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DMAVA Highlights » 28 May 2009

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NJ Dept of Military and Veterans Affairs

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The Adjutant General

Col. James J. Grant
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Col. (Ret) Stephen G. Abel
Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs

Contacting us is easy!

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Please submit any articles and all information for DMAVA Highlights to:

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ATTN: Staff Sgt. Barb Harbison

Deadline is noon Wednesday

Staff Sgt. Barbara Harbison
barbara.harbison@njdmava.state.nj.us
Or Call 609-530-7088

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Veterans' Organizations Contact Information

State Veterans Service Council
Mr. Richard Clark
RJClark21@msn.com

BG William C. Doyle Cemetery Advisory Council
Mr. William Rakestraw
warjrnj@msn.com

Veterans Hotlines

News For Your Views

2-113th completes mission in Iraq, heads home for family, friends

By Maj. Jason Fetterolf, PAO, 2-113th Infantry Battalion

CAMP BUCCA, Iraq - Under brilliantly sunny skies, with morning temperatures racing toward the century mark, the 2-113th Infantry Battalion, New Jersey Army National Guard, handed off the Camp Bucca Base Defense mission to the 2-127th Infantry Battalion, Wisconsin Army National Guard, in a transfer of authority ceremony May 22, eight months after taking charge.

The ceremony's traditional casing of the colors of the 2-113th Battalion and uncasing of the colors of the 2-127th Battalion colorfully and symbolically communicated the transfer of authority and was followed by remarks from distinguished guests Col. Lindy Burkhart, FOB Bucca commander and Lt. Col. Kevin Vereen, deputy commander, 42nd Military Police Brigade, acting on behalf of Commander Col. David Glaser, Task Force Bucca and the 42nd MP Brigade.

Redeploying after eight months in Iraq, the 2-113th Infantry Battalion has accomplished much, witnessed a marked decrease in violence, and leaves a strong foundation for the 2-127th Infantry to build upon.

"From the time we arrived in Iraq until present, we experienced no indirect fire attacks on Camp Bucca, only one improvised explosive device attack on the routes in our area of operations around Camp Bucca, and no other significant dangerous events in the vicinity. This represents an 86 percent reduction in IDF attacks and a 92 percent reduction in IEDs," said Piterksi. "I can attribute this regional peace to the outstanding jobs you all have done to show Iraqis how the U.S. is here to help them and to keep the region safe."

With the exit of the 2-113th Infantry and the entry of the 2-127th Infantry, another chapter in the history of Camp Bucca, the Army National Guard, and the province of Basra, Iraq is written.

The history-rich 2-113th Infantry Battalion mobilized beginning June 20 at Riverdale, N.J., and completed pre-deployment training at Fort Bliss, Texas, before deploying to Camp Bucca Sept. 11, 2008. The remaining Soldiers in the Garden State's 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team had simultaneously deployed to multiple locations in Iraq as part of the largest mobilization of the New Jersey National Guard since World War II. All are on their way home after redeploying through Fort Dix in the coming weeks.

Turn it off before you walk out!

In order to comply with TAG goals on energy conservation, users will ensure that all desktops, laptops, printers, and external devices are turned off prior to leaving work at the end of the day. There is no reason to keep the devices turned on for updates during the evenings or weekends. The only exception to this rule is multifunction devices that need to stay on for the purpose of receiving faxes sent after duty hours. In the event that something arises that would necessitate a change in the policy you will be notified.

NOT POWERING DOWN IS A BIG DEAL - In a recent study a company with 2500 PC's can save 91,203 kWh per year, or \$92,372 just by using good power management.

There will be scans accomplished this weekend identifying those systems and users that are not in compliance with this policy.

