

DMAVA Highlights

June 10, 2010 Volume 12 Number 21



"We will never forget"



AN ENDURING REMINDER -- Six-year-old Ryan Duffy, son of fallen Spc. Christopher Duffy, helps Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General, unveil a plaque commemorating a tree planted in memory of the boy's father and three other New Jersey Army National Guard Soldiers who were killed in Iraq in 2004. Standing

from left to right are other representatives from the families: Casey Duffy, Spc. Duffy's wife; Peggy Carvill-Ligouri, sister of Staff Sgt. Frank T. Carvill; Cheryl Doltz, mother of Sgt. Ryan E. Doltz; and Carlos Timoteo, brother of Staff Sgt. Humberto F. Timoteo. U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA.

Airmen from Jersey adapt and overcome in Iraq

By Master Sgt. Louis Conzo, 447th Civil Engineer Squadron

BAGHDAD – Here's a story about how some Airmen from New Jersey beat equipment woes, horrific weather and a seemingly impossible deadline to complete a mission in a war zone half a world away.

It all started on Friday, May 7 when word came down that the New Jersey Air National Guard's 447th Civil Engineer Squadron needed to move an aging trailer through the maze-like terrain on the grounds of Baghdad International Airport. They had 48 hours.

The team leapt into action. The structures shop worked into the night to prep the trailer for the move. The Engineering Assistants planned and marked roads as well as access and security points for the new location.

At 'o'darkthirty' the next morning, the rest of the task force

hit the trail, grading a road and moving a crane to hoist the trailer onto a flat bed truck. The morning turned to afternoon and the temperature climbed into the low 100's. Crews went to work with graders, a bulldozer and front loaders to smooth the route and a crane was moved in place to lift the trailer. Then the first snag hit. The trailer turned out to be far heavier than advertised and could not be safely moved. It would have taken several days to acquire a larger crane. But the team didn't have days.

In the can-do spirit of their New Jersey roots, Capt. Eric Balint and Chief Master Sgt. Tim Grover, the operation chiefs, started working up an alternate plan. With the help of Master Sgt. Pat Basnett, the team decided to try to convince an Army unit to give up a different trailer. While some members of the team went

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Retirement workshops for PERS, TPAF members

The Division of Pensions and Benefits is offering Retirement Workshops to members of the PERS and TPAF who plan to retire between July 1, 2010 and January 1, 2011.

- Workshops are being held at the New Jersey Forensic Science Technology Center in Hamilton Township (Mercer County), N.J.

- Workshop times are at either 9 a.m. or 1 p.m. and are currently scheduled for June 4, 7, 11, 15, 18, 21, 25, and 30.

- Members interested in attending must register online using the link on the Division's Web site. Go to: www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions and click the link for "Retirement Workshops". Seating is limited – additional dates may be added but cannot be guaranteed.

During the workshops, our representatives will take a step-by-step approach to explain topics that include retirement benefits, beneficiary options, group life insurance, the taxability of your pension, and health benefits in retirement.

If attending, members must print an Estimate of Retirement Benefits using the Member Benefits Online System (MBOS) and bring it to the workshop (retirement estimates will not be provided at the workshop). To register for MBOS go to: www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/mbosregister.shtml and follow the registration instructions. Estimates obtained from MBOS are the same estimates obtained when visiting the Division's offices and use identical salary and service information.

Due to the recent increase in retirement applications, members must use the online Retirement Application available in MBOS. Submitting the application through MBOS reduces the chance of any delays in receipt of your application and provides for the fastest processing. Please also note that paper retirement applications will not be available and will not be accepted at the workshops.

DMAVA Green

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

A recent order came in the mail and as I dug through to get everything, those little "peanuts" kept sticking to my clothes and the stuff I bought; they are enough to drive me crazy. But what do I do with them after I unpack the box? Can I recycle them?

Styrofoam® is also called expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam, a version of plastic #6. Even if your community accepts #6 in its recycling program, it may not accept EPS. Check your local community recycler to make sure what their rules are for recycling EPS.

Here are ways to recycle those packing peanuts and other forms of EPS.

There are various sites that take EPS or reuse packing peanuts. Visit the following site and plug in your address to find the nearest recycling/reusing center - www.earth911.com.

There is also a mail back program through the Alliance of Foam Packaging Recyclers. Check out their information at www.epspackaging.org/info.html.

