

MAY 3, 2023



READY TO SERVE ★ PROUD TO HAVE SERVED

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



Deputy Commissioner Solomeno

Deputy Commissioner of Veterans Affairs Vincent Solomeno visiting with residents at the Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park.

Excellence Is Our Objective

DMAVA is in the people business. I recently marked 100 days since I assumed the duties and responsibilities of Deputy Commissioner of Veterans Affairs (DCVA). I wish to extend a tremendous thank you to the individuals who have taken the time to meet with me and share their feedback on how we can sustain and improve the programs and services that we provide to Garden State Veterans and their families. These actions should be guided by The Adjutant General's priorities of people, readiness, modernization, and organizational development and reform.

That first priority means acknowledging the efforts of the state and federal personnel who work daily to support our communities. Our success or failure is measured by our collective ability to deliver programs and services to the populations that we serve. I joined our organization in a uniform in 2010 and as a civilian employee in 2018. My new role as DCVA reinforces my deeply held conviction that our team comes to work each day committed to serving those who served and the people who love them.

This begins by ensuring that Veterans and families engage with an organization characterized by safety, openness, respect, and trust. As Deputy Commissioner, I expect that our decisions and actions will foster a climate of mutual respect regardless of an individual's race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, sex/gender (including pregnancy), marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, familial status, religion, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, or disability. There will be zero tolerance for discrimination, harassment, or sexual assault.

We serve New Jersey's heroes. The quality of our work and the pride that we take in our work should reflect that. We support one another. There will be times when we are called upon to assist in the completion of projects outside of our normal duties. I expect leaders at every level to build teams of competence, mutual trust, and shared understanding.

Whether caring for a resident at a Veterans Memorial Home or helping someone secure federal benefits, our team will be helpful and courteous in our interactions with others. We will make ourselves available to provide assistance and satisfy requests from Veterans, family members, Veterans Service Organizations, and our public and private partners. The first answer to a question should not be no. Within the boundaries of state and federal regulations, and understanding that time is always a factor, our team will work to identify alternate solutions and facilitate a satisfactory outcome to every engagement.

For those we serve, placing a priority on people means taking decisive action to foster resilience and reduce suicides. This is my personal and professional objective. As Co-Chair of the *Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and Their Families*, my work will be guided by two principles: complementing, not recreating, the noble work already being done by our stakeholder partners (i.e., U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars) and bringing together leaders in the veterans and behavioral health spaces to identify challenges and develop courses of action to overcome them. For example, DMAVA is in the process of awarding grant funding that will promote connectedness in the Veterans Community through Mental Health First Aid Training for Veterans Service Organizations and others.

While the above is a good start, when it comes to reducing suicide, I want us to do more. I welcome ideas and input from all.

Especially in the area of U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs healthcare services, reliable and accessible transportation continues to be one of the chief challenges for New Jersey Veterans. This is a complex problem that involves county, state, and federal government. In addition to the selfless and important work of Veterans Service Organizations, DMAVA currently provides funding to county governments to provide no cost transportation.

Earlier this year, the Veterans Benefits Bureau published and disseminated a guide to serve as a point of entry for county administered transportation. In the coming months, I would like our team to assume a greater leadership role in developing solutions to this challenge. At the direction of The Adjutant General, we will convene a Veterans Transportation Working Group to identify immediate and long term courses of action to improve services and assistance to some of the most vulnerable Veterans among us.

Excellence is our objective. Our actions will determine our success. This begins with clarity of purpose, pride in our work, and a deep understanding of our mission. It all starts with people. There are few better missions we can be assigned to.

Guided by The Adjutant General's priorities, let's continue the good work.

We encourage you to share ideas, events and feedback. Please email our team at outreach@dmava.nj.gov.

Vincent Solomeno
Deputy Commissioner



NATIONAL GUARD

RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

May 13, 2023
CW5 Frank Albanese
Sea Girt, NJ



CALLING ALL CANDIDATES

For National Guard Servicemembers, Veterans, Retirees, and their Families

Get your resume seen by employers across the United States

**11 MAY
11AM - 3PM EASTERN**

2023 NATIONAL GUARD COMMUNITY VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR

- The Nation's largest Virtual Career Fair for the National Guard Community
- Nation Wide Employment opportunities
- Log in from your phone, tablet, or computer
- Interactive Hiring rooms

