

DMAVA Highlights

May 6, 2010 Volume 12 Number 16



Seventeen days in Haiti

By Master Sgt. Donald Clark

The question struck me as I looked out the window as the plane descended into Port-au-Prince on March 25. It was simply: How can anyone on earth live like this?

I had come to Haiti with members of my congregation from Lifechurch in Allentown, Pa. Our destination was an orphanage Lifechurch runs in Croix-des-Bouquets, Santos 19, a community within Port-au-Prince. Our church is in the process of opening a free clinic in this community.

But the main mission on this 17 day visit was to help as many Haitians as possible as they struggle with the aftermath of the catastrophic earthquake that struck the island on Jan. 12.

We went to work right away, heading to a village where most of the 147 families were living under bed sheets and struggling to find shelter from the sun under scrawny trees.

I came across a young mother who had a baby boy who couldn't have been a few months old. When I asked to hold the baby, I noticed his entire back had been bitten by mosquitoes and it had started to scab over. My translator explained the boy slept on the ground with no protection from bugs. I almost broke down right there.

Instead, we went out to look for supplies to build a makeshift home. We came back about an hour later with two-by-fours, and a shovel. We dug holes and placed the wood in the ground and then wrapped the tarps around the poles to create a bed. The mother was extremely thankful. For a few supplies and a bit of our time, she had the Taj Mahal of that village.

Soon after, we met a boy no older than three who had been burned. With no medical attention, the burn had become infected. I asked a fellow Lifechurch member if she could help. She brushed away a tear and replied: Yes. We promised the mother we would



return to help the boy and went to find some supplies. My congregation member cleaned the burn and patched up the boy. We returned 10 days later and the burn was nearly healed. My fellow church member choked up. She couldn't believe what she was able to do.

The entire trip was filled with scenes like this. This type of help was needed everywhere I went, and not once did we turn anyone away. If we had it, it went to the people of Haiti.

I cried for most of the four hour flight home. I kept thinking how much more I could have done if I had only been able to stay a few more days. They were the most depressing – and fulfilling – 17 days of my life.

Clarke serves in the N.J. Air Guard's Recruiting and Retention Command.

Peirce College offers full scholarship to NJNG member

Located in Philadelphia since 1865 for returning Civil War veterans, Peirce College has had a long tradition of serving the military. Peirce offers fully accredited practical degree programs in Business, Paralegal Studies and Information Technology.

In an effort to honor the contribution that members of the New Jersey National Guard have made, Peirce College is offering a full tuition renewable scholarship for a member of the New Jersey Army or Air National Guard. In order to apply for the scholarship, members of the NJNG must fill out a scholarship application. The application may be ob-

tained from the N.J. Army National Guard Education Office, 3650 Saylor's Pond Road, Fort Dix, or by contacting Capt. Benjamin Stoner at Benjamin.stoner@us.army.mil or 609-562-0975. Applications may also be obtained by going to the Peirce College web site at www.peirce.edu/military.

The winner will be chosen based on recommendations, activities and academic credentials. Scholarship applications must be received by the N.J. Army National Guard Education Office by June 30, 2010.



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

State Direct Deposit pay stubs are on the Web

State employees, do you currently have Direct Deposit? Are you tired of the hassle of keeping track of your pay stubs? Just think; the shredding, the filing, the lack of space, the unnecessary mess. You can eliminate all of that (and save a tree or two) with New Jersey's *Pay Stub on the Web!* The State of New Jersey is making payment history available to state employees with electronic funds transfer (EFT), commonly known as direct deposit, with "Pay Stub on the Web." This newest feature is an online application that enables a New Jersey state employee to access his/her pay stubs, beginning with 2005 payment history, via the web. Now when you want to see your pay stub, you simply view it online. You can print it out if you wish, save it to your computer, do neither or both! It's all up to you. Any time you need your pay stub, it is available for you to view, right on the web! And if you try it out and decide it's not for you, you can cancel this feature at any time and go back to receiving your paper pay stub. There's no risk, so why not try it out?

Want to know a little more about how it works and how you can benefit from Pay Stub on the Web? Check out the attachment on DMAVA INTRANET under Human Resources (PayStubOnTheWeb.pdf) which is a simple tutorial that explains how you can use "Pay Stub on the Web" to view, print, and save your current and past pay stubs for your personal records. Remember, this feature is only available to employees with direct deposit. As we mentioned in the past, direct deposit is offered to all state employees and it is encouraged that our employees consider taking advantage of direct deposit with all that it has to offer.

