

# DMAVA HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER 9, 2014



**Command Sgt. Maj. Isaia Vimoto, right, International Joint Command, presents the Sergeant Audie Murphy Award to Sgt. 1st Class Charles Elison, operations sergeant, Mentor Advisor Team 5, Kabul, Afghanistan. The Award recognizes NCOs who have contributed to the development of a professional NCO Corps and combat ready Army, exemplify leadership characterized by personal concern for the needs, training, development and welfare of Soldiers and concern for Soldiers' families. (U.S. Army photo/Released)**



# STAND DOWN SOUTH



Photos clockwise: Tech. Sgt. Andrea Devincentz, 177th Medical Group, New Jersey Air National Guard, draws blood sample during the South Jersey Stand Down at the National Guard Armory, Cherry Hill on Sept. 26, 2014. Spc. Carlos Jimenez; 1-224th Service and Support Company; New Jersey Army National Guard, cooks burgers. Nearly 200 homeless veterans took advantage of access to healthcare, mental health screening, substance abuse counseling, social services (food stamps and unemployment), legal services, religious counseling, a hot meal, a haircut and winter clothing. Airman 1st Class Taylor Binet, 177th Medical Group, New Jersey Air National Guard, aids a homeless veteran seeking medical access. Homeless Veterans or their families can call 1-888-8NJ VETS for information on entitlements or visit the stand down on the web at: [www.standdownofsouthjersey.com](http://www.standdownofsouthjersey.com) Stand Down comes from the military term referring to exhausted combat units that were removed from the battlefield to a place of security and safety for rest and recovery. Today Stand Downs are grass roots, community-based intervention program to help veterans' battle life on the streets. (DMAVA photos by Kryn P. Westhoven/Released)

# ALPHA COMPANY TO WORK WITH NAVY

Story and photos by Amabilia Payen, Directorate of Mobilization and Deployment



**Command Sgt. Maj. Theresa L. Spagna, senior non-commissioned officer, 2213th Mobilization Support Battalion, briefs Soldiers of Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry Regiment.**

**FORT BLISS, Texas**-Soldiers in the U.S. Army are given a Military Occupational Specialty that determines what they will be doing in their Army career. Yet, every now and then, there is a time when Soldiers are required to train on something different to meet the needs of the Army.

Such is the case with Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry Regiment, New Jersey Army National Guard. They deployed on September 22 from the Silas L. Copeland Arrival/Departure Air Control Group and are carrying their guidon into the theater of operations as a security force, not as an infantry company.

“It is an interesting deployment because we are partnering with the Navy,” said Capt. Patrick Moore, A Company commander. “We are also partnering with other tenant units from Fort Bliss as well.”

A Company, 2-113th Inf. Reg. underwent security training at McGregor Range, New Mexico, learning the same skills and tasks that their Naval counterparts are currently doing in the middle east. Due to the new tasks, the company’s mobilization training took more than the usual 30 day timeframe.

However, the majority of the leadership conducted a similar mission in their past experience, which made this training simply a refresher for them. One Soldier with A Co., 2-113th Inf. Reg. is skilled and experienced in security, but this will be his first time deploying as a squad

leader. Sgt. Russell Campbell says that being the oldest out of seven brothers in his family, will contribute to his leadership skills for his Soldiers.

“I look at my squad as my little brothers, and I ask myself, ‘What can I do to take care of my little brothers,’” said Campbell. “I’m very confident in this role.”



**Sgt. Russell Campbell, infantryman with Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry Regiment, will lead a squad for the first time in his Army career for a mission with U.S. Naval security forces.**

Campbell claims to tell his troops that he knows how it feels to go into a mission that is different from your MOS.

“We ran into the same situation the last deployment,” said Campbell, “but, they always say every good infantryman always learns to adapt and overcome, and that’s the key to life every day, doing what we do. These guys are young and eager and this will be a good experience for them.”

