

# DMAVA HIGHLIGHTS



OCTOBER 27, 2011

## SSG JORGE M OLIVEIRA



01/22/78 - 10/19/11

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## Open House

Our doors are open, come check us out!  
 Thursday, November 3, 2011  
 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



Light Refreshments will be served.  
 Tours of the addition will be available.



*Maj. Kevin Welsh, operations officer, 50th Brigade Special Troop Battalion, is pinned with his new rank of major by Lt. Col. James Moore on Oct. 15 at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. Soldiers from the Port Murray, N.J. unit trained at FIG during their October drill weekend. (Courtesy photo)*

**New Jersey Department  
 of  
 Military and Veterans Affairs**

**Veterans Outreach Campaign & Medal Ceremony**

**Woodbridge Center Mall**  
 250 Woodbridge Center Drive, Woodbridge, NJ

November 1 - 3, 2011  
 Medal Ceremony at 10:30 a.m. on Nov. 1  
 Kiosk Hours are 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily

Veteran Service Officers will be available to  
 provide information on state and federal entitlements

## Veterans job fair at Ewing center

In honor of Veterans Day, The Department of Labor and Workforce Development will be holding a Veterans Career and Information Expo on Thursday, Nov. 10 at the Ewing Community Center in Ewing, N.J.

The event will be hosted by the Veterans Services office of the Mercer County One-Stop Career Center and is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Ewing Community Center is located at 320 Hollow Brook Drive in Ewing.

Veterans planning to attend should register by calling, sending an email or by going online to the [www.WNJPIN.net](http://www.WNJPIN.net) job fairs website and clicking on the registration link for the Mercer County One-Stop Career Center's Veterans Career and Information Expo: <https://lwd.state.nj.us/formsapp/form/93>.

Question about this event can be sent to Thomas Thorn at 609-292-3096 or via email at [thomas.thorn@dol.state.nj.us](mailto:thomas.thorn@dol.state.nj.us).

## Tax\$save open enrollment for 2012

Open enrollment for the 2012 State Employees Tax Savings Program (Tax\$save) started Oct. 1 and will end on Nov. 11.

Since participation in a Tax\$save FSA Plan must be renewed annually, state employees are encouraged to enroll if one wants to participate in an FSA Plan during 2012.

Get Tax\$save Open Enrollment literature online at: [www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/taxsave.shtml](http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/taxsave.shtml)



From left to right, Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the Adjutant General of New Jersey; Maj. Gen. Maria Falca-Dodson, commander, New Jersey Air National Guard; Brig. Gen. Michael Cunniff, commander, 108th Wing and Lt. Col. David Zink, commander, 204th Intelligence Squadron, cut the ceremonial ribbon at the ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the 204th IS' new state-of-the-art office complex here at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., on Oct. 25. The complex is an 8,000 square foot facility that allows 204th Airman to be a self-contained, geographically separated intelligence unit that provides an in-garrison multi-intelligence production, analysis and training capability for Headquarters Air Mobility Command's Intelligence Directorate. The 204th Intelligence Squadron is a unique organization created in 2008 to support Headquarters Air Mobility Command's Intelligence Directorate and is the result of a National Guard Bureau and Air Mobility Command Total Force initiative. (Photo by Mark C. Olsen, DMAVA/PA)



Soldiers and Airmen of the New Jersey National Guard listen as Gov. Chris Christie speaks during the New Jersey State Volunteer Recognition Ceremony on Oct. 26, at the War Memorial in Trenton. The 1,800-capacity War Memorial was near capacity as Gov. Chris Christie, Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno, Col. Rick Fuentes, State Police Superintendent and Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, Commander of the New Jersey National Guard, praised the New Jersey National Guard, as well as the statewide volunteers who stepped forward to help New Jerseyans during Hurricane Irene and its aftermath. (Photo by Mark C. Olsen, DMAVA/PA)

## *SSG Oliveira: A fallen hero*

New Jersey National Guard Soldier remembered as an outstanding NCO

*By Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley, 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment*

More than 700 New Jersey National Guard Soldiers and Airmen are expected to attend a Funeral Mass tomorrow for Staff Sgt. Jorge M. Oliveira, who died on Oct. 19 while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

Gov. Chris Christie and Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth will take part in the 10 a.m. service at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, 89 Ridge Street, Newark. Oliveira, who deployed to Afghanistan in June with Security Forces Platoon of the 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry, will be laid to rest at Holy Cross Cemetery, 340 Ridge Road, North Arlington.

Oliveira died at Yahya Khel, Paktika Province, Afghanistan when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. The Soldier was dismounted and conducting a route reconnaissance when the explosive device detonated.

Oliveira spent three years on Army active duty with the 101st Airborne Division before joining the National Guard in 2003.

In Afghanistan, Oliveira's unit is assigned to the Sharana Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT), which is assisting the Afghan government establish the rule of law and sustainable economic and social development in the region.

In April, Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the New Jersey Adjutant General, met Oliveira and other members of the unit during their pre-deployment training at Camp Atterbury, Ind.

Rieth said Oliveira was one of the most seasoned non-commissioned officers on the deployment, having served on a detainee operations mission to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in 2004, in response to Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans the following year and a year-long combat tour in Iraq with the 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in 2008-2009.

Oliveira had recorded a litany of achievements in his time in uniform. He had been awarded the Expert Infantry Badge; the Air Assault Badge; the Airborne Badge; and the Army Military Mountaineer Badge. He had completed the Primary Leadership Development Course; the Infantry Light Leader's Course; and the Combat Tracker Course and the winter in Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Oliveira was awarded the Army Military Mountaineer badge in early 2011 for completing the winter phase of the Mountaineering Course in Jericho, Vermont. In March of 2011, Oliveira along with the other members of the 2nd Battalion 113th Infantry Security Forces Platoon entered the mobilization phase of their deployment in Camp Atterbury, Indiana. Upon completing mobilization training, Oliveira with the other members of his platoon deployed to



Afghanistan in June 2011 where he served as a Squad Leader in a Security Forces Platoon attached to the Provincial Reconstruction Team.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumous), the Purple Heart Medal (Posthumous), Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Ribbon, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with two campaign stars, Global War on Terrorism Service Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserved Medal with "M" Device (3rd Award), Non-commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal with ISAF Clasp, Combat Infantry Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, Airborne Badge, Air Assault Badge, Ram's Head Device.

Cards of condolences may be sent to his parents: Manuel and Armanda Oliveira and Family, 57 Darcy Street, Newark 07105.

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### **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  
Chief Warrant Officer 2 Patrick Daugherty – Public Affairs Officer  
Air Force Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez - Public Affairs Specialist  
Army Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley – Public Affairs Specialist