

JANUARY 11, 2023



READY TO SERVE ★ PROUD TO HAVE SERVED

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



The Mobile Barista visited the Lawrenceville Campus on January 11th for an Employee Appreciation Event.

Happy New Year

Welcome to 2023! It is my sincere hope that you all had a happy and safe holiday season and that you had an opportunity to rest and recharge for all that will come in this new year.

I had the privilege to attend Governor Murphy's annual State of the State address on January 10th. He announced several new programs and initiatives that will positively impact the citizens of the great state of New Jersey.

Currently members of the DMAVA staff are working on budget initiatives that will further benefit employees of the Department, Soldiers, Airmen, their families and equally important our Veterans who call our facilities home. I am encouraged and excited about the year ahead.

I am continuing my work with our State Partnership Program Team to engage with our longstanding Albanian Partners as well as develop the way forward with our new Cypriot partners. Later this month I will be engaged in talks and meetings to further define goals and objectives for both of our partner countries.

There are some changes in our front office staff at DMAVA as Col(Ret) Walter Nall retires from the State as Deputy Commissioner of Veterans Affairs and MAJ Vincent Solomeno steps in as his successor. Plans to celebrate Colonel (Ret) Nall's service to the Department are underway...more information to follow.

Thank you for what you do every day in service to our Veterans, military personnel and their families.

We encourage you to share ideas, events and feedback. Please email our team at

outreach@dmava.nj.gov

Brigadier General Lisa J. Hou, D.O.
The Adjutant General & Commissioner



DMAVA EVENTS



January 19, 2023
9:00am – 2:00pm

BLOOD DRIVE

Joint Military & Family Assistance Center

1048 US Rt 206 South
Bordentown, NJ 08505

POC: LTC Amy B. Glatz
State Equal Employment Manager
609-562-0856 or amy.b.glatz.mil@army.mil

[Appointments Preferred](#)



January 19, 2023
10:00am - 3:00pm

DMAVA VETERANS OUTREACH CAMPAIGN & MEDAL CEREMONY

Quaker Bridge Mall Center Court

3320 US Highway 1
Lawrence Township, NJ 08648

Medal ceremony at 11:00 am.

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.

VETERAN INFORMATION SESSION

The Wilmington VA Medical Center and Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) Outreach Specialist will be hosting a presentation on information regarding enrollment, eligibility, services, and programs offered. The Sessions offer general information and how to navigate VA. Q & A and one-on-one information will be provided for all Veterans, their families, and caregivers in attendance.

Please contact the VA Outreach Specialist a VA provider or staff member if you would like to attend. (Seating is limited and based on availability)

UPCOMING SESSIONS 4th Monday of every month

10:00 AM
(or scheduled by request with Outreach Specialist)

WHERE
Cape May County CBOC
3801 Route 9 South
Rio Grande, NJ 08242



**VA OUTREACH
SPECIALIST**
Jacqueline Hinker
302-304-5509

CLINIC STAFF
PACT Team
Nurse Manager
Behavior Health
AMSA Supervisor
AMSA
Physical Therapy

**DMAVA
VSO**
Alicia Kagan
609-441-3060
Or
CMC Veteran
Services Office
David Louderback
609-886-2762

DMAVA will have a Veterans Service Officer present

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Please contact the VA Outreach Specialist a VA provider or staff member if you would like to attend. (Seating is limited and based on availability)

UPCOMING SESSIONS 4th Tuesday of each month

11:00 AM
(or scheduled by request with Outreach Specialist)

WHERE
Cumberland County CBOC
79 W. Landis Avenue
Vineland, NJ 08360



**VA OUTREACH
SPECIALIST**
Jacqueline Hinker
302-304-5509

CLINIC STAFF
PACT Team
Nurse Manager
Behavior Health
AMSA Supervisor
AMSA

**DMAVA
VSO**

DMAVA will have a Veterans Service Officer present

VETERAN INFORMATION SESSION

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Please contact the VA Outreach Specialist a VA provider or staff member if you would like to attend. (Seating is limited and based on availability)

UPCOMING SESSIONS

4th Thursday of every month

11:00 AM

(or scheduled by request with Outreach Specialist)

WHERE

Atlantic County CBOC
1909 New Road
Northfield, NJ 08225



**VA OUTREACH
SPECIALIST**
Jacqueline Hinker
302-304-5509

CLINIC STAFF
PACT Team
Nurse Manager
Behavior Health
AMSA Supervisor
AMSA

**VETERAN SERVICE
OFFICER**

CONTACTED BY PHONE

DMAVA will have a Veterans Service Officer present



January 26, 2023
11:00am - 3:00pm

DMAVA VETERANS OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

Paramus Park Mall
Center Court

700 Paramus Park
Paramus, NJ 07652

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.