FREE

[HTTPS://PVAPI.PREMIERVIRTUAL.COM/S/XMB43W](https://PVAPI.PREMIERVIRTUAL.COM/S/XMB43W)



HOSTED BY: Enlisted Association of the National Guard (EANUGS)
1 Massachusetts Avenue NW Suite 650 | Washington D.C. 20001

Let's Celebrate Our New Jersey National Guard Spouses

REGISTER to have a PIC or VIDEO of your SPOUSE displayed on our video collage

1. Email us a PIC or VIDEO at: NJ_SFAS_Team@gmail.com
2. Tell us their name and yours
3. Tell us why they are amazing!

DEADLINE: MAY 5th

We will run the video collage all day, May 12th 2023 on our Social Media Pages and at the JMFAC.



MAY 12th 2023
MILITARY SPOUSE APPRECIATION DAY

#NJARNGFAC #MILSPOUSE2023 #NJNGMILSPOUSE2023
#NJNATIONALGUARD #NEWJERSEY



19TH ANNUAL 5K NUTTER RUN

JUNE 17TH, 2023

STARTS 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

REGISTRATION: [RUNSIGNUP.COM/RACE/
NJ/SEAGIRT/SGTNUTTER5K](https://runsignup.com/race/NJ/SEAGIRT/SGTNUTTER5K)

SCAN
ME!



VIRTUAL RUN OPTION AVAILABLE

OUR 2023 HONOREE



STAFF SERGEANT JESSE SMITH OF
THE NJ ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING
CENTER, 100 CAMP DR
SEA GIRT, NJ 08750
ocsgntutterrun@gmail.com
www.sgntutterrun.org



amazon smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

facebook

DMAVA EVENTS



May 6, 2023

1:30pm - 3:30pm

108th WING RETIREMENT BRIEFING

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

33-24 Charles Blvd
McGuire AFB, NJ 08562

DMAVA will have a Veterans Service Officer present to help and assist any Veteran or family member.

For more information contact the Veterans Benefits Bureau at vbb@dmava.nj.gov.



DISTRICT 12 VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR

MAY 6, 2023 FROM 4 – 7:30PM

383 VETERANS BOULEVARD, BAYVILLE, NJ 08721

SERVING THOSE WHO SACRIFICED THEIR ALL



If you are a Veteran or know someone who is a Veteran, then this is your one stop shop for information and assistance. There will be representatives from the VFW Veterans Service Officers, Ocean County Veterans Administration, and Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs to assist you with your claims and setup appointments to meet directly with the subject matter experts. There will also be service providers present such as Vetworks, Soldier On, Veterans Haven, and many more to be announced. Bring a copy of your DD214, supporting documentation, and an open mind and we will ensure you leave with the answers you were looking for.

"OPEN TO ALL VETERANS"

DMAVA will have a Veterans Service Officer present



May 15, 2023
5:30pm - 7:30pm

QUARTERLY WOMEN'S OPEN FORUM

American Legion Post #186

101 French Street
Hammonton, NJ 08037

All DMAVA Employees & New Jersey National Guard
(Army & Air) Personnel

[Learn More and Register](#)



May 17, 2023
9:00am - 11:00am

DMAVA VETERANS OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

South Jersey Vet Center

2900 Fire Road
Suite 101
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

DMAVA will have a Veterans Service Officer present to help and assist any Veteran or family member.

For more information contact the Veterans Benefits Bureau at vbb@dmava.nj.gov.



May 20, 2023
9:00am - 2:00pm

TRANSITION / RETIREMENT MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

Joint Military & Family Assistance Center

1048 US Highway 206
Bordentown, NJ 08505

This is an informational day to walk through and visit 30+ vendors at the Bordentown Armory. Servicemembers and Retirees of all military branches are welcome. There will not be any briefings.

[Learn More and Register](#)



DMAVA will have a Veterans Service Officer present



June 7, 2023
10:00am

STATE MEDAL CEREMONY FOR WOMEN VETERANS

Wildwoods Convention Center

Ballroom C
4501 Boardwalk
Wildwood, NJ 08260

The ceremony is open to all Honorably Discharged
New Jersey Women Veterans. Medal application
suspense date is May 26, 2023.

[Learn More | Medal Application](#)



June 12-13, 2023
9:00am - 4:00pm

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

Lawrenceville Armory

151 Eggert Crossing Road
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

DMAVA and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day
grants workshop.

This training is for grant seekers across all disciplines.
Attend this class and you'll learn how to find the
funding sources and write winning grant proposals.