Campbell compliments the service that the Directorate of Mobilization and Deployment provided the unit. So does Moore, who was impressed with the detailed Soldier care.

“It’s been great,” said Moore. “We were able to do a lot of coordination with DoMaD in advance before coming here. Everyone was able to accommodate what I needed as a commander and it wasn’t an experience where they just push you out the gate. Very customer service oriented.”

A Company is scheduled to return to Fort Bliss approximately a year after this mission is complete.

# ESGR recognizes Atlantic County caregivers

By Donna Clementoni, ESGR Public Affairs

**ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.**-The New Jersey Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve recently recognized three women who helped their husbands recover from injuries suffered during their military service.

The Department of Defense organization, which protects the employment rights of military reservists, presented the women with the 'Seven Seals' award at a reception for wounded veterans at the Tropicana Casino's Boogie Nights Nightclub.

The recipients were: Ellen Rush, who provided care for her husband, John Rush, a Marine wounded in combat during the Vietnam War; Melissa Carney, who helped her husband, Patrick Carney, recover from wounds suffered during his Army service in Afghanistan; and Jennifer Afanador, who cared for Ed Afanador, who became debilitated following a deployment as a member of the Air National Guard to Ground Zero following the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attack.

Alan Smith, a retired Marine colonel who is the chairman of the New Jersey Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, said the women should be lauded for demonstrating outstanding support, commitment and extreme patriotism to the United States military.

Smith said the women embody the ESGR motto: "We all serve."



*The Seven Seals Awards award was presented to, left to right, Ellen Rush, whose husband John, sustained service related injuries during the Vietnam War; Melissa Carney, whose spouse, Patrick suffered severe injuries from his combat duty in Afghanistan required him to be medically discharged and Jennifer Afanador whose husband Ed is 100 percent service disabled from his deployment to Ground Zero following the World Trade Center attack. (Courtesy photo)*



*Yoga instructors from Kula for Karma conduct the Wednesday weekly yoga class for the residents of Veterans Haven North in Glen Gardner Sept. 18, 2014. The veterans of the facility began a regimen of therapeutic yoga designed to deliver healing, recovery and empowerment through a program tailored to help the specific needs that each veteran has. Kula for Karma is a 501 C3 organiza-*

*tion that designs programs to assist veterans with PTSD, victims of domestic violence, children and adults with cancer, children with special needs, and caregivers. The programs are free of charge and designed to enrich the lives of those involved. Visit Kula for Karma on the web at [www.kulaforkarma.org](http://www.kulaforkarma.org) for more information. (Courtesy photo)*

# Lawmakers recognize Citizen-Warriors

By Donna Clementoni, ESGR Public Affairs

**ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.**-Atlantic City Mayor Don Guardian and Assemblyman Bob Andrzejczak demonstrated their support of our nation's Citizen Warriors by signing a 'Statement of Support' on behalf of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

A Department of Defense organization, ESGR's mission is to create a culture where all American employers value the military service and sacrifice of their employees. ESGR was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employer's military commitment.

ESGR is supported by a network of more than 4,700 volunteers nationwide whose mission is to develop and maintain support for Guard and Reserve service.

The backdrop was a gathering of advocates who assembled at Atlantic City's Tropicana Casino & Hotel's Boogie Nights Nightclub to welcome twenty wounded veterans for three days of events designed to raise awareness for the new Southern New Jersey chapter of Disabled Sports USA's Warfighter Sports program.

The Warfighter Sports Program takes the most severely wounded veterans and gets them involved in adaptive sports.

Assemblyman Bob Andrzejczak is all too familiar with the life-changing injuries of war.

While serving with the Army in Iraq in 2008 on his second deployment overseas, Andrzejczak's vehicle, part of a security convoy, was hit by an anti-tank grenade. Andrzejczak lost his left leg.

Andrzejczak was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor and the Purple Heart in addition to numerous medals and badges for his five years in active service - including 17 months in Iraq.



