

DMAVA Highlights



August 6, 2009 Volume 9 Number 28

One last mission for an aircraft with rich history



courtesy photo

By Sgt. Wayne Woolley, DMAVA Public Affairs Specialist

A Vietnam Veteran that entered military service during the Eisenhower administration retires from the New Jersey Air National Guard's 108th Air Refueling Wing tomorrow.

This retiree won't be playing golf in its golden years. Instead, this retiree, a KC-135E "Stratotanker," is bound for a marquis role as a display at the Air Mobility Command Museum at Dover Air Force Base.

But first, the Airmen of the 108th will say farewell to the aircraft at a ceremony at the Wing on McGuire Air Force Base tomorrow (Friday, Aug. 7) at 10 a.m.

Then the plane, which came into service in 1959, will fly its last mission, gassing up a C-5 cargo plane en route to Dover. And then, at 2 p.m., the aircraft will be officially inducted into the AMC Museum, becoming the 28th aircraft in a collection devoted to the history of air mobility.

A look at this aircraft's past is a study of Air Force history over the past five decades.

Commissioned in 1959, this aircraft was first assigned Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska, then transferred to Barksdale in Louisiana and then it moved on to Thailand and the Philippines in support of combat operations over Vietnam.

The KC-135 was credited with changing the face of aerial combat in Vietnam by lengthening the time combat aircraft could spend over the battlefield. Built and designed by Boeing, the KC-135 was a relative of the 707, one of the most successful early wide-bodied commercial airliners. More than 800 KC-135s were built.

The E Model heading for retirement transferred to the Air Guard in 1975 and made its way to the 108th in 1984. In recent years, the aircraft flew numerous missions in support of operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.

And now, it's time for this plane to rest.

Awards given during ceremony at DMAVA

Gen. Glenn K. Rieth held an awards ceremony for DMAVA employees on July 30 prior to a barbecue at the Red Room.

Letters of Appreciation were given to:

Boze Bozicevic, Security
Master Sgt. Karin Dates, Counterdrug Program
Kathleen Hines, USPFO
Colleen Joseph, Human Resource Specialist
Cindy Leese, Human Resources
Juan Lopez, Fiscal
Marisol Meyer, State Approving Agency
Spc Amanda Repici, State Partnership Program
Liz Schofield, Administrative Support
Jack Stoffa, Family Programs
Chris Sweeney, Administrative Support
Catherine Timmons, Human resource Specialist
Katheryn Wierzbicki, DVHS
Sharon Yoder, USPFO

Framed retirement letters were given to:

Roachelis Ellis, IASD
James Lally, ID

Army Commendation Medals were given to:

Chief Warrant Officer Patrick Daugherty, PAO
Sgt. 1st Class Robert Stephenson, PAO
Kryn Westhoven, PAO

An Army Achievement Medal was given to:

Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison, PAO
Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, PAO

A New Jersey Civilian Commendation Medal was given to:

Wayne Woolley, PAO



Left to right, James Lally, Installations Division, stands with Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General and retired Lt. Col. Paul Sain, Director of ID, after received his retirement letter. Photo by Kryn Westhoven.

Let us all take on more responsibility, not only for ourselves and our families but for our communities and our country.

--William Jefferson Clinton, 42nd President of the United States

DMAVA Highlights

Caddy for a Pro - maybe Tiger or Phil or Boo?

Do you love golf? Here is your chance to caddy for a PGA tour player. The first event in the PGA Tour Playoffs for the FedExCup will be held at the Liberty National Golf Course, Jersey City, and the tour is looking for 27 local military personnel to serve as caddies for PGA tour players on hole number one during the Pro-Am on Aug. 26.

If you would love to get an opportunity to caddy for one of the top 125 players on the FedExCup point list who will be competing during the tournament, contact Cindy Reis at cindyreis@pgatourhq.com by Friday, Aug. 14.

