest

Applications for the 2006 Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament, held each year at Island Beach State Park, are now available. Early registrants save on adult registration fees, are eligible for special prizes offered to pre-registrants and avoid delays - pre-registration ensures timely entry to the park.

The tournament will be held Sunday, **October 1**. Fishing begins at 6:30am. A variety of species are eligible for entry in the tournament, and there are winners in male,

female, teen and child categories. Don't miss this exciting family event!

For more information and a link to the application form visit <http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/gsf.htm> on the NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife website.

Support our Troops Motorcycle Run

The Freedom Riders "Support Our Troops" Motorcycle Run is scheduled for **October 14, 2006** (October 15 – Rain date). Proceeds benefit the Freedom Alliance Foundation providing: Educational scholarships to the children of American's Military Heroes that have given the Ultimate Sacrifice; pre-paid long-distance phone cards, gift cards for clothing, food, toiletries, books and magazines for the injured in our hospital; and funding for family members to travel to see and encourage their loved one.

For registration and information on the run go to: www.citikids.org/freedom.htm

Scholarship News

Grantham University scholarships: Grantham University offers a scholarship program to severely injured service members and their spouses and adult children. Go to www.grantham.edu for more information. They also have scholarship programs for military veterans, service members, and family members.

Widener University CARES Scholarship: Widener University, Chester, Pa., has a full scholarship program for children of Global War on Terrorism service members who were killed in action. Contact the Office of Admissions at 610-499-4126 for more information.

Veterans Information

DMVA Veterans Outreach Campaign continues.

The DMVA Veterans Outreach Campaign continues with kiosk displays at selected malls throughout New Jersey. The schedule is as follows:

September 14-16	Livingston Mall
October 12-14	Deptford Mall
November 9-11	Menlo Park Mall
January 11-13, 2007	Brunswick Square Mall
February 9-11, 2007	Moorestown Mall
March 1-3, 2007	Hamilton Mall

The kiosk will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the identified dates.

Northern New Jersey Stand Down will be held Sept. 9

The Northern New Jersey Stand Down 2006, a one-day outreach to assist homeless veterans and their dependents, will be held at the Essex County College gymnasium, **Sept. 9**, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Many services will be offered to the veterans who take part in the program, including veterans and medical benefits information, social services, employment services, substance abuse programs, recovery programs, photo ID, PTSD counseling, legal services, clothing and more.

The college is located at Market Street and Martin Luther King Blvd, Newark, N.J. A hot lunch will be provided. For more information, please call (973) 748-0980.

Pennsylvania War Dog memorial dedication

On **Sept. 16**, at 1 p.m., there will be a dedication of the Pennsylvania War Dog Memorial at the Bristol Township Municipal Building. The memorial will honor the military dogs and their handlers who have served our country proudly in both war and peace.

The War Dog Memorial will be part of a newly landscaped memorial garden situated near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial statue and the memorial honoring Bristol Township's police, fire and emergency services personnel. The municipal building is located at 2501 Bath Road, Bristol, Penn.,

Vets offered free med exams, more on Sept. 20

The Trenton Vet Center is sponsoring a one-day event offering free medical exams and readjustment services with information about VA medical benefits and employment services to veterans on **Sept 20** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sponsored by the VA New Jersey Health Care System, the event will be held at the Trenton Vet Center, 934 Parkway Ave., Ewing. For more information call (609) 882-5744.

Vietnam Era Form, Oct. 20

The Vietnam Era Forum will be held this year on Friday, **Oct. 20**. The theme is "Coming Home: Vietnam Veterans and Their Families Since the War." Keynote Speaker will be Jan C. Scruggs, founder of the national Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC.

Click on this link www.njvvmf.org/pdf/06_brochurelynn.pdf for a PDF file-version of our informational brochure for the Forum.

VA Hotline for identity theft concerns

Veterans having questions about recent incidents involving VA computers and personal information may call 1-800-333-4636 or (1-800-FED-INFO).

Ocean County opens PTSD counseling for vets

Ocean County veterans now have a place to get Post Traumatic Stress Disorder counseling. Once a week, counselors from the Trenton Vet Center will offer office hours at the Ocean County Veterans Service Bureau, 1027 Hooper Ave, Building 2, Toms River.

To schedule an appointment, call 732-929-2096.

Ocean County, with the state's largest concentration of veterans, signed an agreement with the Vets Center, an arm of the Veterans Administration recently.

John Dorrity, director of the Ocean County Veterans Bureau said that he has a waiting list of veterans who will participate in the counseling. He added that they will start off with once a week, but will possibly increase sessions if the need arises.

NJ Vietnam Veterans' Memorial and Vietnam Era Educational Center's upcoming event schedule.

Vietnam veteran author Carey J. Spearman will have book signing and will discuss and read from his newest book, *36 Years and a Wake-up: An American Returns to Vietnam*, at the Vietnam Era Educational Center on **Sept. 9**.

