



DMAVA

HIGHLIGHTS



AUGUST 2, 2012

WE ARE HOME!



The 250th Financial Management Detachment, New Jersey Army National Guard, receive a heroes welcome during a Welcome Home Ceremony at the National Guard Armory in Flemington, July 28. The 250th deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in August 2011. To view more photos of the ["Welcome Home Ceremony"](#) visit our [Facebook](#) page. Photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, DMAVA/PA

National Guard Militia Museum opens Civil War exhibit



SEA GIRT, N.J. – The National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey has opened an exhibit commemorating the Civil War Sesquicentennial, honoring and explaining the state’s contribution to that conflict.

“Visualizing History: A New Jersey Civil War Camp” opened July 1 and runs through the end of 2012.

“Historians estimate as many as 88,000 New Jersey men served in the Union Army during the Civil War,” said 1st Lt. Vincent Solomeno, command historian of the New Jersey National Guard and the museum’s curator. “The new exhibit marks the 150th anniversary of the war by offering visitors the opportunity to explore the histories of New Jersey’s units and the men and women who supported the Union war effort.”

The exhibit, funded in part by grants from the New Jersey Historical Commission, the New Jersey Civil War Heritage Association, and the New Jersey Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee, is a Civil War encampment that features a tent, equipment, supplies, and mannequins dressed in reproduction uniforms worn by “Jerseymen” who fought in the conflict and a New Jersey woman costumed as a nurse.

The exhibit also includes a case of original period firearms of the type used by Jerseymen during the conflict. Visitors can view and learn about the Model 1842 Springfield .69 caliber musket, the Model 1861 Springfield .58 caliber rifle musket, the P53 British Enfield .577 caliber rifle musket and a Spencer .56-.56 caliber rifle. The Spencer was issued in limited numbers to men from the 1st New Jersey Brigade in late 1864.

Established in 1980, the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey presents the role of the New Jersey Militia and the National Guard within the context of the larger history of the state. Collections include original and reproduction uniforms, weapons, photographs, artifacts and art from the period of Dutch, Swedish and British colonization through the War for Independence, Civil War and World Wars I and II to the present day, with particular attention paid to the diversity of the New Jersey citizen soldier and his or her experience.

With the exception of state holidays, the museum is open seven days a week. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit the museum’s web site at <http://www.nj.gov/military/museum/> or call 732-974-5966.



NJ Guardsmen train Afghan artillery soldiers

By Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley, DMAVA/PA

Think of it as a mini Fort Sill, Okla. in the sands of Afghanistan.

Soldiers from the New Jersey National Guard recently conducted a nine week master gunners' course to train Afghan field artillerymen.

Two dozen senior Afghan officers and non-commissioned officers underwent an intense course modeled after the U.S. Army Field Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Still.

Although the training was conducted using Russian-made 122mm cannons, much of the emphasis was on getting the Afghans used to the powerful weapons for indirect fire, a Western-style fighting technique, said Capt. Thomas Weaver, the National Guard officer who created the course.

Indirect fire – launching the shells high into the air for maximum effect on distant targets – was a new concept for the Afghans, who had been using the guns for direct fire, which requires visible targets.

“This was something new for them,” Weaver said. “The cannon itself, they were very familiar with it, but they learned more ways to use it.”

Leaving the Afghan National Army with effective tools to handle its own national defense has been the focus of Weaver's unit, a Mentor Advisor Team made up of a dozen New Jersey National Guardsmen and 20 soldiers from the Albanian defense forces.

There are similar teams with military forces from nearly two dozen nations operating across Afghanistan as part of a NATO effort to build the military skills of individual Afghan National Army Battalions.

The field artillery training was a true multi-national effort, Weaver said.

The Soldiers from New Jersey and Albania worked closely with Portuguese military advisors who are trying to increase the field artillery proficiency across the Afghan Army's 111th Capital Division.

Weaver said the ultimate goal is for the Afghan National Army to learn to marshal the heavy firepower of its field artillery to cover the shortfalls that will come when NATO forces and their airpower leave Afghanistan.

“As we withdraw, artillery will be their most effective tool,” Weaver said. “We want to make artillery sustainable by its self.”



Photo above, Sgt. 1st Class Darrin Turner, center, New Jersey Army National Guard, and 1st Lt. Ergent Gremi, Albanian Army, observe Artillery Coy 4/2/111th Capital Division, Afghan National Army, as they conduct crew drills on a Russian made D-30 artillery weapon system. The training is part of a nine-week program for both Afghan field artillery Coys, who fall under the 111th Capital Division. Photo below, Capt. Shahmaqsud, Artillery Coy 4/2/111th Capital Division, Afghan National Army, provides direct-fire targeting data -range and direction to the target - during a portion of the live fire exercise. Courtesy photos





2012 Hiring Our Heroes Veterans Event - Trenton NJ
 Sun National Bank Center
 81 Hamilton Avenue, Trenton, NJ
September 12, 2012
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Join the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Hiring our Heroes Initiative, Hero2Hired (H2H), the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, the American Legion, the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce, the New Jersey League of Municipalities, and New Jersey's Employment Initiative Program on **September 12, 2012 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**, for a job fair for veteran job seekers, active duty military members, Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses, at the **Sun National Bank Center, 81 Hamilton Avenue, Trenton, NJ**. This event will be a one-of-a-kind FREE hiring fair for both employers and job seekers.