Any questions, please contact Lisa Dandrea in Human Resources at 609-530-6888.

Photo information

Officers and NCOs can now schedule their DA photo appointment online for the N.J. National Guard photo studio at Joint Force HQ, Fort Dix.

Just visit fill out a work order, DA 3903, online at www.vios.army.mil, but you must log in with your CAC card. For assistance or more information registering on VIOS, contact Staff Sgt. Jorge L. Vazquez, G6 Network Control Center at 609-562-0333.

The studio accepts appointments for any week day from 8-10 a.m. or anytime during JFHQ drill weekends. For more information on studio hours contact Kryn P. Westhoven at (609) 847-2215.

On the way to work one day this week, a small delivery truck next to me was from a local eco-friendly dry cleaner. Now, I own very few clothes that need dry cleaning – allergies and innate dislike of paying other people to clean my clothes – but I do own a few things that need dry cleaning. The smell that permeates clothing after a trip to the dry cleaner is a definite turnoff.

Research into green dry cleaning started me off with the fact that the old method is actually not dry at all but has clothing is bathed in the liquid solvent perchloroethylene, or "perc" and a detergent. Problem is: the Clean Air Act has listed perc as a hazardous air pollutant.

Naturally, in this ecologically aware world there is a search for "greener" way to dry clean clothes. An online search found an article from the Wall Street Journal about four new ways of cleaning those special garments. They even tested those methods at four cleaners located in Dallas, Chicago, New York and Montclair, N.J. To check out the results, visit <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122834783552077505.html>.

Not everyone has access to alternative dry cleaners in their neighborhood, so if you don't want to dry clean with perc, what is a person to do? More online research gave me this information.

An article on the care2.com Web site gives directions on how to clean wool, silk and rayon items at home. You can find it at: <http://www.care2.com/greenliving/wet-clean-wool-silk-and-rayon.html>.

Other suggestions included: home drying cleaning kits. While these kits are not chemical free, and don't give the same results as your local cleaner, they do not contain perc.

Or, modern front-loading washers are not only more effective in energy savings, they often have better gentle cycles for clothing that you would normally only hand wash.

Here's a link to a card with hints for dealing with dry clean only clothes - <http://www.greenamericatoday.org/PDF/greendry-cleaning.pdf>.

And if all else fails – when shopping, check the care tag and make sure the majority of your purchases are wash and dry items.

Keep Green!

Quotes

Conceit is God's gift to little men.

--Unknown

You must not pay a person a compliment, and then straightway follow it with a criticism.

--Mark Twain

DMAVA Highlights is published weekly by the Public Affairs Office of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force, the National Guard, Veterans Affairs or the state of New Jersey. Letters may be sent to: NJDMAVA, DMAVA Highlights, Public Affairs Office, PO Box 340, Trenton NJ 08625-0340. E-mail at pao@njdmava.state.nj.us.

New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth – The Adjutant General
Brig. Gen. James J. Grant – Director, Joint Staff
Retired Col. Stephen G. Abel – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs
Maj. Yvonne Mays – Public Affairs Officer
Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison – Public Affairs Specialist
Sgt. Wayne Woolley – Public Affairs Specialist

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

Families

Job opening at Atlantic City Family Readiness Center

A position is open as an Army National Guard Family Readiness Support Assistant at the 57th Troop Command, Atlantic City. Salary is \$36K annual. If you are interested, e-mail Marie Durling at marie.durling@us.army.mil for a job listing and application instructions.

Essex Troop opens 2010 college scholarship program

It is time to apply for the Essex Troop scholarships. Six \$500 scholarships will be given to applicants enrolled or accepted to an approved college or university or school of nursing.

Applicants must be members in good standing of the Essex Troop or their spouse, child or grandchild. Applications are also accepted from active drilling New Jersey Guard members currently assigned to the 102d Cavalry Squadron, to include Company D, 250th Support Battalion; and active drilling members of the 50th Brigade Special Troops Battalion.

To download an application, visit <http://www.essextroop.org/scholarship.htm>. Questions can be addressed to hilw5307@yahoo.com or call 973-736-0952 Wednesday evenings after 7 p.m.