The military caddies will need to be at the course on Aug. 26, from 6:30 a.m.-noon. Attire for the caddies is golf shirt with khaki slacks. No jeans, cutoffs or T-shirts are permitted.

Military caddies will be provided with complimentary parking passes at the volunteer parking lot. Access to the tournament is free with a valid military ID. All military volunteers will report to the Volunteer Tent at Liberty National Golf Course by 6:30 a.m. on Aug. 26.

Remember, active duty and retired members of all five branches of the military and the National Guard and their dependents are invited to attend The Barclays free of charge and will be admitted by showing a military ID at the gate.

While at the course, military personnel and their dependents can enjoy the Patriots' Outpost, an expansive military hospitality chalet located near the main entrance offering a panoramic view of the 4th green. The Outpost will provide military guests and their dependents with complimentary food and beverage, television coverage of competition every day, a special kids' area and a gaming area featuring Wii games such as Tiger Woods '09.

The Patriot's Outpost is part of the PGA Tour's national Birdies for the Brave military outreach program. Visit www.birdies-forthebrave.com for more information.

For more information on the tournament or the course, visit <http://www.libertynationalgc.com/barclays/>.



DMAVA Green

By Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison, DMAVA Public Affairs Specialist

Remember those old mercury thermometers that Mom had to take your temperature, using an efficient snap of the wrist to get the inner liquid down to below 98.6 degrees? The inner liquid was mercury and the amount of mercury in that old thermometer was about 500 milligrams.

Those new compact fluorescent light bulbs also contain mercury, but much less. The mercury is sealed within the glass tubing and averages about four milligrams according to an EnergyStar report from the Environmental Protection Agency. Some manufacturers have recently dropped the amount of mercury in their CFLs to 1.4-2.5 milligrams.

There is no problem with the mercury until the bulb burns out or breaks. Then there may be a problem.

If it is burned out, Home Depot offers a recycling program. Simply take your unbroken bulb to the returns desk at any Home Depot where it will be sent to a recycler who properly handles the CFL bulbs. Or your local recycler may have a day for hazardous waste. Never send a CFL or other mercury containing product to an incinerator.

If your bulb breaks, the greatest risk you face is getting cut from the glass pieces; the small amount of mercury does not pose a large risk. Research indicates that there is no immediate health risk to you or your family should a bulb break and it's cleaned up properly. You can minimize any risks by following proper clean-up and disposal guidelines from the EPA. Visit www.energystar.gov/ia/partners/promotions/change_light/downloads/Fact_Sheet_Mercury.pdf for detailed information on how to clean up after a broken CFL bulb.

Keep Green!

Quotes

When will mankind be convinced and agree to settle their difficulties by arbitration.

--Benjamin Franklin

Life is like a blanket too short. You pull it up and your toes rebel, you yank it down and shivers meander about your shoulder; but cheerful folks manage to draw their knees up and pass a very comfortable night.

--Marion Howard

All men are created equal, but ambition, or lack of it, soon separates them.

--Unknown

A wise man makes his own decisions; an ignorant man follows public opinion.

--Chinese proverb

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New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth – The Adjutant General
Col. James J. Grant – Joint Staff Director
Retired Col. Stephen G. Abel – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs
Maj. Yvonne Mays – Public Affairs Officer
Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison – Public Affairs Specialist

Wounded Soldier and Family
Hotline
1-800-984-8523

Families

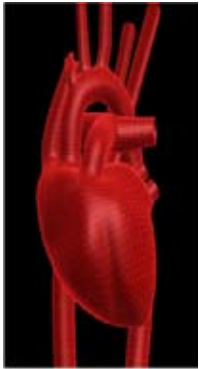
Volunteers hit 6,000 hours for family programs

From the desk of Marie Durling, Family Programs Specialist

VOLUNTEERS - Congratulations! New Jersey has hit 6,000 volunteer hours!!! Thank you! Also, thank you to the three volunteers who went to the National Conference in Michigan last week. I hope you brought back a lot of information to use within your Family Readiness Group.