Peanuts can be saved for your next package to someone – pass on the joy. Or you can donate them to your local shipping store or UPS. Where can you find a place to give your peanuts? Drop by www.loosefillpackaging.com/pages/why.htm or call 800-828-2214 (24 hours a day) to find a site near you that will reuse those pesky things.

With a little work and time, you can keep EPS out of the landfill where it takes up space and does not biodegrade.

New technology has created biodegradable packing materials that are plant based. It can be used as a fertilizer on your lawn – it breaks down into inert proteins when it mixes with water and soil bacteria eats the packing material.

Until then, when mailing packages – use crumpled newspaper, reuse your old packing and...

Keep Green!

Photo information

Officers and NCOs can now schedule their DA photo appointment online for the N.J. National Guard photo studio at Joint Force HQ, Fort Dix.

Just visit fill out a work order, DA 3903, online at www.vios.army.mil, but you must log in with your CAC card. For assistance or more information registering on VIOS, contact Staff Sgt. Jorge L. Vazquez, G6 Network Control Center at 609-562-0333.

The studio accepts appointments for any week day from 8-10 a.m. or anytime during JFHQ drill weekends. For more information on studio hours contact Kryn P. Westhoven at (609) 847-2215.

Quotes

We grow small trying to be great.

--E. Stanley Jones

All ambitions are lawful except those which climb upward on the miseries or credulities of mankind.

--Joseph Conrad

I had ambition not only to go farther than any man had ever been before, but as far as it was possible for a man to go.

--Captain James Cook

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New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

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Maj. Yvonne Mays – Public Affairs Officer

Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison – Public Affairs Specialist

Sgt. Wayne Woolley – Public Affairs Specialist

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

Families

Free day for National Guard, families at Seaside on June 19

Take your family for a ride! Casino Pier at Seaside will open their water park and rides to all New Jersey National Guard Soldiers and Airmen and their immediate family members. You must show your military ID card to get this special gift. Bring your family down to Casino Pier, 800 Ocean Terrace, Seaside Heights, N.J., on June 19; check in is from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. only. If you bring other family members or friends, they must purchase tickets for the park and rides.



Father's Day brunch at Picatinny

Are you looking for a special way to celebrate Father's Day? Come to the Cannon Gate catering, Picatinny Arsenal, June 20 at noon for the Father's Day Brunch.

Cost is \$20 per person, brunch for children 12 and under is half price. Call 973-724-2582 for reservations.



Children's folk ballet in NYC, free tickets for military, veterans

The Korean War 60th Anniversary Memorial Committee is presenting The Little Angels, the children's folk ballet of Korea on June 15 at the Manhattan Center in New York.

There will be two shows, at 3 and 7:30 p.m. All veterans and active duty military can receive free tickets to the event.

To get a ticket request form, call 973-916-0158, or e-mail LitleAngelsJune15@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.kw60project.com. The Manhattan Center is located at 311 West 34th Street, New York, NY 10001.

DoD offers interactive education resource for military families

Department of Defense Education Activity's Educational Partnership proudly presents "Students at the Center," an interactive educational resource for everyone involved in the education of the children of our military service members. It has a lot of information for families, military commands, school officials and more. Check out the Web site at <http://www.militaryk12partners.dodea.edu/studentsAtTheCenter>.

Free community nights at the Franklin Institute for families

The Franklin Institute is introducing Target Community Nights at the Franklin Institute – free educational and fun-filled science nights, from 5-8 p.m., sponsored by Target. Everyone is welcome: join the fun and experience The Franklin Institute's exhibitions, special programs and themed activities.

Activities include FREE:

Access to all of The Franklin Institute's hands-on exhibits like Sports Challenge and The Giant Heart; tickets to the Tuttleman IMAX Theater; 3D shows in The Franklin Theater; live science shows; Fels Planetarium shows; and access to the Joel N. Bloom observatory. The monthly schedule varies and not all community nights offer free IMAX tickets, nor are the free IMAX tickets for feature length films.

The dates of the 2010 Target Community Nights are: June 16, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20 and Nov. 17.

You will be asked to register when you arrive; the registration desk opens at 5 p.m.

Check out Blue Star Flag Program

Grantham University's Blue Star Flag program has been providing Blue Star Flags to Service members and their families since 2006. Grantham University is also offering scholarships and grants to Servicemembers and veterans. For further information about the Blue Star Flag program, please go to: <http://www.mybluestar-flag.com>.