Applications are due to Scholarship Committee no later than May 26.

DoD offers interactive education resource for military families

Department of Defense Education Activity's Educational Partnership proudly presents "Students at the Center," an interactive educational resource for everyone involved in the education of the children of our military service members. It has a lot of information for families, military commands, school officials and more. Check out the Web site at <http://www.militaryk12partners.dodea.edu/studentsAtTheCenter>.

Free concert, picnic for military at Come Alive Church on May 30

On May 30, beginning at 10:30 a.m., a free concert and picnic will be held at Come Alive Church, 240 Old Marlton Pike, Medford. The event is open to the entire community with a special invitation to active duty military and veterans and their families. This celebration is to honor you for your dedication and service to our country. Come on out, enjoy the concert, food, fun and games! For more information and free tickets call 609-654-8466. No rain date.

New scholarship program for children of fallen military

WASHINGTON (April 30, 2010) - The children of military personnel who died in the line of duty since Sept. 11, 2001 can apply for an educational scholarship similar to the new Post-9/11 GI Bill. Benefits are retroactive to Aug. 1, 2009.

The scholarship, which is administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs, is named after Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry, 28, a Texas native who died in Iraq in 2006 while disarming an explosive. He was survived by three young children.

"The Fry scholarship represents this nation's solemn commitment to care for children whose mothers and fathers paid the ultimate price for our country," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki.

VA begins accepting applications for the Fry scholarship on May 1, 2010. For more information or assistance applying, call toll-free 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551), or visit the VA GI Bill Web-site at www.gibill.va.gov.

VA estimates nearly 1,500 children will receive benefits under the Fry scholarship program in 2010. Recipients generally have 15 years to use their benefits, beginning on their 18th birthdays.

Eligible children attending institutions of higher learning may receive payments to cover their tuition and fees up to the highest amounts charged to public, in-state students at undergraduate institutions in each state. A monthly housing allowance and stipend for books and supplies are also paid under this program.

VA will begin paying benefits under the Fry scholarships on Aug. 1, 2010. Eligible participants may receive benefits retroactively to August 1, 2009, the same day the Post-9/11 GI Bill took effect. Eligible children may be married. Recipients are entitled to 36 months of benefits at the 100 percent level.

When dependents also serve in the military, the reserves or are Veterans in their own right, eligible for education benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill for Active Duty, the Montgomery GI Bill for Selected Reserves or the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP), then they would relinquish their eligibility under those programs to receive benefits under a Fry scholarship.

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.

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

VFW donates new bus to Menlo Park Vets Home



On April 28, the dedication of a new bus that was donated by the VFW took place at the Menlo Park Veterans Home. Jack Schiverdaker, State Commander of VFW (third from left) presented Joseph Brandspiegel, Menlo Park CEO, with a brand new wheelchair-accessible bus in honor of the late State Commander of the VFW, Richard Bradshaw. Brandspiegel expressed his thanks and heartfelt appreciation to all members of the State VFW in attendance on behalf of the veterans at Menlo Park for their continuous support of the home. In honor of Commander Bradshaw's dedication to our veterans a plaque has been placed inside the bus by Bradshaw's brother and sister-in-law. Courtesy photo.

Run the Armed Forces 5K May 13

Lace up those running shoes and enter to run in the Armed Forces Day 5K at Picatinny Arsenal. Start is at Choice's parking lot on May 13. Sign-up starts at 9:30 a.m., race starts at 10 a.m. All participants will be entered to win a free T-shirt. For more information, call Brian Chase or Joe Gombos at 973-724-6215.

Raising funds for a Red Oak tree at DMAVA memorial

Five years ago a memorial was dedicated on the DMAVA campus to honor the four New Jersey Army Guardsmen who gave their lives during two days in June 2004 during their deployment to Iraq. This year plans are underway to plant a red oak tree, the state tree of New Jersey, by the memorial.

If you would like to make a donation to help purchase the tree, please send your checks, made payable to, "Family Readiness Council," to:

Brig. Gen. (ret.) Frank R. Carlini
PO Box 340
Trenton NJ 08625-0340

U.S. Army Soldier Show comes to Jersey area

If you are looking for some entertainment this year, you can find it at the U.S. Army Soldier Show which is making five 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.