[Learn More](#)

FEATURED EVENTS

U.S. Army Support Activity, Fort Dix
Military Family Program

Tuesday, May 9, 2023
1100-1330

Kelley Army Reserve Center
(Bldg. 2101, Route 68 (Fort Dix) Joint Base M-D-L)

Guest Speakers:

Mr. Christopher Arnold, DoD Family Programs

- Mr. Christopher Arnold serves with the U.S. Army's Military Community and Family Policy Program which is directly responsible for establishing and overseeing quality-of-life policies and programs that ensure our service members, their families, and survivors are well and mission-ready.

1SG Christopher Peffley, USA Ret, Military OneSource

- 1SG (Ret) Christopher Peffley serves as the U.S. Army's New Jersey contact for the programs and services that support the everyday needs to service members and immediate family members of the military community. These DoD services are accessible 24/7/365.

Deli lunch with drinks will be served

Please register at: <https://ausa-dixchapter-milfamilyprogram.eventbrite.com>

Closing date to RSVP is Thursday 4 May 2023



Sponsored by Dix Chapter, AUSA



JOIN US AT

Teaneck Mayor Mike Pagan's Veterans Event

Learn more about the services from Goodwill's Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP).

MAY 11, 2023 | 9 am – 3 pm

Teaneck Public Library Auditorium
840 Teaneck Rd. | Teaneck, NJ 07666



GOODWILL NYNJ SERVICES AVAILABLE

job training & placement | connection to housing | wraparound supports

Goodwill NYNJ is a nonprofit organization that operates a Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) in Northern New Jersey thanks to a grant from the US Department of Labor.

For more information or to register, please contact our program director.

MICHAEL MATTESSICH

973-474-2021
MMattessich@goodwillny.org

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
New Jersey Health Care System

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023
11:00AM-1:00PM

WOMEN VETERANS PACT ACT RESOURCE FAIR

LYONS VA MEDICAL CENTER
BUILDING 143 -
MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
151 KNOLLGROFT ROAD
LYONS, NJ 07939

TOXIC EXPOSURE SCREENS & RESOURCE FAIR

11:00AM-1:00PM

WOMENS HEALTH | WHOLE HEALTH | HOMELESS SERVICES
SUICIDE PREVENTION | PHYSICAL THERAPY | WOMENS TREATMENT UNIT
AND MUCH MORE...

11 MAY 2023

Not enrolled in VA health care?

Bring your DD214 and a completed 10-10EZ and enroll on the spot... get screened and discuss starting a claim!

Applying for PACT Act benefits will not automatically impact your current benefits. Veterans who currently receive compensation for a service-connected condition will not have their previously awarded claims re-adjudicated simply because they file for new benefits under the PACT Act.

FEMALE VETERAN LUNCH & LEARN



Women Veterans, come join us for a free and delicious lunch made by the Wilmington VA Medical Center's Nutrition Team!

Lunch will be Chicken tortellini soup with a low carb garlic bread.

When: Friday, May 12th
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Atlantic Cape Community College
341 Court House South Dennis Rd. Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Only 25 seats are available

For registration contact Jacqueline Hinker 302-304-5509.

The Lunch and Learn will be a comfortable environment to ask questions to our VA Outreach & Nutrition team on PACT ACT, enrollment, Women's Health and Nutrition Services.

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Wilmington VA Medical Center

BERGEN COUNTY NEW JERSEY



Bergen County Executive
James J. Tedesco III
and the
Board of County Commissioners
Together with the
Bergen County Department of Human Services
Division of Veterans Services
Invite you to



Thank you to our troops and veterans!

Friday, May 12, 2023
12:30 PM

Bergen County Administration Building
One Bergen County Plaza, Piazza

RSVP Required

Please call (201) 336-6325 or email: veterans@co.bergen.nj.us

James J. Tedesco III
Bergen County Executive

Board of County Commissioners

Thomas J. Sullivan, Chairman • Germaine M. Ortiz, Vice Chairwoman • Dr. Joan M. Voss, Chair Pro Tempore
Mary J. Amoroso • Rafael Marter • Steven A. Tanelli • Tracy Silina Zur

Catholic Charities
Diocese of Paterson
Providing help - creating hope.