Guard Youth Camp July 11-17

Applications are now available for the 2010 New Jersey National Guard Youth Camp being held at Sea Girt, July 11-17. To download an application, go to: http://www.state.nj.us/military/familysupport/youth_camp.html or contact your nearest Family Assistance Center.

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
Military OneSource 1-800-342-9647; NJ 609-530-6867
Survivor Outreach Services – 609-530-6864
Fax – 609-530-6871

Military and family members health insurance questions should be directed to:

Tricare – Sgt. 1st Class Louis Tuck, 609-562-0865
US Family Health Plans – Pam Worley, 732-977-8531
VA Medical – Michelle Stefanelli, 973-676-1000, ext. 1727

Et Cetera

Vietnam Museum to host toy exhibit from an turbulent era

On June 12, at 1 p.m., the Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center will host a discussion on *Dolls and Toys of the 1960s & 1970s* by N.J. collector and former Five and Dime store owner, Steven Stegman.

The discussion will highlight objects currently on display in the traveling exhibit, *Growing Up in the 1960s-70s: A Flash Back in Time*. The exhibit is a collection of over 50 toys from the 1960s-70s from The Toy Museum located in Brooklyn, N.Y. This exhibit will be on display at the Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center in Holmdel, N.J through the end of August 2010. Educators who attend the lecture will receive Professional Development Credit hours.

Following the post-World War II economic boom, mass production of dolls and toys exploded in the Vietnam era. G.I. Joes were first produced in 1964 helping little boys act out their pride for their father's tour of duty. Barbie, who was popularized by Mattel in the 1960s, has remained youthful even after celebrating her 50th birthday last March. Other featured objects on display include Star Trek figures, Etch A Sketch, Trolls, Legos, Nerf balls, dollhouse furniture, teddy bears, and much more. Children and those young at heart will love learning about the toys from the past during one of America's most difficult decade.

For more information please call 732-335-0033 or visit our Web site at www.njvwmf.org. Adult admission is \$4; student and senior citizen admission is \$2; and children under 10 are admitted free. Admission is free for veterans and active-duty military personnel.

The Vietnam Era Educational Center is located adjacent to the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial off the Garden State Parkway at exit 116. The Educational Center is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

'Airmen' Continued from Page 1

to secure the new trailer, the rest of the crew began prepping the site for new trailer.

That night, fueled by the great heat of the day, torrential rains struck. It had been the worst rain of the year to that point and it was bad enough to undue all the painstaking prep work the new site.

One part of the team went back to work, redoing the prep work. The rest of the team set about moving the new trailer. Master Sgt. John Krzewski oversaw that part of the operation, ensuring both speed – and safety.

The trailer was moved without a hitch. But the team still had much to do and the clock was ticking.

Electricians went to work not just connecting, but upgrading the equipment in the trailer. HVAC put new units in place and wired them up. Structures performed a quick rehabilitation of the interior. First Sgt. "Broadway" Joe McKenna was moving vertical curtain walls from a storage area across the base to the work zone, where they would be finally positioned by forklifts. Several forklifts were borrowed from the Logistics Squadron and crewed by trained but non-Heavy Equipment members of CE. This ballet went on for 14 hours, into darkness. The troops used every available form of illumination, including vehicle headlight.

By the time Security Forces had placed the concertina wire, 57 members of Civil Engineering had sacrificed their down-day, 1.5 linear miles of road were constructed, 300 concrete barriers were moved and placed, a security gate was fabricated and installed, furniture from the original office was moved into the new one, phones and computer systems were set up and the trailer was operational, waiting for its occupants the following morning.

All of this occurred without a single mishap or injury, under the eye of Lt. Col. Paul Novello, Commander of the 447 Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron and garnering the praise of the Base commander, Col. Bruce Taylor.

Guidance for online LMS training

By Paul Serdiuk, Training Coordinator

As the State of New Jersey and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs moves forward with the new online training called Learning Management System (LMS), all of your training records from this date forward will be captured and recorded on LMS.

Any training that you may have previously taken through HRDI will be transferred into LMS in the future. As a precaution to insure that you do not lose any training records, take a few moments to find and print a copy of your current training transcript from HRDI. Once your records have been transferred, you will be notified. Then check to insure your recorded training has been carried over. Call Paul Serdiuk at 609-530-6878 for more information.

Cribs and mattresses available

If you are an E4 or lower, you are eligible for free cribs and mattresses, changing table, lamps, and more. Those interested should call Catherine Parks at 609-876-8746.

