



The State of New Jersey  
**Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**  
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## DMAVA Highlights Archives

**25 June 2004**
**Volume 3 Number 25**

### NJ Dept of Military and Veterans Affairs

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 The Adjutant General

Brig Gen Maria Falca-Dodson  
 Deputy Adjutant General

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 Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs

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We're on the Web!

[www.state.nj.us/military](http://www.state.nj.us/military)

"Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime."

...Adlai E. Stevenson

### New Jersey Freedom Loans

What is a Freedom Loan?

\* Up to \$10,000

### New Jersey World War II Veterans Organization holds its final meeting.

As America honors World War II veterans with the opening of the National World War II Memorial, another chapter to a close. After 28 years, the Garden State Basha of the China-Burma-India Veterans Association held its final meeting ever on 13 June 2004 in Point Pleasant, New Jersey. At its May meeting, members of the Garden State Basha (a term for housing native to Burma) voted to cease official activities. The national host organization, the China-Burma India Veterans Association (CBIVA), will cease operation in September of 2005.

The China-Burma-India Theater of Operations (CBI) produced some of the most notable events and figures of World War II, including General "Vinegar" Jose Stilwell, The Flying Tigers, Merrill's Marauders, "The Hump" military airlift, and the building of the Ledo Road. CBI is often referred to as "The Forgotten Theater of World War II" because of the relatively few Americans (about 250,000) who served there. Members of the Garden State Basha served in all branches of U.S. Armed Forces in CBI.

According to Robert Abrams, Commander of the Garden State Basha, "We did our duty and served with honor. Now we are old men and women. An important phase of our lives is coming to an end." Representing The Adjutant General, COL (Ret) Michael B. Smith, Assistant Commissioner, addressed the Basha thanking them for their service, dedication, and their patriotism.

### Warrant Officers scheduled to change over Insignia and Branch Colors.

As the Warrant Officer Corps prepares to become fully integrated into the Officer Corps, CW5 Poyas Haynes, Command Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO) of the Army National Guard (ARNG) reports that uniform policy changes have been identified as the initial steps toward this transition. Resulting from Phase III of the Army Training and Leadership Development Panel (ATLDP) Study, the changeover of insignia and Branch colors for the Warrant Officer Corps will occur as noted below:

- Effective 9 July 2004, all Warrant Officers that have completed Warrant Officer Basic Course (WOBC) will replace the Warrant Officer Device commonly known as the "Rising Eagle" with the insignia of their branch affiliation.

- The Rising Eagle will be earned by Warrant Officer Candidates in their senior week at Warrant Officer Candidate School and retained through WO1 until completion of WOBC when they will adopt branch insignia.

- \* Annual APR 6%
- \* Term: 5 years (no pre-payment penalty)
- \* Unsecured Loan (no collateral required)

Who is eligible to apply?

NJ residents who are:

- \* Members of the National Guard or Reserve
- \* Mobilized for one year or longer to fight in the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) – excluding routine training.

Or

- \* Served 90 or more consecutive days in the GWOT on federal or state active duty (excluding routing training) and have received orders extending cumulative active duty a year or longer.

How do I apply?

- \* Contact participating banks. Call or visit your local branch office to obtain an application.
- \* Guardmembers, Reservists, or family members with Power of Attorney must submit copies of current mobilization orders with the bank's Freedom Loan application.

Current participants:

Commerce Bank  
1-888-751-9000

First Morris Bank & Trust  
1-888-530-2265

Fleet  
1-800-841-4000

North Jersey Federal Credit Union  
1-888-78NJFCU

Pennsville National Bank

- CCWOs and Warrant Officers serving in duty positions coded "PERMK = 55" will adopt General Staff insignia.

- Not later than 9 July 2006, all uniforms with branch accouterments will be converted to Branch colors on all uniforms.

- Effective 9 July 2004, all CW5 Warrant Officers will convert their rank insignia from the present Master Warrant insignia of four silver squares inside the four black squares, to a new CW5 rank insignia that has an eight inch recessed black stripe running through the vertical center of the silver bar.