NEW JERSEY SOS VETERANS
STAKEHOLDERS GROUP

FEEDING OUR HEROES

Military Appreciation Month Appreciation Luncheon

Tuesday, May 16th, 2023, 12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
at the William J. Mulligan VFW Post 281

6 Veterans Place, Elmwood Park, NJ 07407

RSVP.NJSOSVETS@GMAIL.COM (855) 289-8527

Come and celebrate with us as we honor our hometown heroes
with a great meal, good company, and resources for veterans in
our community!

UPCOMING EVENTS

DMAVA & Community Calendar

We add new events to our calendar on a daily basis
so please bookmark and check back often.

[View Full Calendar](#)

NJ NATIONAL GUARD



Female duo are NJ National Guard's Best Warriors

Ssg Bruce Daddis | 444th MPAD | May 1, 2023

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst - When the candidates took the field for the New Jersey National Guard's Best Warrior Competition on April 25th, no female Soldier had ever won the competition before.

Two days later, Spc. Laura Grieco (pictured on right), a signal support systems specialist assigned to Headquarters Co., 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry Regiment, 44th Infantry Brigade Combat team, and Sgt. 1st Class Antonella Cataliotti, a recruiter assigned to Recruiting and Retention Battalion, made history and took home the top enlisted and top non-commissioned officer awards, respectively.

[Read Full Story](#)



Military Funeral Honors

A Military Funeral Honors team from the New Jersey Army National Guard provided plane-side honors for Staff Sergeant James Rotunno at Newark Liberty International Airport on April 21, 2023.

Staff Sergeant Rotunno, 27, of Brooklyn, New York, was killed during World War II and was accounted for by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency on September 27, 2022.

Funeral services were held the following day with burial in North Arlington, NJ.



177th Fighter Wing

U.S. Air Force F-16C+ Fighting Falcons, from the 177th Fighter Wing of the New Jersey Air National Guard, teamed up with F-15C Eagles from the [104th Fighter Wing](#) of the Massachusetts Air National Guard and A-10 Thunderbolt IIs from the [175th Wing](#) of the Maryland Air National Guard to participate in "Devilsmoke", a two-day dogfighting competition here at the Atlantic City Air National Guard Base.

Dogfighting is one of a pilot's core skillsets, which all fighter pilots must master before progressing to any other mission.

"It's intense... max performing the jet and yourself, sometimes pulling 9G's while twisting your skull all around the cockpit," said Lt. Col. Michael Long, 119th Fighter Squadron commander. "Each type of jet flies differently, so dissimilar events like this gets our pilots out of the F-16 versus F-16 mindset. It's a competition, but it is also fantastic training. We're hoping to make this an annual event."



177th Communications Squadron

When it comes to innovation, the 177th Communications Squadron leads the charge across the Air National Guard with ShadowProject, a home-grown program wielding automated scripts and databases, which offset and streamline the vulnerability management workload and provide a host of additional force-multiplier tools for Comm focal points and network managers.

ShadowProject creators, from left, Mr. Stephen Hillmann, Senior Airman Brian Driscoll, and Mr. Sebastian Zelazny, led by Maj. Richard Ryan (not pictured), have lifted the 177th Fighter Wing of the New Jersey Air National Guard to the highest rating of cyber-risk readiness, leading every other unit in the Air National Guard.

[Read Full Story](#)

Join Our Team

100% Free College Tuition
Bonuses up to \$20,000
Student Loan Repayment



DMAVA VETERANS SERVICES

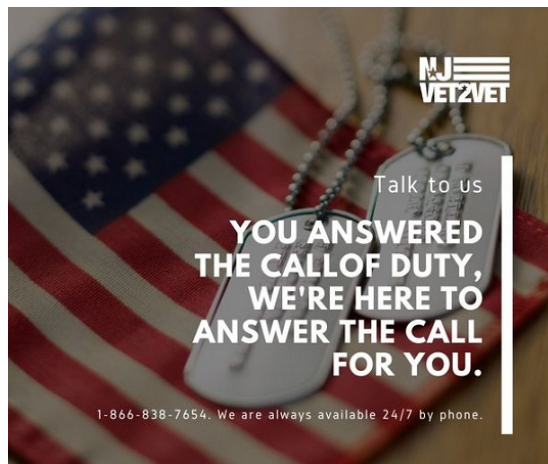


VSOs at Columbus Farmers Market

DMAVA Veteran Service Officers (VSOs) Trejen Strickland, left, and Michele Thomas discussed Veterans benefits at our outreach booth at the [Columbus Farmers Market and Flea World](#), in Columbus, NJ, on April 20, 2023.