Joint Base thrift shops the answer for Crowded closets, tax write offs

Wouldn't it be great to clean out your closets – and get a tax break at the same time? There is. Consider making a donation to the McGuire Thrift Shop at 3446 Broidy Road on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. Donations of gently-used goods, such as clothes, tools, bicycles, furniture, and sporting goods are welcome. The hours are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and the same hours on the first Saturday of the month. All proceeds are reinvested back into the military community. Volunteers are welcome. The thrift shop also accepts consignments from 10 a.m. till noon. Call 609-754-2368 for more information. And while you're on the Joint Base, check out the Dix Thrift Shop. The shop has an ever-growing array of clothes, golf equipment, household items, gardening tools as well as clothes. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the first and third Saturday of each month; and from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month. For more information, call Sylvia at 609-723-2683. Both thrift shops are looking for volunteers.

Veterans & Military

Organizations combine to help veterans re-entering workforce

Bergen County Community College, the G.I. Go Fund and the Bergen County Workforce Investment Board, present "Veterans Re-entering the Workforce." The event will be held on June 8, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Technology Building of the Bergen Community College.

This program features a job fair with numerous employers, employment readiness sessions and resource rooms with job coaches.

There is no fee for this event. Proof of military service is required.

For more information call Jackie Lue Raia at 201-301-1247 or Diane Fewkes at 201-301-1249. Or visit the program on Facebook at veteransjobfair@gmail.com.

Employment assistance training for OIF/OEF veterans

The New Jersey National Guard is working with the Veterans Training Initiative to help Iraq and Afghanistan veterans with employment assistance training. VTI helps veterans identify military skills that translate to the civilian workplace and the best way to highlight those skills during a job search. The organization provides assistance in resume writing, interview techniques and helps translate military term into the language of business. A seminar on these topics will be held June 5 and 6 at Colts Neck High School. For more information, please visit www.vetranstransition.net or contact Kacie Glbraith.

Monmouth University looking for volunteers for veterans program

Monmouth University is looking for volunteers to help launch its Yellow Ribbon Mentorship Program to help student-veterans as they pursue their degrees at the West Long Branch university.

Paul Gaffney, the university president a retired U.S. Navy vice admiral, said he envisions the mentorship program as an extra benefit to students who are attending the school using the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008.

Although the tuition assistance provided under the act is substantial, Gaffney wants the university to also be able to respond to all of the needs of their student-veterans. The volunteers could assist university staff with needs such as job networking, fellowship, and family help.

Gaffney believes students who have served in the military would benefit from having mentors who are veterans. If you live in the general vicinity of Monmouth University, and are interested in volunteering or finding out more...please contact program coordinator Jose Siandre at Jose.Siandre@glacialenergy.com.

FDU hosts workshop for vets

Fairleigh Dickinson University will host the first ever Vets4Vets workshop at its campus in Madison on June 25-27.

Vets4Vets is a non-partisan veteran organization dedicated to helping Iraq and Afghanistan-era veterans feel good and heal from any negative aspects of service and war through the use of peer support.

This workshop is free and open to all OEF/OIF veterans in New Jersey. The workshop includes free transportation, food and lodging. To learn more about Vets4Vets, visit at <http://www.vets4-vets.us>

To register, fill out the workshop registration form on the website and email it to Info@Vets4Vets.us, or fax it to 520-325-0772. Registration forms must be received by June 11. Once your form has been received, Vets4Vets will contact you with additional workshop details.

Ultimate Warrior Career Workshop slated for June 9

Out there looking for a job? Looking to change career fields? Come to The Ultimate Warrior Career Workshops and Job Fair at The Timmerman Center on June 9 and 10 for workshops, services and opportunities to meet with companies who are hiring.

On June 9, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. there will be technical workshops and services. Workshops include interviewing tips and techniques and meeting with career and job coaches.

On June 10, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., a job fair with recruiters from defense contractors and private sector employers will be present.

For more information on the event or to register to attend, contact Sgt. Maj. James Clark at 301-674-9427, james.clarksr1@us.army.mil or Sgt. 1st Class Loranda Taylor, 609-864-2559, loranda.mitricie.taylor@us.army.mil.

Joint Base security forces offer Tips for entering post

To increase efficiency at the entry points to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, the installation security forces are issuing a reminder that a 100 percent identification check remains in effect.