*(Pictured left to right): Former Army National Guardsman and wounded warrior Ed Afanador, left, with his service dog, Arnie, is pictured with Assemblyman Robert Andrzejczak, New Jersey Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Public Affairs Liaison Donna Clementoni, Atlantic City Mayor Don Guardian and NJESGR Chair Emeritus retired Col. Alan Smith. Andrzejczak and Guardian are holding ESGR 'Statement of Support' certificates that affirm their support for the Guard and Reserve. (Photo courtesy of Lee S. Darby)*

After Mayor Don Guardian welcomed the honored guests to his seaside city and Assemblyman Robert Andrzejczak issued individual proclamations in their honor, the civil servants reaffirmed their belief that 'the Guard and Reserve are essential to the strength of our nation and the well-being of our communities.'



*Master Sgt. John Deseignora, left, and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Russell Isaacs, right, both with the New Jersey Army National Guard, present Lt. Col. Dritan Merdani, chief, Plans Section and CUBIC Coordinator, Communications Directorate, with a plaque commemorating the 2014 cyber defense assistance conference to the Ministry of Defence, Tirana, Republic of Albania, Sept. 25, 2014. This is the second year the NJARNG has participated in the cyber defense program. During the week-long visit, Isaacs and Deseignora taught cyber defense, risk assessment and risk management to provide the Albanians with the necessary tools and knowledge to perform assessments of their systems. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen /Released)*



*The federal Veterans Administration Wilmington (Del.) Medical Center held a town hall at the Vineland Veterans Memorial Home on Monday. Two dozen veterans came out to ask questions to the medical center staff that overseas VA clinic in South Jersey. (DMAVA photo by Kryn P. Westhoven/Released)*



# DMAVA VETERANS OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

OCT. 11: "STAND DOWN" OF NORTH JERSEY  
JFK Recreation Center (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)  
211 West Kinney St., Newark, NJ 07102

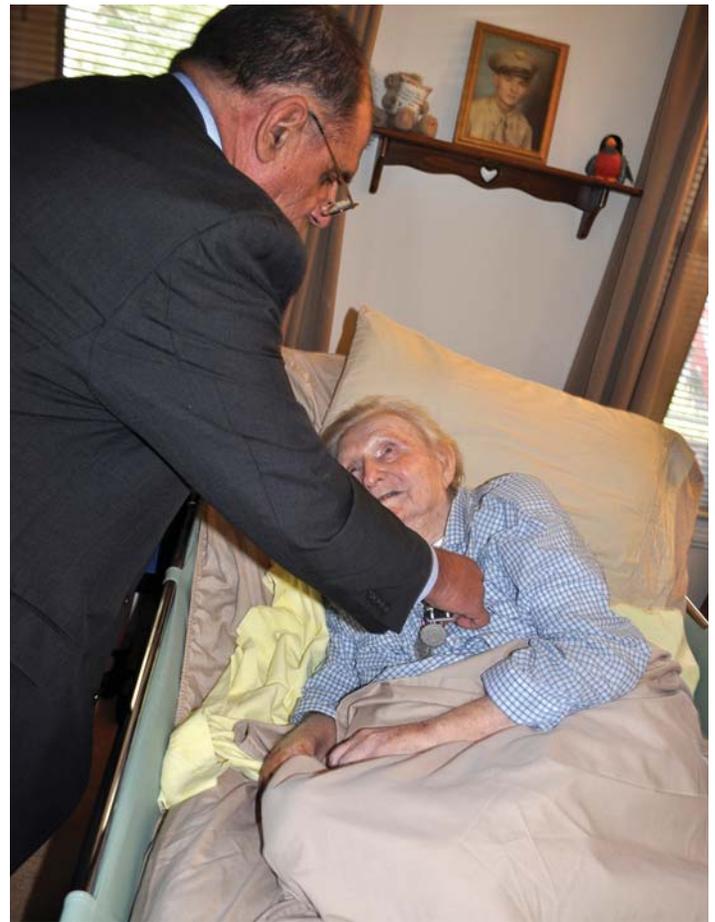
Oct. 22; "Hiring Our Heroes" Veterans Event  
Toms River American Legion Post #129  
Employment Workshop for Job Seekers: 8:30 a.m.  
Hiring Fair: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
2025 Church Road, Toms River, NJ 08753