More than 100 Veterans received valuable Veterans benefit information or assistance in filing claims.

Our Outreach Van and VSOs will be at the Columbus Farmers Market on scheduled Thursdays from May through October. VSOs will also be at events and locations around the state. Find out if we will be in your area by viewing the [Veterans Outreach Schedule](#).



NJ Veterans' Benefits Hotline
888-865-8387
vbb@dmava.nj.gov

[Veterans Outreach Schedule](#)

[Veterans Service Offices](#)

DMAVA DEPARTMENTS



Militia Museum

On April 25, 2023, the [National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey](#) in Lawrenceville hosted members of the New Jersey State Emergency Management Program Stakeholders (SEMPs) after their meeting with the New Jersey National Guard Joint Staff.

The museum had many of their loyal volunteer docents on hand, including the always animated Joe Russo (pictured). Joe and the rest of the museum docents are always excited to talk about New Jersey National Guard history.

If you would like a docent-led tour through either the Sea Girt or Lawrenceville museums, all you have to do is [submit a request](#).



NJ Youth Challenge Academy Docuseries

Are you ready for the Challenge?

In this nine-part docuseries, experience the 22-week residential program of [NJ Youth Challenge Academy](#)'s Class 55, from day one at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt, NJ to graduation in the summer of 2023.

- [Episode 1: Intake](#)
- [Episode 2: Acclimation](#)
- [Episode 3: Academics](#)

NEW JERSEY YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY

DREAM. BELIEVE. ACHIEVE.



Now accepting applications
for Class 56 - July 17, 2023.

**APPLY
NOW!**

**TUITION
FREE**



FOR MORE INFORMATION:



(800) 997-5587 / (732) 974-6516

rpm@dmava.nj.gov

njyca.org/admissions

STATE PARTNERS



The Adjutant General testifies before Assembly

Brig. Gen. Lisa J. Hou, D.O., The Adjutant General of New Jersey and Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, spoke before the New Jersey Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee at the State House Annex in Trenton, New Jersey, April 19, 2023.

[View Images](#)



State Emergency Management Program Stakeholders

The New Jersey National Guard Joint Staff hosted members of the State Emergency Management Program Stakeholders (SEMPs) meeting group at the Lawrenceville National Guard Armory in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, April 25, 2023.

The briefing gave a rundown on the operational capabilities of the New Jersey National Guard within the state.

[View Images](#)



NJ State Agencies

- [Vote For Valor](#)
- [Career Connections for Veterans](#)
- [Tax Resources for Military/Veterans](#)
- [Educator Certification for Military Spouses and Veterans](#)
- [NJ National Guard Hunting / Fishing Licenses](#)
- [NJ Special Hawker and Peddlers License](#)
- [Veterans Designation for Drivers License](#)
- [Military CDL Skills Waiver Program](#)
- [Disabled Veteran / Purple Heart Recipient Placards](#)
- [Disabled Veteran Hunting and Fishing Licenses](#)
- [Veteran and Disabled Veteran-Owned Business](#)
- [Division of Consumer Affairs Military Outreach & Support](#)
- [Professional & Occupational Licenses for Veterans and Spouses](#)
- [Military and Overseas Voting](#)
- [Troops to Teachers](#)



FEDERAL PARTNERS



Veterans and survivors have filed more than 500,000 toxic exposure-related benefits claims under the PACT Act

WASHINGTON — On April 26, 2023, VA announced that Veterans and their survivors have filed more than 500,000 claims for toxic exposure-related benefits under the [PACT Act](#) since President Biden signed it into law Aug. 10, 2022. To date, VA has awarded more than \$1 billion in earned benefits to Veterans and survivors who filed PACT Act-related claims.

VA also announced that more than 3 million Veterans have received VA's new [toxic exposure screenings](#) since President Biden signed the PACT Act into law, with approximately 42% reporting a concern of exposure. More than 215,000 Veterans have enrolled in VA health care during that timeframe, a 15% increase from the same timeframe the year before.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Veterans have access to acute suicide care, but who is eligible?

Some Veterans discharged under other than honorable conditions are eligible.

Eligible veterans and some former service members can now go to any VA or non-VA hospital for emergency health care during an acute suicidal crisis, and it will be paid for by VA.

This includes ambulance transportation, related prescriptions, up to 30 days of inpatient or crisis residential treatment, and up to 90 days of outpatient care at no cost to them.

