

DMAVA Highlights

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Have history, ready to travel

Militia Museum presents the Revolution

Joseph G. Bilby, Assistant Curator

The National Guard Militia Museum at Sea Girt is taking its rich history on the road.

In addition to its standing exhibits, the museum hosts traveling displays, including the New Jersey State Museum's recent presentation on the state's African-American Revolutionary War experience. The museum's special exhibits, include the only carriage-mounted Civil War cannon on museum display in New Jersey, a 20th century small arms collection, a photographic and narrative survey of the history of Sea Girt and its role in New Jersey and national political and military history, the story of how New Jersey World War I army musicians founded post-war American Legion drum and bugle corps and a large vehicle display room featuring jeeps, trucks, a World War II "Stuart" M-3 tank and the only surviving Union Civil War submarine.

The museum's submarine is of particular national and state interest, drawing visitors from around the country. It will soon be featured on a New Jersey Network documentary series. Partially built in Newark, it became the property of New Jersey attorney and lobbyist Oliver N. "Pet" Halstead, who proposed to sail it up the James River to Richmond in 1865. In September, 2010, the Sea Girt staff opened a new special exhibit created to celebrate the museum's 30th Anniversary and displaying part of its collection of original dress uniforms, trophies, china, artifacts and photographs of the 44th Division of the New Jersey National Guard and the New Jersey governors between World Wars I and II

The museum gift shop, like the museum, is "Jersey-centric" and features, along with special military coins, hats, and other souvenir items, a large collection of books and pamphlets on the state's military history. With a well stocked store, a full house of interesting exhibits with more planned for the near future, The National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey, which is also celebrating its fifth year in a row of steadily rising visitor numbers.

For more information, please visit the museum website at: <http://www.state.nj.us/military/museum/index.html>

NJ Youth ChalleNGe Class No. 32 to Graduate

The nearly 80 cadets of New Jersey Youth ChalleNGe Class 32 are expected to cross the stage of the Trenton War Memorial at 10 a.m. on Saturday, marking their graduation and taking a first step toward living their lives with a new sense of direction and purpose.

For the cadets, completion of the rigorous 22-week course at Fort Dix means they've earned a high-school diploma and acquired the skills needed to further their education or join the military.

Since its launch in 1992, more than 2,600 teen-agers have completed the program created by the National Guard to help at-risk youth turn their lives around.

Class 32 is the first class to graduate under the leadership of Director Victoria Ragucci, the first female civilian to lead New Jersey's program. Ragucci, a veteran educator, replaced retired Army National Guard brigadier general John Nunn, who retired from the civilian director position at the beginning of the summer.

Cadet First Sergeant Michael Olvera will serve as the master of ceremonies and deliver the invocation. The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, will introduce the keynote speaker, Frank Carlini, a retired Army National Guard brigadier general who serves as the DMAVA's Director for Healthcare Services.

A military job fair open set for Saturday, open to spouses too

Here's a military job fair that's tailor-made to your career aspirations and geographic location.

The Civilianjobs.com Career Expo at Club Dix on Joint Base-McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst on Thursday, Oct. 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. allows for online pre-registration to try to match current military members and veterans with the right job.

Career fields to be represented at the fair include administrative, aviation, engineering, law enforcement, maintenance, medical, maintenance and logistics.

To register online, go to www.CivilianJobs.com. Or for more information the old-fashioned way, call 1-678-819-4170.

To gain access to the Joint Base, it is imperative that veterans who are not military ID-card holders submit the following information by noon on Oct. 6 via email to vashington@civilianjobs.com: last name, first name, middle name, state of residence, state of driver's license, driver's license number, or date of birth for those without a license.

Vineland worker needs your assistance

From the Vineland Veterans Memorial Home

One of the food service department employees at Vineland Veterans Home, Evelyn Acevedo, suffered a house fire recently and lost almost everything. While she is receiving assistance from the Red Cross, she does have three school age children and is in need of food and clothing.

Anyone who would be willing to help should contact Myong Dawson in the Vineland Home Food Service Department at 856-405-4314.

Some of the clothing needs are:

Boy – 34 inch waist pants/XL shirts

Girl (8 years old) – size 12; girl (11 years old) – size 3; girl (14 years old) – size 0-1.



Husband – 40 inch waist pants/2XL shirts.

Evelyn – size 11 pants/XL shirts

Bed linens – queen, full and twin.

Whatever the amount you can contribute, remember every little bit helps. Thank you.