Three N.J. employers named as semi-finalists for 2009 Freedom award

ARLINGTON, VA— Three New Jersey employers have been selected as semi-finalists for the

**Benefits & Entitlements**

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

Mental Health

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

Wounded Soldier and Family Hotline

1-800-984-8523

NJ World War II Memorial

For information or to make a donation,
call 609-530-7049

[WWII Memorial on the web](#)

ESGR Office

JFHQ 3650 Sailors Pond Road Fort
Dix, NJ 08641

Hank Pierre, 609-562-0156,
hank.pierre@njdmava.state.nj.us
Tammy Cartagena, 609-562-0157,
tammy.l.cartagena@us.army.mil
Fax 609-562-0158

Phone numbers and Web sites to remember**Directory Assistance:**

1-602-293-4907

Verizon Super Pages:
<http://www.superpages.com>

AT&T:
<http://www.anywho.com/>

SBC Yellow Pages:
<http://www.yellowpages.com/>

Telephone and contact information on state employees can be found at
<http://njdirect.state.nj.us/>

DMAVA Emergency Hotline:

1-866-232-5798

State Family Programs
101 Eggert Crossing Road
Lawrenceville

2009 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. The award is the U.S. Government's highest recognition given to employers for exceptional support of their employees serving in the Guard and Reserve. The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is significant because only members of the National Guard and Reserve or their family members are eligible to nominate their employers for the award.

Semi-Finalists from New Jersey include the Monmouth County Sheriff's Department, Honeywell International and the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation.

The three New Jersey employers are among 131 semi-finalists from across the nation, selected from more than 3,200 nominations submitted by National Guard and Reserve members or their families for outstanding employer support. From this field, a national review board will select 35 finalists for the award. A national selection board comprised of senior defense officials and business leaders will then select the award's 15 recipients. The Department of Defense will announce the 2009 finalists in June and the award recipients in July. The 2009 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Awards will be presented at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., September 17 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Center.

About ESGR

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972 that seeks to promote a culture in which all American employers support and value the military service of their employees. They recognize outstanding support, increase awareness of the law, and resolve conflicts through informal mediation. For more information visit www.esgr.mil.

About the Award

The Freedom Award is a Secretary of Defense award which was instituted in 1996 under the auspices of the National Committee for ESGR to recognize exceptional support from the employer community. Previous recipients include American Express, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Sears, Home Depot, the State of Tennessee and the Winner School District of South Dakota. For more information visit www.FreedomAward.mil.

Army 10-Miler online transfer registration

From the desk of Master Sgt. Alex Estrada

Did you miss the registration date for the Army 10-Miler? Or did you register and now decided that you cannot participate? The online transfer process opened May 15. If you can't run in October consider transferring your entry through the Online Transfer Process. The program will run through Aug. 14. The online transfer process is secure and easy to use. Sellers are responsible for finding buyers. All transfers are conducted online and an administration fee applies. All parties will receive an e-mail confirmation after the transaction has been processed.

Salvation Army holding motorcycle ride on May 30

The Salvation Army is holding a motorcycle run on Saturday, **May 30**. Rain date is June 27. The start and finish point will be The Salvation Army Camp Tecumseh, 445 Mechlin Corner Road, Pittstown NJ.

Sign in will be from 10-11 a.m. Cost is \$25 per rider and \$10 for passengers. Lunch only, for family and friends is \$5 and children under 7 will eat for free.

At the end of the ride, there will be a barbecue, pig roast, entertainment, prizes and other activities. No alcohol will be served or allowed on the ride or at Camp Tecumseh.

Proceeds benefit The Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services Program and Camp Tecumseh. For those of you who aren't aware, Salvation Army helps NJNG members and their families. Come out and enjoy a fun ride while supporting the worthwhile efforts of this great organization.

For more information contact RJ Yuhas at 908-851-8239 or ron.yuhas@use.salvationarmy.org..

Toll-free number
888-859-0352

Family Assistance
609-530-6884

Teen Youth Group
609-530-6836
Fax: 609-530-6871

Call a Chaplain
24/7
609-694-0635
609-802-8125

Get your VA benefits as a Direct Deposit into your checking or savings account

call 800-333-1795
or visit www.GoDirect.org.

2009
U. S. Army
Year of the NCO

<http://www4.army.mil/yearofthenco/home.php>

Quotes for the Week

You want a friend in Washington? Get a dog.

-Harry S. Truman

One today is worth two tomorrow.

- Benjamin Franklin

This is a final test of a gentleman: his respect for those who can be of no possible value to him .

