



NJDMAVA HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 20, 2022

**To better access external content, readers may wish to forward this PDF to a personal device.*

READINESS

NJ Army National Guard launches XCTC at Fort Drum



Photos, videos by Sgt. Bruce Daddis, Pfc. Michael Hayes, Sgt. Benjamin Martinez, Sgt. 1st Class Wayne Woolley, 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

More than 2,500 Soldiers from the New Jersey Army National Guard trained during eXportable Combat Training Capability, Fort Drum, New York, July 5-30, 2022. The exercise enables brigade combat teams to achieve the trained platoon readiness necessary to deploy, fight, and win. Full coverage of XCTC is posted on the following official Facebook, Flickr, and DVIDS accounts:

<https://www.facebook.com/NJNationalGuard>

<https://www.facebook.com/NJNGSPP>

<https://www.facebook.com/44thIBCT>

<https://www.dvidshub.net/portfolio/1467173/bruce-daddis>

<https://flickr.com/photos/njnationalguard/albums/72177720300553988>

READINESS

177th Fighter Wing welcomes 306th active duty squadron



Photos and story by Senior Master Sgt. Andrew Moseley, 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 177th Fighter Wing is the latest installation to receive an active duty squadron, made up of approximately 50 Airmen, as part of the Air Force's Total Force Integration. In a ceremony July 8, 2022, the 306th Fighter Squadron, from Air Combat Command's 495th Fighter Group, 15th Air Force, was activated, marking the 10th and final full fighter squadron association under ACC's restructuring "Program Change Request 12-01".

<https://www.177fw.ang.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/3088120/306th-fighter-squadron-activated-at-177th-fighter-wing/>

PARTNERSHIPS

Mirë se vini në Fort Drum! Hou, Kingji visit troops during interoperability exercise



Photos by Sgt. Benjamin Martinez, 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Brig. Gen. Lisa J. Hou, D.O., The Adjutant General of New Jersey, and Brig. Gen. Arben Kingji, Commander of the Land Force, Albanian Armed Forces, visited the Soldiers of the 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, New Jersey Army National Guard and 2nd Battalion, Land Force, Albanian Armed Forces at Fort Drum, New York, July 16, 2022.

<https://www.facebook.com/njngspp/posts/pfbid0NEyyZkjXAGSUjAw9BTc2G8jdF6dSVB3MyiEh536M6WztUXV75WuNfNrWrqPUe3fnl>

<https://flickr.com/photos/njnationalguard/albums/72177720300588721/with/52222525065/>

PEOPLE FIRST

Youth Camp returns to Sea Girt with more than 100 campers



Photos by Sgt. Derek Vasquez, Staff Sgt. Diana Rossi, and Staff Sgt. Andrew Walker, 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

New Jersey National Guard Child and Youth Programs welcomed service members' children back to Youth Camp in Sea Girt, New Jersey, July 10-16, 2022. More than 100 campers hit the beach, archery range, sports field, and arts and crafts at the historic National Guard Training Center.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/njnationalguard/collections/72157720874798338/>

PEOPLE FIRST

Youth ChalleNGe Academy graduates Class #53



Photos by Shaner Brown, NJDMAVA

The New Jersey Youth ChalleNGe Academy graduation ceremony for Class 53 was held at the National Guard Training Center at Sea Girt, New Jersey, July 5, 2022. Brig. Gen. Lisa J. Hou, D.O., The Adjutant General and Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, was the guest speaker. The N.J. Youth ChalleNGe Academy is an alternative education program designed to reclaim the lives of at-risk 16 to 18 year olds and produce graduates with the values, skills, education, and self-discipline to succeed as adults.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/njnationalguard/albums/72177720300376626>

READINESS

1-150th Aviation trains West Point cadets



Photos by Pfc. Seth Cohen, 444th MPAD

U.S. Army Soldiers from the New Jersey Army National Guard's 1st Assault Helicopter Battalion, 150th Aviation Regiment conducted air assault training with cadets at the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York July 1, 2022.