DMAVA Green

By Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison, Public Affairs Specialist

Do you know what we “celebrated” yesterday, Sept. 22? Well, besides the birthdays of Joan Jett (50) and Tommy Lasorda (83); and Elephant Appreciation Day, Dear Diary Day and Hobbit Day; and the premiers of four television shows that gave birth to a number of future stars – Maverick (1957), Charlie’s Angels (1976), Family Ties (1982) and Friends (1994)? Probably unnoticed by many, we also had the first day of fall. Warm weather for most of us, but it is the first step towards the cooler times to come.

As we head off on the cycle going to chilly weather, I thought it might be a prime time to start thinking about how to keep warm during the next few months. Here are some hints on keeping warm with using virtually no money up front and the opportunity to save dollars.

Layer your clothing. As it cools off, add layers; don’t turn up the thermostat.

Add an extra blanket or two to snuggle under at night. Thicker, heavier blankets may be the answer. And don’t forget to throw a blanket or afghan or two on your sofa or favorite lounging chair to use when watching television.

Turn down the thermostat at night, when everyone is at work or school during the day or when you are out of the house for long periods of time. Get into the habit of turning down the temp before you head off to bed every night.

Open up the blinds and curtains during the day to let the sunlight in to heat up the house.

If you have a set of heavy curtains or drapes for the windows, put them up. When you close them in the evening to keep the warm air in, the heavy fabric will help do the job.

Here is a hint that will help keep the winter bulge down and your body warm – exercise during the commercials. Run in place, a couple trips up and down the steps, some sit-ups, a few push-ups and you will stay trim and warm at the same time.

When vacuuming, make sure to get those air registers and baseboard heaters. If they are clear, the heat gets through better.

Keep your furniture and rugs away from the heating vents. Blocking your vents keeps the warm air from coming in the rooms.

Take your window air conditioner out of the window, eliminating possible leaks. If that isn’t possible, close the fresh air vent to stop cold air from coming in your warm abode.

Change the ceiling fan direction. You don’t want the warm air to rise and stay up at the ceiling, so flip the switch and have the warm air down with you.

Go outside and trim your plants and trees from the south-facing windows. If they are blocking those warm rays from coming in the windows, why bother opening the curtains?

More tips coming next week to keep warm this year. Keep Green!

Program open to loan money to women vets to start business

Women veterans who are interested in starting up their own business can find an advocate in the New Jersey Women’s Micro-Business Credit Program for Women Veterans.

Meant for women with a low income, the program will provide up to \$5,000 loans at .5 percent interest with up to five years for loan repayment.

Qualifications include: business must be independently owned and operated by a woman or women in the state of New Jersey; applicant must be a woman veteran; must attend the “Start Right!” seminar or five hours business consulting on business plans prior to applying; and must have little or no prior business experience.

Funds may be used for working capital, inventory, supplies, furniture, machinery, equipment and fixtures for a new business.

If interested, contact the New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners Women’s Business Center at 973-507-9700 or e-mail Penni K Nafus, Director, at pnafus@njawbo.org.

New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth – The Adjutant General

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

Raymond Zawacki – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs

CW 2 Patrick Daugherty – Public Affairs Officer

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Families

A night on the Great White Way

Love Broadway, but don't like the cost? Well, if you are a veteran, current member of the military or a family member – here is a treat for you.

A new non-profit, ARTS in the ARMED FORCES (AITAF) is attempting to bridge the gap between the military and theater companies by providing quality troop entertainment.

Free tickets will be given to veterans, current military members and their families to see and evening of monologues and jazz with performances by John Goodman, Eric Bogosian, Lauren Ambrose, Dianne Wiest, Lili Taylor, Jay O. Sanders, Jesse Perez and the John Batiste Jazz Trio.

The performance will be held on November 8 at 8 p.m., at The American Airlines Theatre, 227 West 42nd Street, New York.

To reserve free tickets go to www.aitaf.org, go to the "Contact" page, e-mail your name, rank, unit, and number of guests. There is no guest limit. The evening will be general seating, so first come, first served.

Note that the material performed is of an adult nature. No unattended minors may attend. There are six wheelchair-accessible seats available.

AITAF is run by former Marine and current actor, Adam Driver, and his fellow Juilliard graduate, Joanne Tucker.

More PERS workshops scheduled

All state employees who are members of the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) or the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and planning to retire before the end of 2011 are invited to take advantage of the retirement workshops scheduled over the next four months.

The workshops are being held at the New Jersey Forensic Science Technology Center in Hamilton Township, Mercer County. During the workshop, representatives will explain topics including retirement benefits, beneficiary options, group life insurance, pension taxes and health benefits during retirement.