- William Lyon Phelps

Noble deeds that are concealed are most esteemed.

- Blaise Pascal

Truth is heavy few therefore can bear it.

- Hebrew proverb



TRICKY TRAY!!!

-Saturday May 30th, 2009
Woodbridge Armory
625 Main St. Woodbridge, NJ

- Doors open at 6PM / Pulling begins at 7:30PM
- Free massages at Woodbridge Health Club
- Admission and One sheet of 25 tickets: \$10
- Additional sheet: \$5
- Three sheets for \$12
- Higher Priced Ticketed Items: Varying Price
- 50/50 Raffle

Being held with the assistance of the American Legion Post #471 T. Nulty

Nutter Run up and running for May 31

The fifth annual SGT Nutter Run will be held on **May 31**. Sergeant Sam Nutter (Jan. 28, 1966 – Jan. 2, 2005) was a member of the New Jersey Army National Guard and served in the U. S. Navy from 1989 – 1997. Each year the New Jersey Army National Guard Officer Candidate School holds a benefit 5k run in his memory and the proceeds raised are donated to a NJARNG family in need.

This year's beneficiary is Sgt. Raul Aponte of A Co. 2-113th Infantry. The Aponte residence was struck by lightning during a storm in 2008 and caught on fire, leaving the family without a permanent residence and under heavy financial burden. Sgt. Aponte is currently deployed with the 50th IBCT.

Come join us as we band together to give a helping hand to a member of our National Guard family. Fun family events and a barbecue will follow the race.

Visit <http://www.NutterRun.com> for more information, and registration and donation forms.

Try "Japan Day @ Central Park" this Sunday for a treat

Looking for something new and educational this weekend?

Come to "Japan Day @ Central Park," Sunday, **May 31**. This is an event designed by the Japanese community of New York to promote a deeper understanding of the Japanese culture and to say "Thank you, New York!" Now marking its third year as a New York City tradition, "Japan Day @ Central Park" returns to fill the green oasis of East Meadow with tents offering a wide range of Japanese traditional and family-friendly activities, free samplings of popular Japanese cuisine and powerful stage performances throughout the day, with top entertainers from New York and Tokyo. Last year, an estimated 40,000 New Yorkers participated in Japan Day in the East Meadow.

"Japan Day @ Central Park" 2009 begins at 8 a.m. with the Japan Run, a 4-mile race, organized by New York Road Runners. The Japan Day Festival begins at 10 a.m. with the opening of all the activity tents; the stage show begins at 10:15 a.m., and free samplings of Japanese cuisine begin at 11 a.m.

Part One: Japan Run, 8 a.m. - Yoko Shibui, Japan's World Championship Women's Marathon runner in Berlin 2009 as well as Japan's entry in the Beijing Olympics Women's 10,000 meter race, will join a field of 5,000 runners. This is a New York Road Runners sponsored event. The 4 mile race will be followed by an award ceremony and raffle. Pre-race performance by Chin-don band Zakuro. The kid's races will start at 9:30 a.m. Visit www.nyrr.org for registration.

Part Two: Japan Day Festival is 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at East Meadow, Central Park Main Entrance at 97th St. & 5th Ave.

It will include – Taste of Japan: sample chow mein, gyoza dumpling, gyudon over rice, miso soup, sanuki udon noodle, and tea. Food samplings will be served from 11 a.m. until the food is gone.

Stamp Rally: Participate by collecting stamps from activity tents and learn more about Japan!

Activities: calligraphy, origami, Saori Zen weaving, tea ceremony, chopsticks game, Kabuki face painting, wellness check up, Yo-Yo fishing, Games, robot Sumo battle, and Shogi.