There will be Transition Pinning Ceremony at the Headquarters Building, 3650 Saylor's Pond Road, Fort Dix, on July 9th at 1400 hours to celebrate the conversion to the 10 Regimental Branch positions held by NJARNG Warrant Officers. The Adjutant General, BG Glenn K. Rieth, the State Command Sergeant Major Richard S. Adkins, and State Command Chief Warrant Officer Albert G. Curving will be in attendance.

### Florida Avenue-Saylor's Pond Road Gate at Fort Dix – temporarily closed.

Effective 23 June 2004, the Florida Avenue – Saylor Pond Road Gate on Fort Dix, NJ, will be designated a Truck Exit ONLY. All other traffic, to include privately owned vehicles, is NOT permitted to enter or exit through this gate. Attempting to do so will result in the issuance of a ticket.

### New Jersey Veterans Memorial Homes are represented at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Convention.

The Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of DMVA's Veterans Memorial Homes at Menlo Park, Paramus, and Vineland addressed the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their Auxiliary at their annual convention in Wildwood on 17-18 June 2004. The CEOs thanked the VFW organization, their auxiliary, and members for their continued financial, emotional, and spiritual support of the varied programs at the Veterans Homes. The CEOs presented an update on the construction of the new Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland, the opening of Menlo Park's "Old Glory Wing," and the upcoming dedication of the All-Purpose Room at Paramus.

### Breakfast to Benefit Veterans held in Kearny.

On Sunday, 20 June 2003, the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, Msgr. Peter B. O'Connor Assembly, held a "Breakfast to Benefit Veterans" at St. Stephen's Church in Kearny, NJ. At last year's event, the keynote speaker was Maj Gen (Ret) Francis R. Gerard, former TAG-NJ, and nearly \$2,000 was raised. \$1,000 was donated to the NJ Department of Military & Veterans Affairs' (NJDMVA) Veterans Memorial Home at Paramus for the construction of the proposed Multi-Purpose Room. This year's keynote speaker was COL (Ret) Michael B. Smith, NJDMVA's Assistant Commissioner. He thanked the Knights for their donation and described the New Jersey National Guard's commitment to the fight in the Global War on Terror. COL (Ret) Smith updated the audience on the current state of affairs at our Veterans Memorial Homes, the Veterans Homeless Program, BG Doyle Cemetery, and the whole range of veterans support programs. He concluded with a Question & Answer session.

856-678-6006

PNC -  
1-866-PNC-4USA

Sovereign Bank -  
1-877-391-6365

Sun National Bank -  
1-800-691-7701

### NJ Army National Guard's 63rd Army Band announces its Summer Concert schedule.

- 26 Jun 12 p.m. Basking Ridge Fire Company Parade
- 28 Jun 7 p.m. Concert – Meadowlands Park, South Orange
- 29 Jun 2 p.m. Concert – Paramus Veterans Memorial Home
- 30 Jun 7 p.m. Concert – 2004 Freedom Fest – Cream Ridge
- 1 Jul 7 p.m. Concert – Frank Sinatra Park, Hoboken
- 2 Jul 7 p.m. Concert – Croydon Hall, Middletown
- 4 Jul 7 p.m. Concert -- Toms River Library, Toms River
- 5 Jul 10 a.m. Parade – 4th of July Parade, Ewing Township
- 6 Jul 7 p.m. Concert – McLaughlin-Norcross Dell, Haddon Heights Park
- 8 Jul 7 p.m. Concert – Laurence Harbor Beach Front

### East Wall of Vietnam Memorial Closed to Public.

A \$1 million lighting replacement construction project is underway. On June 11th, the East Wall of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC was closed to visitors, and will remain closed through mid-August. When it reopens, the West Wall will close and be under construction through October. While the closing of the most visited monument in Washington will prevent friends, loved ones, and members of the general public from visiting some of the more than 58,000 names on The Wall for the next five months, a new lighting system is needed. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is paying for the renovations that will illuminate the entire 144 panels of the black granite memorial, and apologizes for any inconvenience the project may cause to visitors.

### NJ Vietnam Veterans' Memorial and Vietnam Era Education Center's upcoming event schedule.

For more information about any of these events, please call the NJ Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation office at (732) 335-0033.