May 12 – 2 and 7:30 p.m. – Fort Hamilton (N.Y.) Post Theater. Free to everyone.

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>.

Vietnam Remembrance Day ceremony slated at memorial

The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation will hold its annual Vietnam Veterans Remembrance Day ceremony on May 7 at 11 a.m.

In 1991, New Jersey legislators created May 7 as a unique day to honor all those who served in the military from 1959 to 1975 during the Vietnam Era. More than 200,000 New Jersey residents served in the armed forces during that time.

The guest speakers will include former Governor Christine Todd Whitman and her husband, John Whitman, a Vietnam veteran whose leadership was influential in the completion and dedication of the Memorial.

This year also marks the 15th anniversary of the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. On Veterans Day of 1982, a group of New Jersey Vietnam veterans realized the need for a state memorial. The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial was dedicated on May 7, 1995. The Vietnam Era Educational Center was dedicated on Sept. 27, 1998.

Governor Whitman was the first woman governor of New Jersey, serving from 1994 until 2001. She later served as administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from 2001 until 2003.

John R. Whitman is President of Sycamore Management Corporation which he helped found in 1995. Whitman graduated from Yale University and received his MBA from the Harvard Business School.

During this year's ceremony NJDMAVA will be awarding New Jersey state medals, including the Distinguished Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Korean Service Medal and Vietnam Service Medal.

There will be free admission for all visitors on May 7 and the Vietnam Era Educational Center will be open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information call 732-335-0033 or visit www.njvvmf.org.

Veterans & Military

Join the 117th Cav for their biennial reunion

From the desk of retired Col. Dennis J. Dougherty, President, 117th Cavalry Association

Are You Ready for the 117th Cavalry Association 2010 Biennial Reunion? The 2010 Biennial Reunion promises to be a great event. Our reunion committee has outdone itself with a program of events that will please all in attendance. All who attend will have their own story and memories to share with friends and fellow troopers. The reunion takes place on Oct. 23, at Gibbs Hall, Fort Monmouth.

I hope to see you all at the reunion, so we as an organization can come together to honor those who have served and those who continue to serve.

We all have friends who we have served in Armor and Cavalry units whose lineage flows through 1-102nd Cavalry. Let them know you are planning to attend the reunion and you would like to share a table and lots of memories with them.

Cocktail hour is 6-7 p.m., dinner begins at 7 p.m. Cost is \$45 per person if then money is received before Aug. 20; \$50 per person after that date. Meal choices are Chicken Francaise, prime rib and stuffed flounder.

Send reservations and money by Oct. 15, along with menu choice to:

COL (Ret.) Dennis J. Dougherty
615 Raymond Street
Westfield, NJ 07090

If you have any questions, check out www.117th-cav.org or e-mail doughertydj@comcast.net.

Ultimate Warrior Career Workshop slated for June 9

Out there looking for a job? Looking to change career fields? Come to The Ultimate Warrior Career Workshops and Job Fair at The Timmerman Center on June 9 and 10 for workshops, services and opportunities to meet with companies who are hiring.

On June 9, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. there will be technical workshops and services. Workshops include interviewing tips and techniques and meeting with career and job coaches.

On June 10, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., a job fair with recruiters from defense contractors and private sector employers will be present.

For more information on the event or to register to attend, contact Sgt. Maj. James Clark at 301-674-9427, james.clarksr1@us.army.mil or Sgt. 1st Class Loranda Taylor, 609-864-2559, loranda.mitriece.taylor@us.army.mil.

Uniform for the event will be ACUs. No child care is available on site. Everyone must have a copy of their resume on a CD or hardcopy; thumb drives are not authorized.

Join the 4th Annual Freedom Ride May 16 to Joint Base MDL

Join the fourth annual Armed Forces Freedom Ride on May 16. The ride of nearly 1,000 motorcycle riders – all bikes are welcome – goes from Barb's Harley-Davidson in West Collingswood Heights at 10 a.m., up Route 295 to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. The trip takes the riders down the flightline of McGuire and ends at Doughboy Field in the Dix area of the base for lunch and lots of activities.

You can register now at www.ArmedForcesFreedomRide.org or at Barb's Harley-Davidson. The first 200 registrants will receive a free T-shirt. Register by May 14.

Cost is \$30 per rider. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Burlington County Military Affairs Committee and the U.S. Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation of Philadelphia.