Performances: will be hosted by Sandra Endo, CNN reporter and co-hosted by Brian Nishii

10:15 a.m. Act One - Cool Japan – COBU; Yoko Shibui Introduction; Umami NYC; The Japanese American Association of New York Chorus and the Reona Ito Chamber Orchestra; Kenichi Ebina; Cosplay Combat! by the KRAZY! CosPlayaz; and the Chin-don Band Zakuro (special guest: Joey Morant)

12:30 p.m. Act Two - Traditional Japan - the International Karate Organization Kyokushinkaikan; Mikoshi parade; Bon-Odori with NY HANAGASA KAI (Taiko by Ayumi Oikawa)

2:30 p.m. Act Three – Concert - Soichi Muraji; Taro Masuda; Yaz Band ; Ai Kawashima; Orange Pekoe

Visit www.japandaynyc.org for more information.

Aqua-Adventures for military youth in June and July

Operation Military Kids is giving military youth in grades 4-8 who have experienced deployment an opportunity to go to Aqua-Adventures.

June 13 – Fish and Ships, Adventure Aquarium – Camden (exploring a variety of aquatic ecosystems and a tour of the Battleship NJ)

July 11-12, Camp-in, Liberty Science Center, Jersey City (after the doors close to the public, the kids get to explore all the hands-on exhibits, the 3-D movie and the IMAX theater. Included is dinner, evening snack and breakfast.

While the events are free, a \$30 deposit is required to hold the child's place. The deposit will be refunded at the close of the camp-in.

Registration is needed by June 1. Registration and permission forms can be found at www.state.nj.us/military/familysupport/programs.html. For more information, contact Marie Waldron, OMK Camp Assistant Director, 973-285-8300, extension 235, or Waldron@njaes.rutgers.edu.

College fair in Voorhees for military, families on June 2

There will be a college fair on **June 2**, 4-6 p.m. at The Mansion, Voorhees, N.J.

Many colleges – mainly New Jersey and Philadelphia area schools – will be in attendance and all interested military and family members are encouraged to attend.

The event is free.

The Mansion is located at Evesham and Kressan Rds. Plaza 3000, Voorhees.

Man's best friend during war time - program at Vietnam Center

On Saturday, **June 6**, at 1 p.m., the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation, in conjunction with the United States War Dogs Association, will host a program entitled, "**U.S. War Dogs: Remembering Man's Best Friend.**" This program will be held at the Vietnam Era Educational Center, Holmdel. In addition, there will be an exhibition of Vietnam era military equipment and combat gear on display, courtesy of the Veterans United Military Memorial Museum. Light refreshments will be provided.

Since World War I, tens of thousands of K-9s have served in the United States Armed Forces alongside their handlers. Thousands have died in combat saving the lives of our military troops. The United States War Dogs Association, founded in 1999 by a group of former U.S. military dog handlers and supporting members, is committed to promoting the long history of military service dogs, establishing war dog memorials, and educating the public about the role of dogs in the military.

This program will include a discussion of the history of military working dogs, today's military working dogs and how to adopt a retired military working dog. A number of retired dog handlers who serve as officers of the U.S. War Dogs Association will be in attendance to share their own personal stories. Attendees include New Jersey residents: Ron Aiello, Burlington, Bob Cicero, Somerville, Bucky Grimm, Long Branch, Bob Thompson, Roebling, and Al Gunderson, Paramus.

The Veterans United Military Memorial Museum will also have an exhibition of Vietnam Era military equipment and combat gear. This non-profit organization, based in Burlington County, hosts a traveling exhibition of military memorabilia. Its members work to preserve military history by exhibiting artifacts to educate the public throughout New Jersey.

Program attendees are asked to RSVP by calling (732) 335-0033. A donation of \$5 per person is suggested.

Essex Troop scholarships open for members, family

Applications for the 2009 Essex Troop Scholarship Program are now available. The scholarships are for qualified Essex Troop members and their family members, 102nd Cavalry and 50th BSTB qualified personnel.

Applications can be found online at the Essex Troop Web site, <http://www.essextroop.org/index.htm>, by requesting at etroop@verizon.net or by calling the Troop office at 1-973-736-0952. Deadline for submitting applications is **June 15**, 2009.

Philadelphia VA center holding Welcome Home event, June 20

The Philadelphia VA Medical Center, 3900 Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., is inviting all veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom and their spouses, families and significant others to attend a Welcome Home event on Saturday, **June 20**.