The new benefit is saving lives and supports one of VA's top clinical priorities—preventing veteran suicide.

[Learn More at VA News](#)

VA Home Loans

In this episode of *theSITREP*, the host discusses the advantages of Veterans using their VA home loan benefit - especially for those who may lack funds for a down payment, have experienced a bankruptcy or foreclosure, or who may have a low credit score.

[Watch Video](#)

Survivor Benefit Plan Open Season

Congress provided for a Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Open Season in the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act. The SBP Open Season began on December 23, 2022 and ends on January 1, 2024.

The SBP Open Season allows for retirees receiving retired pay, eligible members, or former members awaiting retired pay who are currently NOT enrolled in SBP or RCSBP (Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan) to enroll.

The SBP Open Season also allows eligible members and former members who are currently enrolled in either SBP or RCSBP to permanently discontinue their SBP coverage.

[Learn More](#)

New National Parks Pass

A new lifetime pass for National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands, called America the Beautiful.

This new lifetime pass for Gold Star Families & Veterans is being offered to demonstrate the country's immense gratitude and respect for those who have served and defended our country.

[Learn More at VA News](#)

VA Life Insurance

Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife) provides guaranteed acceptance whole life coverage of up to \$40,000 to Veterans with service-connected disabilities. Lesser amounts are available in increments of \$10,000. Under this plan, the elected coverage takes effect two years after enrollment as long as premiums are paid during the two-year period.

All Veterans age 80 or under with a VA disability rating of 0 to 100% are eligible for the VALife program and have no time limit to apply.

[Learn More](#)

Featured Links

- [PACT Act Performance Dashboard](#)
- [How to Check Your PACT Act Claim Status](#)
- [Download VA Benefit Letters](#)
- [Podcasts on Veterans' Issues](#)
- [VA Women's Health Reengagement Training](#)
- [VA and FCC make it easier for Veterans to get internet access](#)
- [13 places that offer free wills or trusts for Veterans](#)
- [Simplifying the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill application process](#)
- [Free legal services for Veterans, service members](#)
- [VA Health and Benefits Mobile App - six essential facts](#)
- [Women Veterans Call Center](#)
- [Preserve Your Loved Ones Story with Veterans Legacy Memorial](#)
- [Million Veteran Program](#)

#VetResources

Subscribe to #VetResources to receive a weekly newsletter from the VA for Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors.

Subscribe

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



Volunteer Luncheon

The [New Jersey Veterans Home at Paramus](#) held its annual volunteer luncheon in Hasbrouck Heights on April 21, 2023.

During the event, volunteers, which included more than 50 supporting organizations, were recognized for their support of the Home's residents.



Rutgers Army ROTC

On April 26, 2023, the Rutgers Army ROTC MSIV class had a visit from Brigadier General Lisa J. Hou. She gave insight to cadets in the program and shared her life journey to how she got where she is today.

NEVER FORGET



In Honor of all those from New Jersey who gave their lives in the fight against terrorism during Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. In humble gratitude, we remember their sacrifice.

May 4, 2013
Operation Enduring Freedom
SSgt Eric D. Christian
U.S. Marine Corps
Ramsey, New Jersey

May 10, 2007
Operation Iraqi Freedom
PVT Anthony J. Sausto
U.S. Army
Somers Point, New Jersey

May 5, 2006
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Sgt Matthew J. Fenton
U.S. Marine Corps
Little Ferry, New Jersey

May 11, 2005
Operation Iraqi Freedom

LCpl Jourdan L. Grez
U.S. Marine Corps
Long Branch, New Jersey

May 6, 2007
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SGT Sameer A. M. Rateb
U.S. Army
Absecon, New Jersey

May 11, 2009
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Ssg Christian E. Bueno-Galdos
U.S. Army
Paterson, New Jersey

May 6, 2007
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Ssg Vincenzo Romeo
U.S. Army
Lodi, New Jersey

May 14, 2004
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SPC Philip I. Spakosky
U.S. Army
Browns Mills, New Jersey

May 9, 2005
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SSgt Anthony L. Goodwin
U.S. Marine Corps
Mount Holly, New Jersey

"But on the battlefield their feet stood fast, and in an instant at the height of their fortune, they passed away from the scene, not of their fear, but of their glory."
~ Pericles

NJ Fallen Heroes Memorial

HISTORY



Soldiers of the 2nd NJ Volunteer Infantry in Virginia in May 1863.