Spearman, of Staten Island, served in South Vietnam from 1967 to 1968 with the U.S. Army's 44th Medical Group, 616th Medical Company, as the Non-Commissioned Officer-In-Charge of the X-ray clinic at the First Cavalry Division (Airmobile) Base Camp at An Khe, and later at the 91st Evacuation Hospital in Tuy Hoa.

Thirty-six years after this tour of duty, Spearman returned to Vietnam for the first time. Spearman's thoughts and encounters on this trip, written as poetic vignettes, are presented in this, his second book about coping with life after the Vietnam War. He shares valuable lessons learned and recounts the lives he touched and suffering he witnessed during the Vietnam War.

Upcoming Events

Sept. 9 / 1 p.m. / *36 Years and a Wake-Up*, a Vietnam veteran's memoir -- lecture by the author, Vietnam Veteran Carey Spearman.

Sept. 15 / 11 a.m. / National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Gold Star Mothers Day ceremony.

Sept. 17 / 12:30 p.m. / Arrival of the Rolling Thunder-NJ motorcycle run for POW/MIA awareness, leaving Warinaco Park, Elizabeth at 11 a.m.

Oct. 14 / 1 p.m. / "Vietnam: A View You Have Never Seen Before," a slide show with

discussion about folk life in modern Vietnam by NJ school teacher Ken Mayberg.

Oct. 20 / 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. / "Coming Home: Vietnam Veterans and Their Families Since the War," the 8th Annual Interdisciplinary Forum on the Vietnam Era, featuring as Keynote Speaker, Jan C. Scruggs, Founder and President of the national Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. Pre-registration required.

Lecture attendees are asked to RSVP to (732) 335-0033. A donation of \$5 per person is suggested. The Educational Center is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Regular admission is free for veterans and active-duty military personnel. Regular adult admission is \$4; student and senior citizen admission is \$2; and children under 10 are admitted free.

For more information, please call the NJ Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation office at (732) 335-0033 or (800) 648-VETS. The Vietnam Era Educational Center is located adjacent to the NJ Vietnam Veterans' Memorial off the Garden State Parkway at Exit 116.

Trenton Vets Center open for counseling services

Located at 934 Parkway Ave, 2nd Floor, Ewing, N.J., the Department of Veteran Affairs, Trenton Vet Center, provides free readjustment counseling services to combat zone veterans and their families.

The Vet Center services include:

- Individual readjustment counseling
- Group readjustment counseling
- Screening for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Counseling for PTSD
- Substance Abuse counseling
- Marital and family counseling
- Sexual Trauma counseling
- Community education and liaison
- Referral for benefits assistance
- Employment Assistance

Heading the Trenton Vet Center Staff is James Gordon, team leader. Other staff at the center to help veterans and their families is Jeanne Morrison, Master Social Worker, Rawle Gaskin, Readjustment Counseling Therapist, Darryll Johnson, Readjustment Counseling Technician and Burnice Rice, Trenton Vet Center Office Manager.

The center is open Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with Wednesday and Thursday extended hours by appointment only.

All services provided to veterans and their families are at no cost and clients' rights are protected by HIPPA. For more information call (609) 882-5744.

Part-time opportunities in Military Funeral Honors Program.

The New Jersey Army National Guard Military Funeral Honors Program has several part-time employment opportunities immediately available across the state for TDGs and Technicians. Earn one day's base pay and one retirement point for a few hours work providing Military Funeral Honors for our Veterans. If you are interested, please contact Sgt. Maj. Edward Goetschius, Military Funeral Honors Coordinator, at 609-530-7090 or by e-mail at Edward.goetschius@nj.ngb.army.mil.

Mark your calendar...



Sept. 1 – Emma N. Nutt Day (She is the first female telephone operator. The phone company initially hired young boys – not a good idea – they fought with each other, were unruly and rude to customers. On Sept. 1, 1878, Emma began her career as an operator; it lasted 33 years.

Sept. 2 – National Beheading Day

Sept. 3 – Uncle Sam Day – his image was first used in 1813.

Sept. 4 – Labor Day, National Macadamia Nut Day

Sept. 5 – Be Late for Something Day, Cheese Pizza Day

Sept. 6 – Fight Procrastination Day, Read a Book Day

Sept. 7 – National Grandparents Day, Neither Rain Nor Snow Day

A Smile for your weekend

Interesting animal facts:

If you look into a gecko's ear, you can see through to other side.

To film the movie "101 Dalmatians," 233 Dalmatians were used.

Frogs use their eyeballs to push food down their throat.

Whales dream.

Dolphins can hear underwater sounds from as far as 15 miles away.

The heaviest dog ever recorded was an English Mastiff named Zorba – 343 pounds. He was also the longest – 8 feet, 3 inches from nose to tail.