



# DMAVA HIGHLIGHTS



MAY 10, 2012





STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
P.O. BOX 001  
TRENTON  
08625  
(609) 292-6000

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
GOVERNOR

May 1, 2012

Dear Friends:

As Governor, it is my privilege to recognize May as Military Spouse Appreciation Month. I have no more solemn responsibility than that as Commander in Chief of the NJ National Guard and know the critical role the spouses and families of our soldiers play in service to our state and nation.

Military spouses embody the courage, spirit and sense of duty that inspire every one of us. You are tireless sources of support and strength for our military families and are the backbone of the families on which our troops rely. Your commitment doesn't end there – you are advocates for the armed forces, serve your local communities, and help and support other military families.

Military spouses are often referred to as “the force behind the force” and I can think of no more fitting description. On behalf of a grateful state, I thank you for what you do each and every day. It is an honor to serve as your Governor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Christie".

Chris Christie  
Governor

## Sen. Lautenberg's Veterans Fair

The office of Sen. Frank Lautenberg invites you to their Northern New Jersey Regional Vets Service Fair at the Culinary Institute Building at Hudson County Community College, Friday May 11, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

This event will serve as an opportunity for veterans, active service members, and their families to learn about what resources are available to them at the local, state, and federal levels.

HCCC is located at 121 Newkirk Ave in Jersey City.

For questions or to RSVP for this event, please contact Maggie Dewane at 973-639-8700 or via email at [maggie.dewane@lautenberg.senate.gov](mailto:maggie.dewane@lautenberg.senate.gov), or view the below brochure for more information.



**Date**  
Friday, May 11, 2012

**Time**  
10:00AM – 12:00PM

**Location**  
Hudson County  
Community College,  
Culinary Arts Institute  
161 Newkirk St.  
Jersey City, NJ 07306



## Veterans Service Fair

HOSTED BY  
THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR  
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

*Representatives from the federal and local levels will be available to assist our veterans.*

Speak directly with staff regarding pensions, disability claims, educational assistance, healthcare, and much more.

Includes representatives from:  
United States Department of Veterans Affairs:  
-Newark VA Regional Office  
-East Orange VA Medical Facility  
-Lyons VA Medical Facility  
New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs  
New Jersey Veterans Benefits Bureau  
Employer Support for Guard and Reserve  
Regional Vet Centers  
Veterans Business Development Office

As well as:  
Other veteran and community organizations providing housing and financial assistance.

For additional information, and to RSVP please contact:  
Senator Lautenberg's Newark Office at (973) 639-8700

This event is FREE and open to the public

## Berlin VFW host comedy night

The Berlin Veterans of Foreign Wars ANMAC Post 6253 is hosting a comedy night May 12 from 7 - 10 p.m.

Entry to the comedy event will be \$20 per person, will all proceeds to benefit the Wounded Warriors Project.

The Wounded Warriors Project is a non-profit organization that raises awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members. In addition, they provide unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of injured service members. Visit their website for more information at <http://www.wounded-warriorproject.org>

ANMAC Post 6253 is located at 34 Chestnut Avenue in Berlin.



## Veterans Job Fair

### Battleship New Jersey

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Open to Veterans of All Branches of Service**

**Friday, May 18, 2012**  
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Battleship New Jersey**  
Camden Waterfront  
100 Clinton St.  
Camden, NJ 08103

**Free Parking** at Parking Lot 2 on South Delaware Ave.  
across from Susquehanna Bank Center

For details and directions see online at registration at  
<https://lwd.state.nj.us/formsapp/form/94>

Chris Christie  
Governor



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF  
**LWD**  
LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Harold J. Wirths  
Commissioner

★ **Bring 50 Resumes and Dress for Success!** ★



NJ Veterans  
are welcome  
to tour  
Battleship NJ  
FREE  
after the  
job fair

## Veterans Retraining Assistance Program

In an effort to reduce veteran unemployment, the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 was passed and signed into law last November. Included in this new law is the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) for unemployed 35 to 60 year old veterans, which will begin on July 1, 2012 – VA will begin accepting applications on May 15, 2012.

VRAP offers 12 months of training assistance to 99,000 unemployed Veterans who are at least 35 years old but no older than 60. Eligible participants will receive up to 12 months of training assistance at the full-time payment rate under the Montgomery GI Bill—Active Duty program (currently \$1,473 per month). DOL will offer employment assistance to every veteran who participates or applies to the VRAP program. You can learn more about VRAP at <http://benefits.va.gov/vow/education.htm>.

Please visit: [http://gibill.va.gov/benefits/other\\_programs/vrap\\_email\\_signup.html](http://gibill.va.gov/benefits/other_programs/vrap_email_signup.html).

You will be prompted to provide your first name, last name, and email address. Once submitted you can expect to receive six to seven emails about VRAP, including notification on when applications open.

If you have any technical problems with the link or the image please email the VA at [225D.VBACO@VA.GOV](mailto:225D.VBACO@VA.GOV) for support. Detailed information on VOW and VRAP is also available at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/VOW>.

# HIGHLIGHTS

---



MAY 21, 2012

**DMAVA MEDAL CEREMONY ONLY AT 11 AM**  
Ceremony will be held on ship (front or "aft" area)  
62 Battleship Place, Camden, NJ, 08103  
(Camden County)

---

**THE SPRING 2012 ISSUE OF VETERAN JOURNAL  
IS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:**

[www.nj.gov/military](http://www.nj.gov/military) or [Veterans.Journal](http://Veterans.Journal)

E-mail your Photo of the Week or Highlights  
submissions to [wayne.woolley@njdmava.state.nj.us](mailto:wayne.woolley@njdmava.state.nj.us)  
OR [armando.vasquez@njdmava.state.nj.us](mailto:armando.vasquez@njdmava.state.nj.us)

---

**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](mailto:pao@njdmava.state.nj.us).

---

**New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**  
Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff – The Adjutant General  
Brig. Gen. James J. Grant – Director, Joint Staff  
Raymond Zawacki – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs  
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Patrick Daugherty – Public Affairs Officer  
Air Force Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez - Public Affairs Specialist  
Army Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley – Public Affairs Specialist