- 17 Sep, 11 a.m. - National POW Recognition Day/Gold Star Mothers Day
- 11 Nov, 11 a.m. - Veterans Day Program

### Veterans to be honored at upcoming Medal Ceremonies.

The following ceremonies have been scheduled to honor our State's veterans.

- |                                     |   |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>30 June<br/>11 am &amp; 1 pm</b> | Distinguished & Meritorious Service (am)<br>Korean War Commemorative Medal (pm) | Essex County Elks & VFW<br>475 Main St., Orange, NJ |
| -                                   |   |   |
| <b>15 July<br/>11 am &amp; 1 pm</b> | Distinguished & Meritorious Service (am)<br>Korean War Commemorative Medal (pm) | Passaic County                                      |

**28 July  
11 a.m.**

Distinguished & Meritorious Service  
Medals

Hackettstown Armory

### Essex County announces its Free Summer Concert Series.

Essex County is throwing a Summer Jam, and you're invited to be one of our special guests. Get out your favorite blankets and lawn chairs and boogie over to one of the county's beautiful parks for the 2004 Free Summer Concert Series. Visit the county's website: [www.co.essex.nj.us](http://www.co.essex.nj.us) for further details.

### Today in History...

Today is Friday, 18 June 2004 and the 177th day of the year. There are 190 days left in the year. On this day...

- 1844 – John Tyler took Julia Gardiner as his bride, thus becoming the first U.S. President to marry while in office.
- 1869 – Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina are readmitted to the Federal government.
- 1876 – Custer & the 7th Cavalry are wiped out by Sioux & Cheyenne at Little Big Horn.
- 1950 – North Korea invaded South Korea initiating the Korean War.
- 1973 – White House Counsel John Dean admitted that U.S. President Nixon took part in the Watergate cover-up.
- 1992 – Billy Joel got his high school diploma. He had overslept and missed English and Gym finals 25 years earlier.
- 1998 – U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Americans with Disabilities Act protect those infected with HIV.

### Fun Facts...

- \* Thomas Edison coined the word "Hello" and introduced it as a way to answer the phone.
- \* Seals sleep only one and a half minutes at a time.
- \* Your eye expands up to 45% when looking at something pleasing.
- \* Panama is the only place in the world where you can see the sun rise on the Pacific and set on the Atlantic.
- \* You have to play ping-pong for 12 hours to lose one pound.
- \* Farmington, Maine, celebrates Chester Greenwood Day to honor the inventor of earmuffs.

### 101 Critical Days of Summer – Bicycling Safety.

Bicycling is one of the most popular ways to get around, whether for recreation, sport, or transportation. An estimated 57 million Americans ride bikes ranging from high performance, 18-speed, touring models, to “dirt bikes” equipped with balloon tires – and dozens of variations in between. Because 900 bicyclists were killed and some 70,000 suffered disabling injuries (2000) statistics, the National Safety Council recommends the following precautions to guard against injuries.

~ Obey traffic rules. Get acquainted with local traffic ordinances. Cyclists must follow the same rules as motorists.

~ Know your bike’s capabilities. Remember bikes cannot move as fast as motor vehicles, but they can change direction more easily, stop faster, and move through smaller spaces.

~ Ride in single file with the traffic, not against it.

~ Make safe turns and cross intersections with care.

~ Never hitch on cars. A sudden stop or turn could send the cyclist flying into the path of another vehicle

~ Before riding into traffic: stop, look left, right, left again, and over your shoulder.

~ Always be seen – Wear bright clothing. If riding at night, when reflective clothing.

Wear a helmet. Head injuries cause about 85 percent of all bicycling fatalities.

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### Family Appreciation Day –

Don’t forget to mark 21 August 2004 on your calendars – It’s Family Appreciation Day for all members of the New Jersey National Guard, employees of the Department of Military & Veterans, and their families. A day of fun in the sun is planned at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt.

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### Call today and volunteer to help at a Family Readiness Center near you.

As the New Jersey National Guard deploys soldiers and airmen around the globe, the families that are left behind need our support and assistance. Can we count on your help?

To reach any NJ National Guard Family Assistance Center –

Call toll free 888-859-0352

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