Register for the workshop date and time of your choice. Go to www.nj.us/treasury/pensions and click on the link for "Retirement Workshops."

Classes will be held at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. and are scheduled for Sept. 15, 24, 29; Oct. 4, 21; Nov. 3, 22, 29; and Dec. 10, 17.

When attending, members must bring along a printed version of their Estimate of Retirement Benefits, which they can get using the Member Benefits Online System. To register for MBOS, go to www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/mbosregister.shtml and follow instructions.

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.militarykl2partners.dodea.edu/studentsAtTheCenter>.

Military discount available for car show, Sept. 24-26

For those military members who enjoy hot rods, classic cars and more – the Goodguys 6th Great American Hot Rod & Custom Car Nationals is offering a military discount to their show on Sept. 24-26 at Pocono Raceway.

More than 2,000 hot rods, customs, classics, muscle cars and trick trucks through 1972 will be on view. While there you can visit the swap meet, see the cars for sale, check out the vendors and exhibitors and the Goodguys Builder's Choice Awards.

There's fun for the whole family with a model car show and free model make and take, too.

The gates are open Friday and Saturday 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday 8 a.m.-3 p.m. There is free parking.

Cost of tickets is \$18 for general admission, children 7-12 years old are \$6 and kids 6 and under are free. A three-day pass is \$45; Sat./Sun. pass is \$30.

Military must bring the coupon for \$5 off the show admission and be able to show their Military ID. To print your coupon please cut and paste the following website into your browser or click: http://www.good-guys.com/PDF/militarydiscount_2010.pdf

Pocono Raceway is located on Long Pond Road, Long Pond Pa. The phone is 1-800-RACEWAY (800-722-3929). For more information, visit www.greatamericannats.com.



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.

Et Cetera

Picatinny Patriot Motocycle Lime Run set for Oct. 3

It's time for the third annual Picatinny Arsenal Patriot Motocycle Lime Run to support veterans and the Toys for Tots Foundation.

The ride starts at noon on Sunday, Oct. 3, at the arsenal's main gate and ends at the same location.

Cost is \$15 per rider and \$10 per passenger and includes a commemorative pin.

Please bring an unwrapped toy (no stuffed animals) or a \$10 donation.

Questions: Contact 1st Sgt Kevin MacCheyne at kevin.maccheyne@usmc.mil or 973-724-4701 or Walt Wurster at walter.wurster@us.army.mil or 973-724-4770.

Dinosaurs' Fall Gathering, Oct. 20

The New Jersey Air Guard Dinosaurs (those are retirees to all you working folk), are holding their Fall 2010 Gathering on Oct. 20, 1 p.m. at the Town and Country Diner, Bordentown.

The full luncheon menu will have salad, main course, coffee/tea and a dessert for \$20, including tax and tip. Those who RSVP will be obligated to pay even if they do not attend since the group is charged for the number of diners who reserved.

To reserve your space with the Tyrannosaurus Rexes, contact Mel Sylvester at 609-298-5970 or NuffSaidMel@aol.com no later than Oct. 15.

All current ANG/ARNG employees (soon to be retired) and ANG/ARNG retirees are invited.

Joint Base M-D-L access to require DBIDS signup

Don't wait until Jan. 1, 2011. You will be denied access to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst after that date if you have not registered with DBIDS.

Yes, it is another thing to put on your to-do list, but once completed, will allow you and your dependents safe, quick access to JBMDL and other bases using the system.

What is DBIDS? It is the Defense Biometric Identification System; a DoD identity authentication and force protection tool for physical access control at DoD installations. It uses bar codes and biometrics to identify cardholders.

The objective of this system is to use positive identification to ensure a safer, more secure environment at DoD installations.

All active duty, civilian employees, DoD contractors, retirees and dependents can register at the registration center; the process takes about five minutes.

The registration centers are located at --
McGuire Welcome Center: 6 a.m.-10 p.m., every day
Dix Welcome Center: 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday
Building 1738/Badging office: 9 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday
Building 2903/Military Personnel Flight Room 6: 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
Lakehurst Welcome Center: 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday

State retirement system election

The Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) is holding an election for members of the board of trustees. There are four positions opening. One state, one county and one municipal representative will be elected for a three-year term as of July 1, 2011. An additional municipal representative will be elected for a two-year remaining term, effective July 1, 2011, to fill a position that is currently vacant and expires June 30, 2013. Candidates for all positions must qualify by nomination. Nominations are now being received for these positions.