FRIDAY
JAN. 27, 2023

COMMUNITY EVENT

11 a.m. -
8 p.m.

COMMUNITY & VETERAN WELLNESS AND RESOURCE FAIR

The Wilmington VA Medical Center in partnership with the State of New Jersey and Cape May County service organizations, welcomes ALL to attend this day of resources. The event will be held on the Cape May Court House Campus of Atlantic Cape Community College.

There will be briefings throughout the course of the event, to include:

Department of Veterans Affairs - PACT Act
Department of Labor
Cape May County Human Services/Cape May County
Veteran Services
Cape May County Prosecutors Office/Hope One
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs



DMAVA will have a Veterans Service Officer present



FIRST AID/CPR/AED CERTIFICATION

for infants, children, and adults

TRAINING DATES

4 DEC | 5 FEB | 30 APR | 4 JUN

Sundays | 9:30 am-3:30pm
Bordentown Armory

Two-year Certification Upon Completion

DOES NOT INCLUDE BLS FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

**FREE | OPEN TO MILITARY FAMILIES AND CYP
VOLUNTEERS | AGES 13 & UP**

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!



SCAN TO REGISTER



For more information contact the Child & Youth Coordinators
Kimberly Jordan | 609-496-9260 | kimberly.n.jordan2.ctr@army.mil
Melissa Nicolato | 609-496-9261 | melissa.k.nicolato.ctr@army.mil



**February 6, 2023
5:30pm - 7:30pm**

QUARTERLY WOMEN'S OPEN FORUM

Westfield Armory

500 Rahway Ave
Westfield, NJ 07090

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

[Learn More and RSVP](#)

FEATURED EVENTS

**AMERICAN LEGION
MEMBERSHIP TRAINING SEMINAR**

Saturday, January 14th, 2023

**Hosted by:
Passaic County American Legion
Location:**

Anthony Wayne Post 174

55 Mountainview Blvd., Wayne NJ 07470

Doors open 8am for Breakfast

Seminar starts promptly at 9am, ending 2pm

Questions: email to adjutant@pcafnj.org or 201-579-3410

Facilitators

Richard Godfrey, Sr.

Ellis L. Marples

Department of New Jersey
Membership Chairman
Ocean County Commander

Sussex County Commander
Sussex County Membership Chairman
Post 86 Membership Chairman

[Click here to register on line](#)

Go to: <https://americanlegiontraining.rsvpify.com>

or use the QR code:





Suicide Prevention - Lethal Weapon Safety & Protecting Your Rights

Thursday, January 19, 2023

1000—1400

0930 Registration



Legion Post 12
232 Union Ave.
Somerville, NJ

Lunch will be provided



FEATURING Firearms Safety & Safe Storage

Register online at:



S.A.V.E
Signs of suicide to recognize
Ask "Are you thinking of killing yourself?"
Validate their intent
Encourage treatment and expedite help

Direct Program Questions to: Tanya Kero — tanya.kero@va.gov
General Questions to: Bob Looby — r.looby@njamericanlegion.org, 908-894-0746



Suicide Prevention & Lethal Means Safety

Presented by

Camden County Families of Service Members & Veterans



IN-PERSON & Virtual
The Carlton R. Roush Veterans Center
777 Blackwood Clementon Road Lindenwold, NJ
08021

Virtual Teams Link:
[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Saturday, January 21, 2023

10:00-2:00pm



Topics Include:



VA S.A.V.E
Signs of suicide to recognize
Ask "Are you thinking of killing yourself?"
Validate their intent
Encourage treatment and expedite help



Direct Questions to: Rhonda.Hart@va.gov, 267-596-0980

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](#)

DMAVA VETERANS SERVICES



VSO Jason Newman

Jason Newman recently joined the NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs as a Veterans Service Officer (VSO), working in Camden, Gloucester, and Burlington Counties.

Prior to his tenure with DMAVA, Jason was employed by the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOL). He started his career with DOL as a Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist, assisting Veterans with significant barriers to employment in all phases of the job search process. He also worked as a Veterans Business Representative, assisting companies to find qualified Veterans through the DOL pipeline for them to offer employment opportunities.

Jason had assisted Veterans even prior to his time with DOL. He was a Wounded Warrior Fellow in the Congressional office of Rob Andrews of the 1st District of NJ for 2 years, assisting Veterans with the claims process, burial benefits, and myriad other Veteran issues.