Nov. 6: Veterans' Outreach Forum  
Davidow Hall Gymnasium, Salem Community College (9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.)  
460 Hollywood Avenue, Carney's Point, NJ 08069

Nov. 12: Medal Ceremony & Outreach Event  
Conference Center, Johnson & Johnson World Headquarters (11 a.m.)  
1 Johnson and Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

A DMAVA Medal Ceremony will be a part of J&J Employees Veterans Day Ceremony

DMAVA WILL HAVE A VSO PRESENT AT EACH EVENT TO HELP AND ASSIST ANY VETERAN



## DMAVA delivers

*Al Bucchi, director, Veterans Services, left, pins the New Jersey Distinguish Service Medal and the New Jersey POW/MIA Medal on to Walter Malinowski in his Mt. Laurel home on Sept. 24, 2014. Malinowski could not make a medal ceremony due to recent medical issues, so the medals were brought to the World War II Army veteran, who was captured by the Germans after landing at Normandy. (NJDMAVA photo by Kryn P. Westhoven/Released)*

E-mail your Highlights submissions to:

[mark.olsen@dmava.nj.gov](mailto:mark.olsen@dmava.nj.gov)

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@dmava.nj.gov](mailto:pao@dmava.nj.gov)

### 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  
Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen – Editor, photographer  
Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley – Writer, photographer



## Retiree & Civilian Health & Wellness Fair

Tuesday, November 4th 11:00am-2:00pm  
Cannon Gate Catering Center  
Free Admission!



Over 20 local vendors!

Health Professionals.  
Fitness Programs.  
Retiree Services.

Information:  
Forge Fitness Center  
973-724-6215



# HIRING OUR HEROES

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION

**2014 Hiring Our Heroes Veterans Event – Toms River, NJ**  
 The American Legion Post #129  
 2025 Church Road, Toms River, NJ 02857  
 Wednesday, October 22, 2014

**EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP: 8:30 A.M.**

**HIRING FAIR: 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

This American Legion-sponsored hiring event is being conducted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Toms River-Ocean County Chamber of Commerce, the Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DOL VETS), the New Jersey Committee of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Goodwill Industries International, NBC News, and other local partners.

<b>EMPLOYERS</b> Must register for FREE at <a href="http://HiringOurHeroes.org">HiringOurHeroes.org</a>	<b>JOB SEEKERS</b> Register for FREE at <a href="http://HiringOurHeroes.org">HiringOurHeroes.org</a> to guarantee admission. Walk-ins welcome but space not guaranteed.
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A workshop for veterans and other military job seekers that focuses on resume writing, tips for successfully navigating hiring fairs, military skill translation, and interviewing will start at 8:30A.M. To register for the Hiring Our Heroes Employment Workshop, visit [HiringOurHeroes.org](http://HiringOurHeroes.org). For registration questions, please contact us at [hiringourheroes@uschamber.com](mailto:hiringourheroes@uschamber.com) or call 202-463-5807.



**HIRINGOURHEROES.ORG**  
 Find Hiring Our Heroes online: [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [+](#)

Download the free Hiring Our Heroes mobile app! All our powerful tools and resources at your fingertips. [Available on the App Store](#) [Google play](#)



**Register Now!**

**ALL VETERANS CAREER FAIR**



**LINCOLN FINANCIAL FIELD**

**Thursday, November 6, 2014**  
**11:00 am – 3:00 pm**  
**1020 Pattison Avenue**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19148**

**a FREE Hiring Event**

FOR VETERANS, TRANSITIONING MILITARY PERSONNEL, NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS, RESERVE MEMBERS AND SPOUSES