REMINDER – I am still planning on having the volunteer luncheon for those who logged hours and had more than 100 before May 2009. I will be checking the hours for next year so it is not too late to log on and register and/or log your hours. Be recognized for all the hard work you do. Thank you!

Youth trip to Franklin Institute



Kids – join the Youth program on a trip to the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia.

On Aug. 19 the youth will be picked up at the Lawrenceville Armory, 151 Eggert Crossing Road at 7:30 a.m. or the Cherry Hill armory, Grove Street and Park Blvd., at 8:30 a.m. for a fun-filled trip to the Franklin Institute. Walk through the heart, see the giant pendulum, check out the telescope, and ride on the train. Lunch will be provided.

For a permission slip and more information on the trip, contact Amanda Balas, youth coordinator, at 609-530-6836, or e-mail her

at amanda.balas@us.army.mil.

Six Flags Military Day on Aug. 15

Six Flags Great Adventure is holding their Military Appreciation Day on Aug. 15, thanking those who serve the country with a special offer of fun for the entire family.

The discount package includes a one-day admission to Six Flags Great Adventure and Wild Safari and an All-You-Can-Eat buffet of hamburgers, hot dogs, salad, nachos and cheese and more – all for the price of \$29.50 per person.

To purchase tickets, mail checks to Liberty USO, Terminal A-East; Philadelphia Airport; Phila., PA 19153. Call 215-365-8010 for more information.

State Family Programs
101 Eggert Crossing Road, Lawrenceville
Toll-free number 1-888-859-0352
Family Assistance – 609-530-6834/6884
State Youth Coordinator – 609-530-6836
Military Family Life consultants – 609-530-6835/6886
Yellow Ribbon Program – 609-530-6846/6853/6859
Fax – 609-530-6871

Marriage Enrichment Seminar has openings for couples to attend

From the desk of Marie Durling, Family Programs Specialist

While the Sept. 25-27 Marriage Enrichment Seminar is full, there are six openings for the Aug. 21-23 session.

For an application for the August session or to be placed on the waiting list for the September session, please call me or drop me an e-mail. My contact information is 609-530-6884 or marie.durling@us.army.mil.

Please remember - If you sent in your registration form for either August or September and you cannot make it, I would appreciate knowing as soon as possible so I can go to the waiting list. It is not fair to hold a slot and not show up when we have Soldiers and spouses wanting to attend. If you do reserve a slot and do not attend, you will not be able to attend a future weekend unless I have a cancellation. For those of you who did send it a form for either weekend, you will receive a packet a week or two before the weekend on what to expect.

Dorney Park offers discount to military

Dorney Park and Wildwater Kingdom in Allentown, Pa., is offering a discount to the military and their families. A discount for military personnel is available at the park entrance. At the ticket window, please present a valid military photo ID card to purchase a regular one-day admission ticket for only \$24.99 during the Early and Bonus Seasons and only \$32.99 each during the summer season (May 23 - Sept. 7). The military discount is available for all active or retired military personnel (including the National Guard, Reserves, and Coast Guard). Immediate family members include spouse, children, parents, grandparents and grandchildren. Military discount tickets must be purchased at the gate (a valid military ID must be presented to receive the discount). If the military person is currently deployed overseas, the family members are eligible for the military discount as long as they show a current military family ID when purchasing tickets.

Family Readiness Council offers grants

The New Jersey National Guard State Family Readiness Council has increased the amounts of family and business grants up to \$5,000 and \$10,000, respectively. Both are known as TIER I grants. TIER II family grants are also available to New Jersey Army and Air National Guard non-deployed service members who were on State Active Duty or State Missions (e.g., hurricanes, floods, border missions) for more than 20 consecutive days. Service members meeting these criteria are eligible to apply for a financial hardship grant up to \$1,500. Applications are available at all New Jersey Army and Air National Guard Family Assistance Centers.