The general responsibility for the operation of the PERS is vested in the Board of Trustees under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:15A-17. The Board meets monthly at the Division of Pensions and Benefits in Trenton. The statute provides that no employee shall suffer loss of salary or wages because of serving on the Board. A member who wishes to be a candidate for one of the above positions must be an active member of the PERS and must be nominated by at least 500 active PERS members. Only State employees may petition for State Representative, only County employees may petition for County Representative, and only Municipal employees may petition for Municipal Representative.

Instructions for the nominating process are available upon receipt of a written request to the Secretary of the PERS Board of Trustees. Nominations must be registered on or before 4 p.m. Jan. 14, 2011. Election ballots will be mailed to employers on or about

April 1, 2011 for prompt distribution to their employee members of the PERS. All qualified candidates will be invited to attend the drawing by lot for position on the ballot, if necessary, and/or the selection of term for the Municipal election on Feb. 16, 2011.

The PERS Board of Trustees has the responsibility for the proper operation of the Retirement System. The Board consists of six employee representatives, the State Treasurer, and two private citizens appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Board meets once per month. Within the limits of legislation, the PERS Board has a certain amount of discretion in the solution of problems confronting the Retirement System in cases where complications exist that legislation alone cannot properly address.

PERS BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- Adopt rules and regulations to provide for the payment of benefits and collection of monies as required by the statute.
- Establish rules and regulations within the limitations of statutes and opinions of the Courts and the Attorney General, designed to prevent injustices and inequities that may arise in the operation of the Retirement System.
- Resolve individual questions on the merits of each case in terms of statutes, opinions of the Attorney General, advice of the Actuary and cases cited by counsel as deliberated by the Courts.
- Review monthly and annual reports setting forth data such as assets and liabilities, income and disbursements and statistical summarization of membership as documented by the Actuary.

Veterans & Military

Employment opportunities by region and specialty possible at Joint Base Career Fair on Oct. 25

Here's a military job fair that's tailor-made to your career aspirations and geographic location.

The CivilianJobs.com Career Expo at Club Dix on Joint Base-McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst on Thursday, Oct. 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. allows for online pre-registration to try to match current military members and veterans with the right job.

Career fields to be represented at the fair include administrative, aviation, engineering, law enforcement, maintenance, medical, maintenance and logistics.

To register online, go to www.CivilianJobs.com. Or for more information the old-fashioned way, call 1-678-819-4170.

To gain access to the Joint Base, it is imperative that veterans who are not military ID-card holders submit the following information by noon on Oct. 6 via email to vashington@civilianjobs.com: last name, first name, middle name, state of residence, state of driver's license, driver's license number, or date of birth for those without a license.

It's your money; come and get it

By Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15, 2010 - Time is running out for those who qualify to receive their Stop Loss Special Pay. The deadline to claim it is Oct. 21, but less than half of the more than 145,000 people eligible have submitted claims.

It's not a scam. And it's not a joke. It's YOUR money, so come get it.

Just in case you had forgotten, the 2009 War Supplemental Appropriations Act authorized retroactive stop loss special pay of \$500 for every month/partial month served in stop loss status.

Servicemembers, veterans, and beneficiaries of servicemembers who were involuntarily extended under stop loss between 9/11 and September 30th 2009 are eligible.

The Congress generously set aside \$534.4 million to pay out those funds, but as of the end of last month only \$219 million in claims have been paid.

We've used all kinds of different ways to reach out to people and let them know, including letters to homes and help from Veteran/Military Service Organizations. But there are still those who have yet to apply.

So, with the deadline fast approaching, I'm asking everyone who reads this blog to pass it on to anyone else you think needs to see it. Qualifying individuals have served — or are still serving — their country nobly and deserve to be paid the money they've earned.

The application process is simple and straightforward. No strings attached. But once the deadline passes, we cannot by law extend it. So jump online and check it out at: <http://www.defense.gov/stoploss>.

ESGR now offers award to spouses' employers for their support

During the past year, ESGR volunteers have heard a number of stories telling them about military spouses' employers providing outstanding support to families of service members, along with recommendations to include employers of military spouses for Patriot Award consideration.

ESGR has answered the call; the Outreach Subcommittee recommended and executive director, Ronald Young approved, spouses can now nominate their supervisor for the Patriot Award.

It's easy for a spouse to nominate their employer. A separate nomination form has been added to the ESGR website — www.esgr.org/PA.

For one Wichita, Kansas spouse, her supervisor shifted her nursing schedule at Wesley Medical Center. When her husband deployed, her supervisor allowed the mother of three to continue working, but also to be at home for their children during the school year. When babysitter options became too difficult to coordinate, she was granted a leave of absence with no questions asked. In Clarinda, Iowa, Teresa Johnson says Goldenrod Manor helped her with lawn care and sent care packages to her deployed husband. Teresa's supervisor is always willing to listen and work with her to accommodate her needs. This support is invaluable because not only is Teresa's husband deployed, but both of her sons are also overseas.