Activities include: free lunch, entertainment, children's activities, veterans benefits representatives, veterans organizations representatives, health education and resources, door prizes and recreation, employment, safe driving information.

RSVP by June 10 to Lori Maas, OEF/OIF Program Manager at 215-823-5200.

Mental health education program for families of Veterans available

The Veterans Health Administration and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) have teamed to provide the NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program for families of veterans. The Family-to-Family Education Program (FFEP) is a free 12-week course for family caregivers of individuals with mental illness and is now offered at VA New Jersey Health Care System locations.

The course includes: Current information about schizophrenia, major depression, bipolar disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, borderline personality disorder, and co-occurring brain disorders and addictive disorders; current research and treatments to promote recovery; up-to-date information about medications, side effects, and strategies for medication adherence; gaining empathy for a person with mental illness; learning skills for handling crisis and relapse; coping with care giver worry, stress, and emotional overload; and guidance on locating and advocating for appropriate supports and services for your family.

NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots organization dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness. NAMI New Jersey and VA New Jersey Health Care System are accepting family members of veterans for the class starting **June 25** at the Lyons Campus. Classes will be from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings. For information/sign up contact Mike at 734-380-9400 ext. 3618. Visit www.naminj.org or call 732-940-0991 for additional information about NAMI New Jersey.

Sky Blue FC offering free tickets to Heroes, discounts to families

Join the Sky Blue FC on **July 4** at 7 p.m., for their 1st Annual Heroes' Night at Yurcak Field, Piscataway. Sky Blue FC is the women's professional soccer team located in Somerset. They are honoring the members of the Armed Forces, police and fire departments when they take on the Boston Breakers.

Heroes' with identification will receive a free game ticket and access to discounted ticket prices for family and friends. For more information, contact Rich Fetter, 732-271-7700, extension 309 or rftetter@skybluesoccer.com. Check out their Web site, www.skybluefc.com for more information about the team.

EANJNG opens scholarship season to members, dependents

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of New Jersey scholarship season is open. The CSM Baldassari Memorial Scholarship is open to all members of the Association and their dependents. Scholarship forms can be found at the association's web site – www.eanj-ng.org.

The Enlisted Association offers five \$1000 scholarships. All applications must be received no later than **July 15**. Previous winners are not eligible to reapply. The Enlisted Association would also like to announce the USAA Scholarship. This is a \$500 scholarship that is open to all members of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard. Forms also may be found at the Enlisted Association web site.

For more information on either scholarship, contact retired Sgt. Maj. Michael Amoroso at 609-562-0754.

Post 9/11 GI Bill briefing on the calendar for July 21

For all of you are eligible for the Post 911 GI Bill and are finding yourselves with questions – here is where to find answers! There will be a Post 911 GI Bill briefing for the McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst community on **July 21** in the Timmerman Center, Fort Dix. Briefings will be held at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. All the briefings are for active duty, National Guard, Reserve and family members.

The McGuire Education Office is advising delaying application for the Post 911 GI Bill until after attending one of these briefings.

AUSA golf tournament will be held July 27 at Sun Eagles golf course

Come to the local AUSA Membership Drive Golf Tournament on **July 27** at Sun Eagles Golf Course, Fort Monmouth. Shotgun start of the tourney is 8 a.m., with the awards luncheon at 1 p.m.

Cost to play in the tournament is \$40 for government/military (AUSA members); \$70 for government/military non-members; \$100 for industry AUSA members; and \$130 for industry non-members.

AUSA is also looking for sponsors - \$2,000 for a tournament sponsor, \$1,500 luncheon sponsor, \$500 golf cart sponsor and \$125 for a hole sponsor.

This is one of the many events the organization runs to support the Fisher House. On May 30, they will donate more than \$150,000 to Fisher House and \$25,000 to Homes for Our Soldiers to help them build a house for Sgt. Mike Minard.

For a registration form or more information, contact Kit Roache at 732-380-9500, extension 202 or kit.roache@gdc4s.com. For AUSA membership information contact Tony Smith, tony.smith@us.army.mil, 732-427-5553.