State Employees

Deferred compensation program seminar slated for Sept. 18

A representative from Prudential Financial Services will be at DMAVA Central Office on Sept. 18, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to discuss changes in the current Deferred Compensation program for state employees and give one-on-one consultations. Contact Paul Serdiuk at 609-530-6878 to arrange for a consultation time.

Protect your family this winter against the flu

Suzanne Miro, MPH, from the Department of Health and Senior Services will be here on Wednesday Sept. 23, 10-11 a.m. in Conference Room A to discuss Seasonal Flu and H1N1 (Swine) Flu. What it is, how it is spread, and how to protect yourself and your family from it.



Unity Day celebration slated for Sept. 17 at JT2DC

Come join in the New Jersey National Guard 11th Annual Unity Day celebration on Sept. 17, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Joint Training and Training Development Center, Fort Dix.

Celebrate our ethnic and cultural diversity through music, food sampling, giveaways, homemade dessert contest, scavenger hunt and line dancing.

There will be a Fun Walk/Run at 8:30 a.m. starting at the JT2DC and a blood drive 10 a.m.-3 p.m. also at the JT2DC.

For more information, contact Capt. Barbara Brown-Wilson, Barbara.g.brown@us.army.mil or 609-562-0856.



Come to the Fort Dix 60's Flashback Family Day

Come to Fort Dix on Saturday for "60's Flashback Family Day." Open to all ID cardholders and their families, the event will be held on Doughboy Field, noon to 7 p.m.

See the NASCAR simulator, kids craft stations, classic car show, games, food and live music – Highway 41, The Doughboys, Plainfield Slim and the Groundhaws, and Veteran's Angels.

Food vendors and John Mann Park activities are pay-as-you-go.

Submit nominations for DMAVA employee awards

From the desk to Loreta Sepulveda, Director of Human Relations

We are accepting nominations for the DMAVA Employee Awards. Please submit nominations for the Winter Trimester (January – April) and the Spring Trimester (May – August) for 2009 by close of business Sept. 4. Forward all your nominations to Anna Marie Boutchia, HR Division, using the template that is available on DMAVANet. Please include the agency, division or group name where the nominee works; this information is needed for the certificates. It is requested that all nominations be typed when submitted for ease of processing and selection. Any questions regarding the Awards process can be directed to Loreta Sepulveda, Director of Human Resources. The awards presentation date (Fall 2009) will be announced in the near future.

Save money with your employee discount!

Instructions to access updated New Jersey State Employee Discount List

1. Go to CSC website at <http://www.state.nj.us/csc/>
2. Click on Information on left side of web page
3. Select employee discount
4. Click on State Employee Discounts on left side

The most recent employee discount list will come up.

State employees reminded of direct deposit convenience

From the desk of Lisa Dandrea, Human Resources, Personnel Assistant

This is just a reminder that the convenience of direct deposit is offered to all state employees. It is encouraged that our employees consider taking advantage of direct deposit with all that it has to offer.

Enrolling into direct deposit means having your money directly deposited into your checking or savings account. You're going to be on vacation on pay day? Tired of waiting for Postal Service to deliver your money? Eliminate that with direct deposit. It is a convenient and reliable way to receive your pay and know it is safe in your account, when you need it to be. And the service is free!

To get enrolled you must complete the "Authorization Agreement for Automatic Payroll Deposits" form, and turn it in to your Human Resources Payroll Department. A copy of this form is available on DMAVANet under "Human Resources – Helpful Forms." Just print, fill out and send to Human Resources. Please allow up to three pay periods (six weeks) for your direct deposit to take effect.

To request a form or more information, contact Lisa Dandrea in Human Resources at 609-530-6888.

Veterans & Military

Obama: Health care reform won't impact VA, Tricare

By Donna Miles, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4, 2009 - In ongoing discussions about health-care reform, President Barack Obama offered assurance today to those receiving medical care through Tricare or the Department of Veterans Affairs: Your benefits are safe.