**COMPANIES ARE HIRING!**

Job Opportunities • Continuing Education Opportunities • Business Ownership Opportunities



**Register Now!**  
[www.DAV.org](http://www.DAV.org)  
[www.RecruitMilitary.com](http://www.RecruitMilitary.com)

- Follow us on Twitter @DAVHO and @RecruitMilitary
- Event coverage on Twitter #rnhire
- Follow us both on Facebook

For more details, visit <https://events.recruitmilitary.com>

# WINE TASTING EVENT

HOSTED BY THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY  
 Featuring Vermeil Wines

**October 24, 2014**  
**6:00 pm - 8:30 pm**  
 Lawrenceville Armory  
 101 Eggert Crossing Road • Lawrenceville NJ 08648

National Guard Association of New Jersey - NGANJ and Rival Sports present this exciting fun-raiser!

The evening will include Coach Dick Vermeil with special NGANJ guests and NFL Legends. Enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres and a wide selection of fine Napa Valley wine from Vermeil Wines including:

- 2010 XXXIV Proprietary Red Wine
- 2011 Integrity Red Wine Blend
- 2010 Jean Louis Vermeil Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2013 Dutton Ranch Chardonnay
- 2010 Luvisi "1908" Zinfandel
- 2013 Sauvignon Blanc

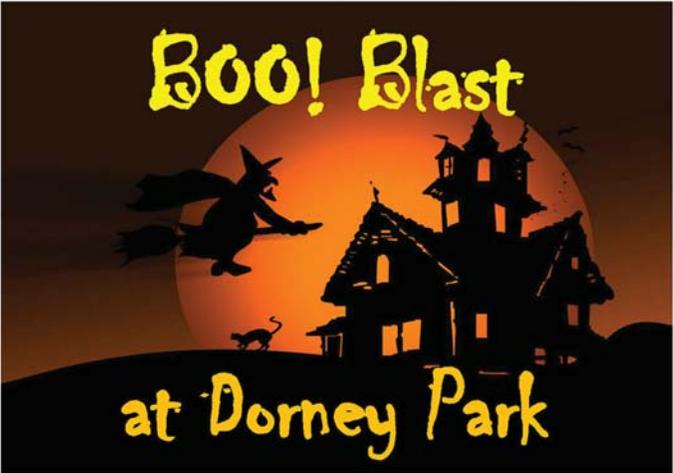
General Admission tickets are \$60. VIP Admission Tickets are \$125.

VIP tickets include a meet and greet with Coach Dick Vermeil, NFL Legends and the NGANJ dignitaries; plus receive a signed bottle of Vermeil Wines to take home!  
 To purchase tickets or to become an event sponsor, visit [www.NGANJ.org](http://www.NGANJ.org).  
 For questions or information regarding this event, please email [sharonpster@gmail.com](mailto:sharonpster@gmail.com).

**VERMEIL WINES**  
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[www.VermeilWines.com](http://www.VermeilWines.com)  
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 Napa Tasting Room • 1018 First Street, Napa, CA 94559 • (707) 254-9881

# BOO! Blast



## at Dorney Park

JT2DC Association is sponsoring Halloween Fun for Soldiers and their families Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup> 2014.

**Activities include:** Mask Making, Pumpkin Painting, Halloween shows with the Peanuts Gang, Children's rides, Scavenger hunts, and Petting Zoo.

**Ticket cost is: \$40.00**  
 per person (includes children 2 and above)  
 Parking Fee: \$15.00 per vehicle / Paid at Park

**Ticket price also includes a 2 hour unlimited buffet: Hamburgers/Hot Dogs, Fixin's Bar, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Potato Chips and Cold Beverages.**

Contact for ticket sales: Trudi Deyoung 609.847.5325  
[Trudi.c.deyoung.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:Trudi.c.deyoung.ctr@mail.mil)  
 SFC Paul Rein 609.562.0644 [paul.j.rein@mail.mil](mailto:paul.j.rein@mail.mil)

## ID CARDS AT BORDENTOWN

ID Cards are available at the Joint Military Family Assistance Center in Bordentown. To schedule an appointment, call (609) 324-7027.