Jason is a 2015 graduate of Rutgers Camden, graduating with a B.A. in Political Science. He served in the U.S. Army from 2003-2006 as a combat infantryman, including one combat tour with the 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry, serving in Mosul, Iraq from 2004-2005. He is the recipient of the Combat Infantryman Badge, an Army Commendation Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. He is very happily married and the proud father of one and is a resident of Gloucester County.

Through his work, he strives to assist our Veterans in any way, shape or form, and looks forward to helping any Veteran that reaches out to him!

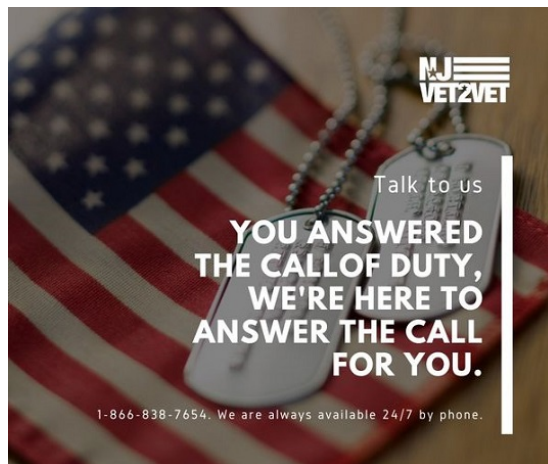
Veterans Service Offices



Happy 100th Birthday, George!

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Edward J. Chrystal Jr., Officer in Charge, Task Force-23, U.S. Vietnam Veteran Commemoration, Office of the Secretary of the Defense, presented U.S. Navy World War II Veteran Chief Petty Officer 1st Class George Pukenas the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal at a ceremony at his home on Jan. 7, 2023.

Family, friends, legislators, and DMAVA honored George for his honorable service in the Pacific in five major campaigns during World War II on the occasion of his 100th birthday.



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

[Veterans Outreach Schedule](#)

NJ NATIONAL GUARD



New Jersey Cavalry defeats al-Shabaab attack

Mark Olsen | Public Affairs Office | December 27, 2022

The attack had failed before it even began.

It was Sept. 30, 2019, at Baledogle Military Airfield in the Federal Republic of Somalia. Prior to the explosion, New Jersey Army National Guard Soldiers with Charlie Troop, 1st Squadron, 102nd Cavalry Regiment, had been preparing a convoy to meet the Somali police chief and other leaders in a town 25 miles from the base. The 102nd was part of the New Jersey Army National Guard's Task Force Warrior deployment in support of Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa.

"We hadn't even got into our vehicles when the VBIED (vehicle-borne improvised explosive device) went off," said Lt. Col. Richard Karcher, commander, Task Force Warrior, New Jersey Army National Guard.

[Read Full Story](#)



U.S. Air Force Maj. Nicholas A. Loglisci graduates Weapons Instructor School

A1C Darion Boyd | 177th Fighter Wing | December 29, 2022

ATLANTIC CITY AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, New Jersey – Maj. Nicholas A. Loglisci, assigned to the 119th Fighter Squadron, 177th Fighter Wing of the New Jersey Air National Guard, graduated from the Weapons Instructor Course (WIC) June 9, 2022 at the U.S. Air Force Weapons School (USAFWS), Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada.

The goal of the WIC is to train students in air, space, and cyber weapons superiority, as well as tactical combat in support of the joint force. Loglisci's training consisted of more than 400 hours of graduate level academics and more than 60 training events, both live-fly and in the simulators, and is considered be one of the most challenging courses an operator can experience in their career.

[Read Full Story](#)



CW5 Angle becomes NJ Army National Guard's 9th Command Chief Warrant Officer

SSG Bruce Daddis | 444th MPAD | January 7, 2023

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, New Jersey - Service members with the New Jersey National Guard, along with Veterans, family members, and friends, gathered to bid farewell to Chief Warrant Officer 5, Frank R. Albanese, Jr., and welcome Chief Warrant Officer 5, Jeffrey T. Angle as the New Jersey Army National Guard's 9th State Command Chief Warrant Officer during a change of responsibility ceremony at the Army Aviation Support Facility, Jan. 7th, 2023.

The Command Chief Warrant Officer is the senior warrant officer in the state of New Jersey and serves as the personal advisor to the Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Lisa J. Hou and her primary staff on all issues pertaining to policies, programs, and actions impacting the warrant officer cohort.

[Read Full Story](#)



Machine Gun Training

Top Photo: Soldiers with the New Jersey Army National Guard's B Troop, 102nd Cavalry Regiment, fire the M2 machine gun on the zero range at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst on Jan. 6, 2023.