Sea Girt beach passes now available for DMAVA employees

NGTC Sea Girt beach passes are now available. If you have not already received yours, contact Gail Miller at 609-530-6911, gail.miller@njdmava.state.nj.us to get your passes.

Information to remember:

DMAVA employees can use the employee ID card or NJ military ID for admission to the beach.

Passes can be issued to family members and friends, but each pass is to be issued to only one person.

Each pass will admit all occupants of one car to the beach. The pass is good for the entire season.

On the back of the pass there are two lines to fill in:

First line: You or the person **who will be using** the pass (name/guest) must **print** his/her name on the first line. Guests may also be asked to show a driver's license or other photo ID.

Second line (unit/sponsor): You must **print** your name and DMAVA division or unit.

For more information, see TAG Memorandum 2-09 dated 10 February 2009 at

http://www.nj.gov/military/publications/tag-memo_09/TAGMEMO-2-09.pdf.

Financial counseling available for deployed service members

From the desk of retired Command Sgt. Maj. Mike Hughes, Family Assistance Specialist

The Military Housing Assistance Fund (MHAFF) helps military families to become homeowners by providing them with grants to assist them with purchasing a home. The Fund also provides financial counseling to members of the National Guard and Reserves, deployed and serving in combat zones overseas, which are having problems meeting their monthly obligations due to their deployment and activation. Learn more at <http://www.militaryhousingassistancefund.org>. The Fund is a project of the Financial Counselors of America (FCA), a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization founded in 1991 to help Americans manage their finances and get out of debt. Visit the FCA website at <http://www.financialcounselors.org>.

Army Warrant Officer Association wants you

Join the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association, Fort Dix Doughboy Chapter. The USAWOA is the Warrant Officer's voice in The Military Coalition.

Make your voice heard. AAAA member aviators receive a USAWOA membership discount. WO1's receive their first year membership free.

Contact nancy.rowbotham@us.army.mil to obtain a membership application.

Scholarships available for DeVry University

The AMVETS are offering scholarships for DeVry University with a \$1,000 per semester tuition award and a \$9,000 total award. This is open to veterans of all branches of service, Reserve and Guard components. This offer is also extended to immediate family members (spouses, natural and adopted children). This scholarship is applicable for DeVry University and the Keller Graduate School of Management.

Deadlines to submit scholarship applications are **June 8** for the July 2 semester and **Sept. 28** for the Oct. 26 semester. For more information concerning the application or the application process contact AMVETS toll free at 877-726-8387 or devryscholarships@amvets.org.

NJNG museum announces sale of "A Tribute to New Jersey Veterans"

The National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey announces the publication of "*A Tribute to New Jersey Veterans*." This beautiful 128 page, historical hard-cover book will be available on July 4, 2009, and includes numerous unpublished photos from the museum's collections, the N.J. National Guard, and personal collections that chronicle the men and women of New Jersey who have protected democracy since the inception of our great country right up to today's conflicts. With photos from over the past 150 years as well as illustrations of the country's early history, this book captures New Jersey's men and women's contributions since the beginning. It is a deserving tribute dedicated to all who have served and sacrificed so much for our country and shows how the state has honored and supported our veterans in the past, and will encourage its citizens to continue their support for our military.

Part of the proceeds from the sale of this book will benefit the museum. If you have any questions, please contact the museum curator, retired Col. Donald Kale, at 609-530-6802.

DMAVA Veterans Outreach Campaign continues

The DMAVA Veterans Outreach Campaign continues with kiosk displays at selected malls throughout New Jersey. The schedule is as follows:

June	Wildwood Convention Center-see below
July 28*, 29, 30	Ocean County Mall
August 5	First Energy Park, home of the Lakewood Blue Claws, 6-10 p.m.

Wildwood Convention Center schedule is: (outreach only, no medal ceremonies)

Elks State Convention – June 4-5

American Legion State Convention – June 10-12

VFW State Convention – June 17-19

*Medal ceremonies begin at 10:30 a.m. on these dates. The kiosk will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Medal Ceremony only; begins at 11 a.m.