Eligibility for health care under VA or Tricare "will not be affected by our efforts at broader health-care reform," Obama told military reporters at the White House today.

"I want to make sure that message gets out to our veterans," the president said. "I think it's very important to get the message out: If you are in the VA system and are happy with your care, great. We have no intention of changing your eligibility."

While a new, national program won't force anyone to change health-care systems, Obama said it could offer benefits or geographic convenience that might make some veterans elect to join it. A national program "will actually give them more choices, more flexibility," he said.

The VA "has probably made more progress than most systems out there in increasing quality" during the past 25 years, and could help shed light on better ways of delivering health care, he said.

But the cost of delivering that care is high even at VA, and Tricare consumes a big piece of the Defense Department's budget, he said.

With the fiscal 2010 budget reflecting the largest VA funding increase in 30 years, Obama told American Legion leaders he is committed to ensuring that VA provides America's veterans the highest-quality health care possible.

Meanwhile, he told reporters VA will increase its outreach to more veterans to make sure they're aware of their medical benefits and other entitlements.

"Although there are hundreds of thousands of veterans who are using our services, we know there are hundreds of thousands more who may not know that benefits are available," he said.

"And we are working really hard to make sure that every single veteran – not just our active force, but also National Guard and reservists, are aware of the benefits that are available to them.

Military gets in for free at Somerset Patriots game

Operation Jersey Cares will host the seventh annual Veterans of American Day at the TD Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater, on Aug. 30 when the Somerset Patriots play the Camden River Sharks. Tickets for military and veterans are free, family and friends cost \$5 each.

Guest of honor will be Sgt. Maj. Edward F. Neas Sr, who will part of the audience to welcome home the Iraq War veterans. There will be a small medal ceremony and a DMAVA veterans outreach table at the game.

A parade will be held on the ball field at 4 p.m. and the game begins at 5:05 p.m. To purchase the discounted friends and family tickets, contact Marc Russinoff of the Patriots at 908-252-0700, extension 215 or mrussinoff@somersetpatriots.com.

Free job seminar open to all; help in making career moves

The New Providence United Methodist Church is sponsoring a free eight-week re-employment seminar. Held Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 21, the seminar will be led by Lloyd Feinstein, founder of Career Marketing Consultants.

The seminar will be helpful to those who are unemployed or who anticipate having to make a job change. Each week will work on a different topic to help those attending prepare for today's unpredictable employment market.

Topics will cover: communicating your value, how to figure where to go in your next career, the resume, mechanics of the job search, and much more.

Feinstein has more than 25 years experience conducting these types of seminars and working as a fulltime career consultant and adviser to everyone from college graduates up to and including senior management executives and entrepreneurs.

Anyone is welcome to attend. The church is located at 1441 Springfield Avenue, New Providence.

Join the Warrant Officers Association

The United States Army Warrant Officer Association, Fort Dix Doughboy Chapter, is looking for members. For membership information, contact Chief Warrant Officer Nancy E. Rowbotham at nancy.rowbotham@us.army.mil.



ADA reunion picnic will be held Sept. 4 in Sea Girt

The Air Defense Artillery reunion picnic will be held at The Pavilion, Sea Girt, on Sept. 4, at noon. Cost is \$20 per person.

All prior ADA members and their families are invited.

Contact retired Col. Larry Stroud, 609-239-6911, LSSR@prodigy.net or retired Col. Bill Walsh at 732-928-1704 to RSVP at all possible – it will be appreciated.