Bottom Photo: New Jersey National Guard at Fort Dix in 1940.

Join Our Team

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



DMAVA DEPARTMENTS



Youth ChalleNGe Graduation

New Jersey Youth ChalleNGe Academy (NJYCA) graduation ceremony for Class 54 was held at the Trenton War Memorial in Trenton, New Jersey on Dec. 22, 2022. The guest speakers were U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Lisa J. Hou, D.O., The Adjutant General of New Jersey and State Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Earnest Williams, Director, New Jersey Youth ChalleNGe Academy.

The NJYCA is an alternative education program designed to reclaim the lives of at-risk 16 to 18 year old youths and produce graduates with the values, skills, education, and self-discipline necessary to succeed as adults. The National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program was established by Congress in 1993. New Jersey's first ChalleNGe class began in September 1994.

[View Images](#)

NEW JERSEY YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY

DREAM. BELIEVE. ACHIEVE.



TUITION
FREE


Now accepting applications
for Class 55 - January 23, 2023!

APPLY
NOW!

For More Information:

 njyca.org/admissions

 rpm@dmava.nj.gov

 (800) 997-5587



STATE PARTNERS



Burlington County Supports & Recognizes Gold Star Families

Burlington County Clerk

GOLD STAR FAMILY MEMBER IDENTIFICATION CARD



Service Member Name
Military Branch

Issued To:
Family Member Name
Address
Town, NJ 00000
Issued: 10/13/2022

Signature



Joanne Schwartz
Joanne Schwartz
Burlington County Clerk

Burlington County Gold Star IDs

The Burlington County Clerk's Office is now issuing Gold Star Family identification cards to the spouses, domestic partners, civil union partners and children of military members who died while serving on active duty with the U.S. Armed Forces.

[Learn More](#)

NEEDED: Volunteer Veteran Mentors!

Help a Fellow Veteran Undergoing Life-Changing Rehabilitation, Counseling and Treatment!

The Cape May County Prosecutors Office operates a Veterans Diversion Program (VDP) which offers Veterans charged with crimes an alternative to trial and sentencing. The program offers Veterans treatment and assistance for mental health, substance abuse and other issues which may have contributed to their arrest and criminal charges.

Instead of Incarceration, the program helps Veterans with:

- Treatment and Rehabilitation
- Community services and assistance
- Veterans Affairs counseling and benefits
- Mentoring support & coaching

VETERAN MENTORS are a vital part of the program, offering a frontline source of guidance and support for the participants...and MORE are needed in our community!



**ARE YOU READY TO
LEND A FELLOW VET A
HELPING HAND?**

PLEASE CONTACT:

David L. Shutter
SPC-4, US ARMY – LCDR, USNR
VFW-386, Cape May, NJ

Veteran Diversion Program Coordinator
Cape May County Prosecutors Office

dshutter@cmcpfos.net
609-465-1135



OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR County of Atlantic

WILLIAM E. REYNOLDS
Atlantic County Prosecutor

4997 Usman Boulevard, Suite 2
P.O. Box 2002
May Landing, NJ 08330
609-909-7800 – Fax: 609-909-7802

ERIK M. BERGMAN
First Assistant Prosecutor

RICHARD E. MCKELVEY
Executive Assistant Prosecutor

MARIO C. FORMICA
Chief Counsel to the Prosecutor



BRUCE K. DESHIELDS
Chief of County District

PATRICK F. SNYDER
Acting Deputy Chief of District

RAYMOND G. ROYSTER
Director of Community Outreach

ATTENTION VETERANS, FAMILY MEMBERS and SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

The Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office **Veterans Diversion Program** is available to certain veterans of the armed services who have pending non-violent criminal charges in Superior Court.

ACPO is seeking veterans willing to serve as **VOLUNTEER MENTORS** to become trained by the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in working with fellow veterans through the diversion process.

For more information, please contact Detective Chris Southard at southard_c@acpo.org / (609) 909-7965, Detective Hannah Piatt at piatt_h@acpo.org/609-909-7859, or Executive Assistant Prosecutor Rick McKelvey at mckelvey_r@acpo.org / (609) 909-7722.

Defendants who have served and are currently pending criminal charges in Superior Court should consult with their attorney or visit <https://www.acpo.org/resource-page/55>.