May 3, 1941

New Jersey National Guardsmen of the Forty-fourth Division, on active duty at Fort Dix since September 1940, held their "biggest ever" review for Navy Secretary Frank M. Knox, guest of

May 12, 1864

Colonel William Penrose's First New Jersey Brigade, the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifteenth New Jersey regiments and four companies of the Second New Jersey regiment attacked Confederates at the

the Seventy-eighth Division Veterans Association, holding a reunion at Fort Dix.

May 7, 1995

The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, situated alongside the Garden State Parkway in Holmdel, was dedicated. The memorial, a circular open-air pavilion, is ringed with black granite panels, each representing a day of the year, engraved with the names of New Jerseyans who died on that day during the war. Three sculpted figures—a dying soldier, a nurse and a standing soldier—represent those who died, women who served and those who survived the conflict.

May 10, 1864

The first military draft in New Jersey under the Enrollment Act of 1863 took place in Ocean County. Ultimately, only 951 men drafted in New Jersey in 1864 and 1865 actually served in the army. The rest either paid commutation or provided a substitute.

May 12, 1864

Born in England, John P. Beech was a Trenton, NJ resident in 1861 when he enlisted in the 4th New Jersey Infantry. Beech was awarded the Medal of Honor for his conduct on May 12, 1864 at Spotsylvania. He ran forward to assist an artillery battery, most of whose men had been killed or wounded. He voluntarily assisted the remaining artillery men, despite being under heavy fire. Beech died in Trenton in 1926.

"Bloody Angle" at Spotsylvania, Virginia, suffering heavy casualties.

In two weeks of fighting at Spotsylvania, which began on May 8, the brigade suffered 789 casualties, most of them on May 12. The Fifteenth New Jersey lost 272 men killed, wounded and missing at Spotsylvania, a total exceeded by only one other Union regiment at the battle, the 148th Pennsylvania. Only one other federal regiment, the Fifth New York at Second Bull Run, lost more men killed in a single battle than the Fifteenth in the Civil War.

May 13, 1862

Centre Street military hospital was opened in Newark as a facility for wounded New Jersey Civil War soldiers. Philanthropist (and later governor) Marcus Ward founded and organized the hospital, which was later renamed in his honor.

May 14, 1918

Trenton native Private Needham Roberts, an African-American soldier serving with the segregated 369th Infantry Regiment of the New York National Guard, assigned to the French Army, was badly wounded when a post he manned with Sergeant Henry Johnson was attacked by a German patrol. Both men continued to fight with rifles, knives and hand grenades, killing 20 German soldiers, and were awarded the Croix de Guerre by the French army.

IN THE NEWS



Philadelphia VA's annual First Swing Golf Clinic held in Marlton

Nikki Dementri | CBS Philadelphia | April 20, 2023

MARLTON, N.J. (CBS) - It was a beautiful day to hit the links, and in South Jersey, that's exactly what a group of amputee and vision impaired veterans did.

[View Full Story](#)

SOLDIER SPOTLIGHT



Sergeant Connor Shevlin

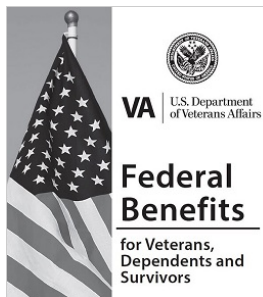
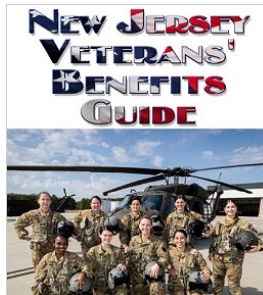
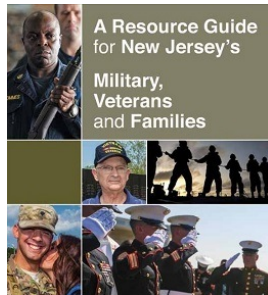
U.S. Army Sgt. Connor Shevlin, a fire control specialist with the 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery Regiment, 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, New Jersey National Guard, receives the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal from Robert Sinnott, Asst. Chief, Silverton Fire Co., in a ceremony at the Toms River National Guard Armory, Toms River, New Jersey, April 23, 2023.

Shevlin was awarded the medal in recognition for over five years of service as a volunteer firefighter as his battery and fellow firefighters looked on.

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