Take a course at the Berlin VFW

The Berlin Veterans of Foreign Wars ANMAC Post 6253 is holding a Criminal and National Security Intelligence Analyst course.

The course is open to the public and will be held on Tuesday evenings: May 4, 25, June 8, 15 and 29. Cost is \$5 per class. The class will be held from 7-9 p.m.

In this course, the basic principles of intelligence analysis as practiced by the CIA, FBI, DEA, U.S. Customs as well as other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies are presented and discussed. Students are also taught deductive and inductive logic, formation of premise and inference, probability hypothesis development and testing, as well as sources of information and analytical techniques, i.e., association matrix, link analysis, flowcharting and financial analysis. Throughout the course, practical examples in investigations of organized criminal enterprises, drug trafficking, political corruption and human smuggling are presented and discussed.

The VFW is located at 34 Chestnut Ave., Berlin. Visit <http://berlinnjvfw.blogspot.com> for more information.

Wall coming to Florence in June

The American Veterans Traveling Tribute will be at the Fountain of Life Center in Florence from June 24 to June 27.

The display includes a miniature Vietnam Wall as well as a Walk of Heroes display and a World War II tribute. The display opens at noon on June 24 and remains open through the day on June 27.

For more information, please visit www.flcnj.org.

Memorial Day events

The Marlboro (Township) Memorial Day Parade will take place on Sunday, May 23, starting at noon. The parade route will start in front of the Marlboro firehouse at the corner of Route 79 and School Road West and proceed along School Road West to the Veterans Memorial at the Marlboro Municipal Complex on 1979 Township Drive.

The annual parade honors military veterans, active and reserve service members and all fallen military service members who have paid the ultimate price for our country's freedoms and way of life.

Calendar

Dash on down to the Nutter Run in Sea Girt, May 22

Get those running shoes ready for the sixth annual SGT Nutter Run on May 22. The 5K run will be held at the National Guard Training Center, Sea Girt. Sign in is 8-9:30 a.m., race start is 10 a.m.



Cost to run is \$10 if enrolled in JROTC, \$15 if postmarked before May 1 and \$20 on the day of the event. Profits from the run go to benefits the lives of National Guard families in need. This year the benefits will go to the Stadelman twins – children of 2nd Lt. John Stadelman, a New Jersey Army Guardsman who passed away on July 9, 2009.

For more information about the prizes, donations to be raffled, applications to participate in the run and more, visit www.Nutter-Run.org.

Come enjoy the music at the Armed Forces Day concert

The Armed Forces Day Tribute Concert will be held on May 15, noon to 1 p.m. at the Ridgefield Community Center, 725 Slocum Ave., Ridgefield. The free concert is sponsored by the Patriot Brass Ensemble to celebrate our Armed Forces and all the music that they have inspired over the last 200 years.

Whether you are a Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine or Coast Guardsman, or simply an American, there will be all of your favorite military and patriotic songs.

For more information, visit http://patriotbrass.org/Armed_Forces_Day_2010.html.

Vets group holding 25th annual flag memorial, June 11-13

The Delaware Valley Vietnam Veterans are holding the 25th Annual Donald W. Jones Flag Memorial on June 11-13 at Falls Township Park, 9072 Mill Creek Road, Levittown Pa. The event is in honor of all veterans of all wars and the sacrifices they made.

The memorial, which plants more than 58,000 flags in the ground; one each for every American who was killed or is missing in action in the shape of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C.

The flags are planted on June 14, starting at 9 a.m.; volunteers are always needed.

On June 12, there will be a free concert and a Day of Reflection. The bands, such as Angry Vic, Classic Jurassic, Final Warning, Legend and more, start at noon.

A motorcycle rally will begin at noon on June 13, with a memorial service and repatriation ceremony at 1 p.m. If you wish to participate in the motorcycle rally, contact Sue at 215-783-7456.

For more information, contact Donnie Jones at 267-566-2860 or Jesse Hill at 215-949-2490.

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.

May 7 New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Holmdel Medal ceremony at 11 a.m.

May 25*, 26, 27 Deptford Mall
*Medal ceremony at 10:30 a.m.

Outreach Events Only

June Wildwood Convention Center
3-4 Elks State Convention
9-11 American Legion State Convention
16-18 Veterans of Foreign Wars State Convention

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



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.