DMAVA Green

A car that is 85 percent recyclable? And 95 percent recoverable? Truly a green person's dream car! But the price tag may stop the average consumer, as green as they may be, from purchasing this new vehicle.

Bentley's Continental has a price tag of \$425,000. For that price it should be noted that the cars do last; more than 70 percent of all Bentleys ever made are still in existence.

The Continental Supersports models can be powered by either gasoline or ethanol. According to a press release, by 2012 all Bentleys will be available with this flex fuel technology.

If you are in the market for a car and being green is part of your consideration, here are the top 10 and bottom 12 green machines, as rated by the American Council for an Energy-

Efficient Economy.

The top ten, from highest to lowest, are:

2006 Honda Civic Hybrid

2006 Toyota Prius

2007 Toyota Camry Hybrid

2006 Ford Escape Hybrid

2007 Ford Escape Hybrid

2007 Ford Focus

2006 Mazda3

2006 Mercury Mariner Hybrid

2007 Mercury Mariner Hybrid

2006 Saturn Ion

The least green machines, from "least to most" worse are:

Dodge Ram SRT-10

Lamborghini Murcielago

Bentley Arnage

Dodge Durango 4.7 V8 4WD

Dodge Ram 1500 4.7 V8 4WD

Maybach 57S

Hummer H2

Ferrari 599 GTB Fiorano

Ford F-250 Super Duty 5.4 V8 4WD

GMC Yukon XL 2500 4WD

Volkswagen Touareg V8

Chevrolet Suburban 2500 4WD

Reduce-Reuse-Recycle!

If you have a green tip or a site to recommend, drop me a line
atBarbara.harbison@njdmava.state.nj.us.

Pension loan applications to be submitted through MBOS

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

NOTICE from the Division of Pensions and Benefits:

Effective Nov. 1, 2008, an eligible member who wishes to borrow against their pension account, MUST submit the loan request through the Pension Loan Application accessible through a personal account with the Member Benefits Online System (MBOS). Please note the following changes:

The Loan Application will no longer be available as a printed form or through the Division's Web site.

Paper Loan Applications that are received by mail as of Nov. 1, 2008, will be returned to members with instructions on submitting the loan request through MBOS.

The loan fax number, which has been phased out of use since the introduction of loans through MBOS, will be completely disabled.

Limited access to a computer or a member's reluctance to use MBOS **will not** be considered sufficient circumstances to allow manual loan processing.

Employees who are already registered MBOS users currently have access to the online loan application through their MBOS account.

Employees who are new to MBOS can access MBOS after they register with both the *MyNewJersey* Web site and MBOS. Registration is free; however, the registration process requires several steps and new users should carefully follow the MBOS registration instructions. Visit http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/_mbosregister.htm for a complete list of instructions. If, after following the MBOS Registration Instructions, you still need assistance registering for or using MBOS, please contact the MBOS Help Desk at (609) 777-0534 or send an e-mail with the subject line "MBOS E-mail" to: pensions.nj@treas.state.nj.us

No handbooks available for NJDIRECT

Inquiries about NEW handbooks and directories for NJDIRECT has prompted this reply from Pensions and Benefits:

"Unfortunately, we do not have NJ Direct Handbooks to give to members and will not be receiving a supply. Members may visit the NJ Direct website www.horizonblue.com/shbp. Members without computers are encouraged to use their local library or a relative's computer or call the plan directly."

You may also look up benefit information and visit the Unified Provider Directory on the Pensions and Benefits website under State Health Benefits Program.

Direct Deposit - A safe and reliable way to receive your pay

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.

Guard history lessons for family at Sea Girt museum

Looking for a local place to take the family for a history lesson? Try the National Guard Museum of New Jersey in Sea Girt.

The museum had a recent face-lift and upgraded its exhibits which tell the story of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard and the Naval Militia of New Jersey from the Revolutionary war to the current Overseas Contingency Operation.

The four gallery rooms feature diaries, uniforms, vehicles, weapons and even a Civil War submarine built in 1865.

Open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday and the same hours on the first and second weekends of the month, admission to the museum is free of charge, but a donation is requested. Groups who would like to make arrangements for tours should call 732-974-5966.

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