<https://www.facebook.com/185017611554223/posts/pfbid0BJufZq6wD3TipFRh3ZDWEYD7ZkSrVkgNFPWEcU1RJu8zyHnvKRhtNC8MYer6Sxh9I/?d=n>

<https://www.facebook.com/100064615337135/posts/pfbid02PAPJrQG3rvG65BdTr5rWLwY9D82Crgu1xJkCG11tNWLcncHMEtzWz2LPQsSrvKPJl/?d=n>

PEOPLE FIRST

State Command Sgt. Maj. Williams retires



Video by Master Sgt. Matt Hecht, NJANG Public Affairs

Congratulations to New Jersey Command Sgt. Maj. Earnest Williams, Jr., who retired from the New Jersey Army National Guard after 37 years of service! Williams reflects on his military career in this video.

<https://youtu.be/lAKT03GOXUI>

READINESS

NJ Air National Guard conducts Recovery Training at Naval Air Station Wildwood



Photos by Airman 1st Class Darion Boyd, 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Members of the 177th Fighter Wing, the 108th Wing, the 305th Air Mobility Wing, and the 150th Special Operations Squadron participated in a crash damage or disabled aircraft recovery training exercise June 11, 2022 at the Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum, Lower Township, NJ.

<https://www.facebook.com/128573160486904/posts/pfbid0o1XCEJFFGHtnPCLHLyJZDCNFY67onehaTz6KTaT2RVbaji39A4jhuLnjByccSiT2/?d=n>

DIVERSITY

108th Wing hosts Juneteenth diversity presentation



Photos from 108th Wing Public Affairs

The 108th Wing Diversity Club held a lunch-and-learn style presentation June 11, 2022 during the wing's unit training assembly. Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Zinner gave an in-depth presentation on the origins and meaning of Juneteenth, followed by a group discussion.

<https://www.facebook.com/100064383201442/posts/pfbid0VrjjajznaNKj9PEcVenMQmQUtV2eXPNv5v32By59QCNk8BX7FDJhTAV2tszV9tBdl/?d=n>

PEOPLE FIRST

NJ Air National Guard recognizes annual award winners



Photos from N.J. National Guard Public Affairs

Congratulations to the New Jersey National Guard's numerous annual award winners, recognized during a ceremony at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, June 22, 2022.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/njnationalguard/sets/72177720300000837/>

PEOPLE FIRST

Veteran's Haven South receives multiple donations



Photos by Shaner Brown, NJDMAVA

The Hard Rock Casino Hotel presented a \$10,000 donation to Veteran's Haven South to provide homeless veterans with housing, food, health care, counseling, and vocational assistance, June 28, 2022, and the Egg Harbor Township Elks Lodge a \$1,000 donation June 30, 2022.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/njdmava/52195906221/in/dateposted/?fbclid=IwAR2yimpitgsnV1GjWuAOWDnSpT99dLvWL-DMxQ3WtGx0rs1xCAOzKbapwU>

VETERANS SERVICES

Veteran's Haven North gives thanks



Photos courtesy of Veterans Haven North

Veteran's Haven North celebrated its annual Night of Thanks June 1, 2022. VHN uses the Night of Thanks to honor and thank individuals and organizations for exceptional support to VHN's residents.

<https://www.facebook.com/100064262846315/posts/pfbid025JCYoVLPVXNoA5MMEGFNkVYgx5QmF7rZr6XnzNe4GYKGee3q4B5JCwwsd8NV5zJVI/?d=n>

PEOPLE FIRST

The State celebrates U.S. Army Veteran John Juliano's 101st Birthday



Photos by Maj. Agneta Murnan, NJDMAVA

Governor Philip D. Murphy, the New Jersey State Legislature, and the New Jersey Department of Military and Veteran Affairs wish John Juliano, World War II veteran and resident of the Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home, a happy 101st birthday!

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/njdmava/albums/72177720300680385>

PEOPLE FIRST

Meet the Veteran's Haven South staff and vets



Video by Shaner Brown, NJDMAVA

Veteran's Haven South sends a shout out to NJDMAVA and beyond!

<https://www.facebook.com/NJDMAVA/videos/1092293888384250>