ESGR wants to capture more great stories like these and ask that you help spread the word that all spouses of Guard and Reserve members are now eligible to nominate their employers for the Patriot Award. To nominate their employer, they can go directly to www.esgr.org/PA and fill out the spouse nomination form. Each nominated supervisor will receive a Department of Defense Certificate of Appreciation and a Patriot lapel pin. The certificate can be provided to the spouse for presentation to his or her employer, or presented to the employer by the ESGR State Committee.

Sell your vehicle without an ad

Do you have an RV, Truck, Automobile, Motorcycle or Boat that you want to sell? Well you are in luck....announcing the brand new Picatinny Arsenal FMWR Resale Lot. This is better than a classified advertisement -you can see what you are about to buy!

Located near the gas pumps, corner of Farley Ave. and Reilly Road, we offer six lanes for our active duty military and three for civilians, retired, on-post contractors. You can place your insured and inspected vehicle in this lot for up to 30 days. The cost is \$10 for civilians and free for all active duty military.

Contact Leisure Travel Services at 973-724-4014 to sign up.



Calendar

Tough Mudder, Nov. 20 and 21

How tough are you? Tough enough for a Tough Mudder?

A Tough Mudder is the TOUGHEST one day event on the planet. This is not your average mud run or boring spirit-crushing road race. The seven mile obstacle courses are designed by British Special Forces to test all-round toughness, strength, stamina, fitness, camaraderie and mental grit. Forget about your race time, simply completing the event is a badge of honor. Not everyone will finish, but those who do make it to the post-race party will have truly earned the right to call themselves a Tough Mudder.

The race is 12 miles long with 19 military-style obstacles and an estimated completion time of two hours and 30 minutes.

A Tough Mudder will take place on Nov. 20 and 21 (your choice of days), at the Tri-State, Raceway Park, Englishtown, N.J.

The National Guard partners with the military-style race with obstacles. For those Guardsman who think they are tough enough for the event, there will be a \$30 discount for the fee on Sunday only of the event. If interested, e-mail info@toughmudder.com to get the code for the discount.

Register at www.toughmudder.com

The Tough Mudder is also asking for those interested to raise funds for the Wounded Warrior project. For more information contact Tough Mudder or visit <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org>.

Run for the Fallen, Sept. 25

For the second year, runners will embark on a 140 mile run to honor every New Jersey service member killed in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. The "Run for the Fallen" will take place Sept. 25 starting at Cape May Lighthouse and ending at the New Jersey Vietnam Memorial in Holmdel.

The runners will mark every mile of the journey with an American flag and a personal biographical card in honor of every fallen service member. Runners are active duty and reserve Airmen and Soldiers from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

The New Jersey "Run for the Fallen" was started in 2009 by Master Sgt. Bubba G.V. Beason who was stationed in the McGuire section of the Joint Base. He is currently deployed to Afghanistan, but has made plans to return to New Jersey for the run.

If you are interested in participating in the run, or for more information on the run, visit www.njrunforthefallen.org.

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.

Financial speaker at Dix, Sept. 28

Improve your financial outlook for the future in a special presentation by Peter Bielagus, "Young America's Financial Coach," at Timmermann Center, Dix on Sept. 28, 1-3 p.m.



Bielagus learned the hard way about debt – more than \$5,000 in credit card debt within six months of entering college. With determination, by graduation his cards were clean and he was on his way to financial freedom. He has written several books for students and young professionals about money and financial education and now also gives

more than 100 presentations a year on the subject.

The session is open to all DoD cardholders. For more information, call 609-754-3844.

Costume Social, Oct. 16

The National Guard Association of New Jersey will host the New Jersey National Guard Costume Social on Oct. 16, 6-10 p.m. at the Lawrenceville Armory.

The event is limited to 200 people, so RSVP your space to dress in your silliest, scariest or sharpest costume at the social. Cost for the social is \$20 for adults and includes beer, wine, soda, appetizers and dessert.

Make your check payable to NGANJ and send to NGANJ-Costume Social, PO Box 266, Wrightstown, NJ 08652.



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.

Oct. 5*, 6, 7

Brunswick Square Mall

Nov. 4**

Belleville Public Library

Nov. 8*, 9, 10

Ocean County Mall

*Medal ceremony 10:30 a.m.

**Medal only ceremony, beginning at 1 p.m.