Employers
 Must register for FREE at
HoH.GreatJob.net

Job Seekers
 Register for FREE at HoH.GreatJob.net
 To guarantee admission.
 Walk-ins welcome but space not guaranteed.

This Hero2Hired (H2H)-sponsored event is being supported by the Sun National Bank Center, US Department of Labor's Veterans Employment and Training, US Department of Veterans Affairs' Vocational Rehabilitation, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, NBC News, New Jersey VET2VET, and Allies Inc.

If you need assistance registering, please contact us at hiringourheroes@uschamber.com.



WWW.USCHAMBER.COM/HIRINGOURHEROES

monster | MIBYTE is the official online partner for Hiring Our Heroes | Find Hiring Our Heroes online: f t

Hero2Hired (H2H jobs) is a comprehensive employment program for Guard and Reserve members that provides job postings from military-friendly employers as well as career exploration tools, military-to-civilian skills transitions, education and training resources, and a mobile app.

VETERANS OF AMERICA DAY

TD Bank Ballpark
 Patriots Park Bridgewater, NJ
4:00 pm on Sunday,
August 26, 2012

DISCOUNTED TICKETS MUST BE ORDERED IN ADVANCE

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Please Contact:
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 VP of Public Relations
 Ph 908.252.0700 x215 • Fx 908.252.0776
mrussinoff@somersetpatriots.com
***FREE TICKETS FOR VETERANS ONLY**
Ballpark Address Listed Above

OPERATION JERSEY CARES
 SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

PROUDLY HOSTS THE 10th ANNUAL



GUEST OF HONOR
Medal Of Honor Recipient
Colonel Jack H. Jacobs

Colonel Jack H. Jacobs
U.S. Army, Platoon leader in the 82nd Airborne Division, Battalion Executive Officer in the 7th Infantry Division, and a Battalion Commander for 10th Infantry Regiment in Panama.

Recipient of: Medal Of Honor (1969) For Actions In Vietnam, Two Silver Stars, Three Bronze Stars, and Two Purple Hearts

We would like to welcome you, your family, and friends to Celebrate and Salute all of our Veterans. We owe them the respect and gratitude they have earned by defending our country and for all of the freedoms we enjoy today!

After the celebration, stay and enjoy the game between the vs @ 5:05 pm

***FREE* TICKETS FOR VETERANS • Family & Friends – \$5.00 per ticket.**
 Veteran Parade Contact: Joe Yuzniuk 732-563-4012

WE'LL SEE YOU THIS SUMMER

AUGUST 9-12

NASCAR SPRINT CUP SERIES AT THE GLEN!

Exclusive Military & Veteran Offer

BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

TWO 4-DAY RESERVED GRANDSTAND SEATS FOR ONLY:

\$90!

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Unsung Heroes
 AN ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE ON VIETNAM

SAVE THE DATE

The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation
 Invites you to join us on
Friday, September 28, 2012 from 7-9 PM

for a reception celebrating the opening of our latest exhibition:
Unsung Heroes:
An Artist's Perspective on Vietnam

at the Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center
 Holmdel, NJ

RSVP:
 Sarah Hagarty
 732-335-0033 ext. 104
shagarty@njvvmf.org

Sponsored in part by:

1 Memorial Lane, Holmdel, NJ 07733
 T: 732-335-0033 WWW.NJVVMF.ORG



Medal Ceremony August 16 at 11 a.m. in "Hanger# 1"

DMAVA will also have Veteran Service Officers present to help and assist any veteran

Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum

500 Forrestal Road, Rio Grande, NJ 08242

Celebrating Our Veterans to host Veterans Freedom Festival

Celebrating Our Veterans is sponsoring their first ever Veterans Freedom Festival Aug. 11 from 12-6 p.m. at the Elks Lodge# 580.

The festival's goal is to raise money for disadvantaged local Veterans and their families. Part of the proceeds will also be going to the "Officer Christopher Reeves Fund" in memory of the Millville police officer who was killed in the line-of-duty.

The event kicks off at noon with a Veterans Ceremony led by some of New Jersey's most decorated Veterans and state politi-

cians. The Veterans Freedom Festival will feature more than 10 bands performing on three stage areas, a kids zone, horseshoe tournament, Chinese auction, food and merchandise vendors, silent art auction, renown speed painter "Ed Peahota" painting 2 patriotic murals, and more.

More importantly, admission to the festival is FREE.

Please visit our website www.celebratingourveterans.com for more details. Millville Elks Lodge# 580 is located at 1815 E. Broad Street in Millville.

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.

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