For vehicle drivers, only the following forms of ID are accepted by the installation commander: DoD common access card; DD Form 1173, dependant ID; DD form 2, retired ID; DoD investigative services credential; AF Form 354, retired civilian employee ID; DD Form 2765, Uniform Service IDS and Privilege Card; Friends of JB MDL ID. All vehicle passengers over aged 18 must show a federal- or state-issued identification card. To apply for an ID card, visit any of the Joint Base Welcome Centers. Also, the window sticker known as the DD Form 2220 is not required for installation access, but can be issued by the welcome center. For more information, contact the security forces desk at 609-562-6001.

Calendar

Veterans, military eligible to receive free tickets to Mets games

From Tony Ntellas, Field Service Coordinator Wounded Warrior Project

The Wounded Warrior Project has have been contacted by the New York Mets. They have asked us to help them with their program," Welcome Back Veterans." Visit <http://www.welcome-backveterans.org/> for more information. The Mets would like to honor people that have served in the United States Military. The honoree will receive a total of four tickets for free, front row third baseline. During the third inning, the veteran will be honored on the huge play-by-play screen in center field.

If you are interested, provide the following information as soon as possible. Those veterans who participated last year are not eligible to participate again this year.

Needed:

Game Date - pick a game from one of these dates: June .23, 24, 25, and 26. Find more information about the games at http://mlb.mlb.com/schedule/index.jsp?c_id=nym&m=04&y=2010.

Four pictures via e-mail (in military uniform if possible)

Biography with the following: title, branch, rank, name, e-mail, cell phone, list of awards and decorations, date of entry in service, branch of service, dates of service, where were you stationed, brief description of duties while there. Also, let the program know if you would like the tickets mailed to your home. If so, include your full mailing address.

Send everything to Tony at attntellas@woundedwarriorproject.org.

Hearts Apart helps military families

Hearts Apart, the support group designed for families living apart from their military or civilian sponsor, is holding a meeting on June 17, 7-9 p.m., at the Community Center, building 3225, Picatinny Arsenal.

Hearts apart is a fun, relaxing and informative time to meet with others spouses, children, loved ones, and friends in similar situations. Hearts Apart support group meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the community center. Refreshments are served.

The group was designed to help families who are apart from their military or civilian sponsor possibly due to an unaccompanied tour, extended temporary duty, deployment, or other mission requirement.

For more information or to register for this event, contact the ACS at 973-724-5219 or e-mail Clarence.lacy@us.army.mil. RSVP no later than June 15.

Texas Hold'em, Picatinny July 31

As the song says – "You have to know when to hold' em, know when to fold' em" and the Texas Hold'em Tournament is there to see if anyone knows when that is. The tournament will be held July 31 at the Cannon Gate Catering at 11 a.m. Cost is \$40 per person. Call 973-724-2582 for reservations; seating is limited. Prizes will be awarded for the top ten players.

Remember another line from the song: "every hand's a winner and every hand's a loser."

DMAVA picnic is on calendar for June 17

It's that time again – time for the DMAVA/JFHQs Picnic! This year it will be held on June 17, next to the HSCOE building on the DMAVA campus at approximately noon. Cost is \$10 now; \$15 at the entrance.

The menu will be sausage, hot dogs, hamburgers, potato and macaroni salads, cole slaw, baked beans, ice cream and beverages. Dress is appropriate summer attire.

There will be a town hall meeting at 11 a.m. prior to the picnic. Attendance at the town hall meeting is mandatory. For those employees who do not choose to attend the picnic, it will be a full and normal workday and they must return to their regular duty station. Buses will be provided for those attending the town hall meeting from the Dix/McGuire areas.

Payment can be made to your department representative:

DMAVA – Darlene Laarz, 609-530-6992; Dawn Baulo, 609-530-6717; Tina Taylor, 609-530-7170; and Karen Hansen 609-530-6868.

Fort Dix – Barbara Alcott, 609-562-0870; and Bonnie Gaskell, 609-562-0925.

HSCOE – Kevin Hearn, 609-530-7069.

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.

June	Wildwood Convention Center
3-4	Elks State Convention**
9-11	American Legion State Convention**
16-18	Veterans of Foreign Wars State Convention
July 6	The Music Pier on the Ocean City Boardwalk, 11 a.m.
July 30	First Energy State Park, Lakewood** Lakewood Blue Claws Veterans Appreciation Night
August 29	TD Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater** Somerset Patriots Veterans of America Day

**Outreach events only