Veterans Organizations contact information

State Veterans Service Council

Richard Clark, RJClark21@msn.com

BG William C. Doyle Cemetery Advisory Council

William Rakestraw, warjrnj@msn.com

Veterans Hotlines

Benefits and Entitlements

1-888-8NJ-VETS (1-888-865-8387)

Mental Health

1-866-VETS-NJ4 (1-866-838-7654)

Calendar

When – Aug. 11, 12, 13, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. (one day seminars)

What – TSP seminars for Federal Guard technicians

Where – Aug. 11 and 12 - JT2DC, Fort Dix; Aug. 13 - 177th FW, Atlantic City

More info – Capt. Devon Hanson, devon.hanson1@us.army.mil or 609-562-0881; DSN 944-0881



When – Aug. 11 and 12

What – ‘Deal or No Deal’ military auditions

Where – you will get information in an e-mail with confirmation

More info – e-mail name, age, phone number, e-mail address and military branch to dealmilitaryweek@gmail.com

When – Aug. 18-19

What – Federal technicians Pre-retirement seminar

Where – JT2DC, Fort Dix

More info – Lorraine Jamison, 609-562-0874 or e-mail Lorraine.jamison@us.army.mil

When – Aug. 19, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

What – Atlantic City Air Show

Where – The beach and boardwalk, Atlantic City

More info – www.atlanticcitynj.com/acairsho.aspx

When – Aug. 21-23 and Sept 25-27

What – Marriage Enrichment Seminars

Where – TBD

More info – Marie Durling, marie.durling@us.army.mil or (609) 530-6884

When – Aug. 22
What – Teaneck FRG/FAC Welcome Home and Back to School picnic
Where – Fountain Springs Country Club, Ringwood
More info – 201-833-0632 or 201-833-8356



When – Aug. 23

What – Poker Run, for scholarship funds

Where – The Pub, Browns Mills

More info – www.rollingthunder-nj2.org

When – Sept. 21

What – 114th Inf Regimental Assoc. Golf Tournament

Where – Pitman Golf Course, Sewell

More info – royceray@comcast.net

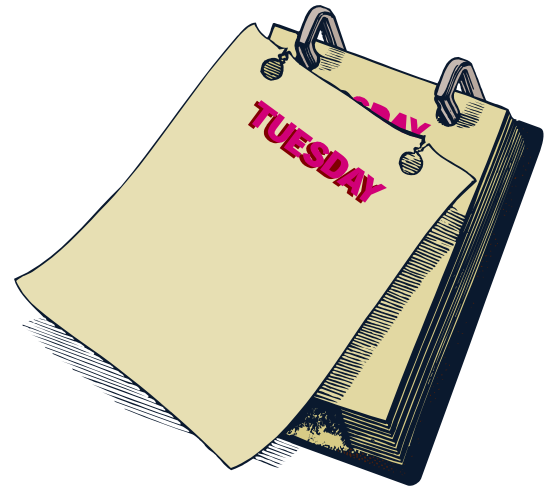


When – Sept. 26

What – 22nd annual New Jersey Friends of the Guard and Reserve golf outing

Where – Falcon Crest golf course, McGuire Air Force Base

More info – 609-562-0156 or 609-562-0157



Veterans Outreach Campaign schedule

The DMAVA Veterans Outreach Campaign has kiosk displays at malls throughout the state and other special events to help veterans and their family members discover and apply for the benefits they are eligible to receive.

Aug. 7***

First Energy Ball Park, Home of the Lakewood Blue Claws

Aug. 20***

Mercer County Waterfront Park, Home of the Trenton Thunder



ton Thunder

Aug. 30****

TD Bank Ballpark, Home of the Somerset Patriots

Sept. 22*, 23, 24 Rockaway Town-square Mall

Oct. 20, 21, 22** Jersey Gardens Mall

Nov. 9*, 10 Woodbridge Center Mall

*Medal ceremony at 10:30 a.m.

**Medal ceremony at 1 p.m.

***Outreach program only, 7:05 p.m.

****Outreach program only, 4:05 p.m.

Deadline

Want to place an event or article in DMAVA Highlights?

Deadline for articles is noon Wednesday.

Send submissions to barbara.harbison@njdmava.state.nj.us.