USFHP is adding an eye glasses to its benefit package. To hear more about USFHP and this added feature, come to one of these upcoming information sessions.

Mount Laurel Library  
100 Walt Whitman Avenue  
Mount Laurel, N.J. 08054  
Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 14 and Dec. 12  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (hourly)  
Contact: Josephine Grey  
(347) 501-2308

177th Fighter Wing  
400 Langley Road  
Bldg 229  
Egg Harbor Twp, N.J. 08234  
Oct. 16, Nov. 20 and Dec. 9  
12 - 4 p.m. (hourly)  
Contact: Josephine Grey  
(347) 501-2308

DMAVA BLDG  
1st Floor/IASD Section  
101 Eggerts Crossing Road  
Lawrenceville, N.J. 08648  
Oct. 22, Nov. 19 and Dec. 3  
11 a.m. - 4 p.m. (hourly)  
Contact: Josephine Grey  
(347) 501-2308

Housing Community Center  
Bldg 1134 Hemlock Street  
Ft. Dix, N.J.  
Oct. 20, Nov. 3 and Dec. 1  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (hourly)  
Contact: Josephine Grey  
(347) 501-2308

Monmouth County Library  
Eastern Branch  
1001 Route 35  
Shrewsbury, N.J. 07702  
Dec. 3: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
(646) 341-2545

Military & Family Support Center  
Highway 547  
Building 488 Walsh Road  
Lakehurst, N.J. 08733  
Oct. 16 and Nov. 13: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
(646) 341-2545

Naval Weapons Station Earle  
201 Highway 34 South  
Building C29  
Colts Neck, N.J. 07722  
Oct. 8 and Nov. 5: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Contact: Pam Kwiat  
(646) 341-2545

McGuire Library  
2603 Tuskegee Airmen Ave  
McGuire AFB, N.J. 08641  
Oct. 20 and Nov. 10: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Contact: Pam Kwiat  
(646) 341-2545

McGuire Housing  
Jim Saxton Community Center  
3811 South Boiling Street  
McGuire AFB, N.J. 08641  
Oct. 30, and Dec. 2: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Contact: Pam Kwiat  
(646) 341-2545

108th Wing Airmen & Family Readiness Office  
3327 Charles Blvd  
McGuire AFB, N.J. 08641  
Nov. 12: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Contact: Pam Kwiat  
(646) 341-2545

Pemberton Community Library  
16 Broadway Street  
Browns Mills, N.J. 08015  
Oct 28, 3 - 7 p.m.  
Nov 7, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Contact: Pam Kwiat  
(646) 341-2545

Toms River Armory  
1200 Whitesville Road  
Toms River, N.J. 08753  
Nov. 4: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. (hourly)  
Contact: Pam Kwiat  
(646) 341-2545

Jersey City Armory  
678 Montgomery St.  
Jersey City, N.J. 07306  
Oct. 16 and 23: 11 a.m. - 3 pm  
Oct. 30, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Nov. 6, and 13: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Nov. 20: 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Dec. 4 and 11, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Dec. 18: 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Contact: Darrel Hutchinson  
(646) 354-0126

Army Community Service  
Bldg 119  
Dover, N.J. 07806  
Oct. 14: 10a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Nov. 14: 1 - 3 p.m.  
Dec. 12: 1 - 3 p.m.  
Contact: Darrel Hutchinson  
(646) 354-0126

Camden County Veterans Affairs  
3 Collier Dr.-Lakeland Complex  
Blackwood, N.J. 08012  
Oct. 6, 20, Nov. 3, 17 and Dec. 1, 8, 15  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. (hourly)  
Contact: Wil Acosta  
(646) 300-1312