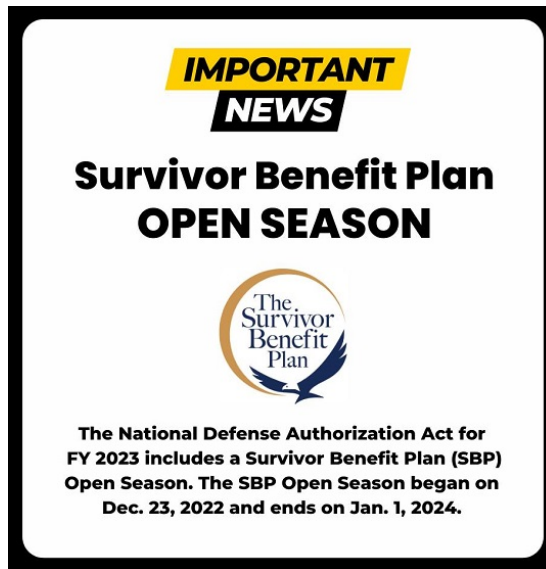
NJ State Agencies

- [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](#)



FEDERAL PARTNERS



Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Proposed Open Season

Congress provided for a Survivor Benefit Plan Open Season in the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). 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.

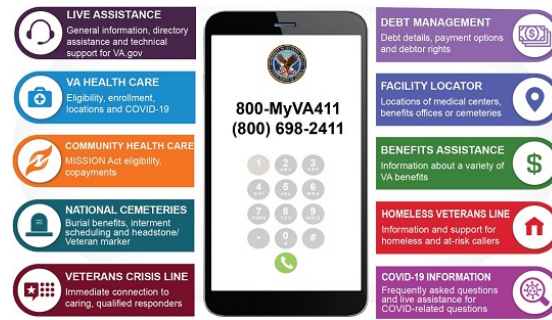
The SBP Open Season also allows eligible members and former members who are currently enrolled in either SBP or RCSBP to permanently discontinue their SBP coverage.

[Learn More](#)



Schedule Your PACT Act Event

If your Veterans Service Office, university/college or community organization would like to host the VA New Jersey Health Care System (VANJHCS), they will bring the information, screeners and staff to you and your Veterans. Contact them at VANJHCSCommsTeam@va.gov to schedule your PACT Act event.



1-800-MyVA411

The VA merged the White House Hotline with the department's toll-free information line, 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411), on November 3, 2022, providing Veterans with a single access point for VA health care, benefits, and services, and for resolving their concerns.

The White House Hotline launched in 2017 to give Veterans and their families a direct line to report VA complaints. In 2020, the VA announced plans to establish 1-800-MyVA411 as the lone access point to all VA contact centers. MyVA411 launched later that year and has remained VA's main call center for incoming calls, significantly outpacing hotline calls since its launch.

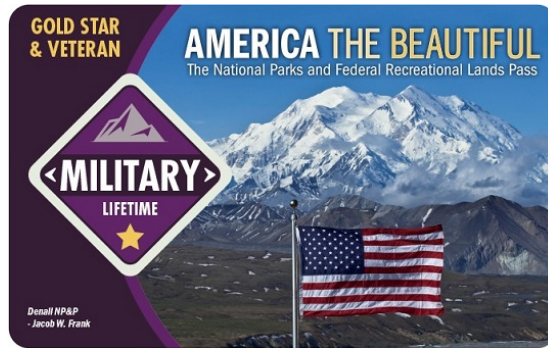
The White House hotline was staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, by live agents. Callers to 1-800-MyVA411 also can connect with a live agent at any time, any day, by pressing "9."



eBenefits Shortcut & MyHealtheVet

In this episode of theSITREP, the hosts discuss a new option for Veterans with regard to eBenefits and MyHealtheVet. Please refer to <https://news.va.gov/.../va-mobile-app-six-essential-facts/> for additional information, or search "VA: Health and Benefits" in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

To watch the short video please go to [#theSITREP](#).



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.

The Interagency Military Pass has been part of the America the Beautiful – The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass Series since 2012. On December 27, 2021, President Biden signed into law S. 1605 "The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022" (NDAA). Section 641 of the NDAA makes Gold Star families and Veterans eligible for lifetime passes to federal recreational lands.

[Learn More at VA News](#)



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](#)



**The Women
Veterans Call
Center is your
guide to VA.**

 **CALL**  **TEXT**  **CHAT ONLINE**

855-829-6636

WE ARE OPEN

Weekdays:
8:00 am–10:00 pm ET

Saturday:
8:00 am–6:30 pm ET

Featured Links

- [Download VA Benefit Letters](#)
- [Podcasts on Veterans' Issues](#)
- [VA and FCC make it easier for Veterans to get internet access](#)
- [13 places that offer free wills or trusts for Veterans](#)
- [Fast facts about new toxic exposure screening 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



Woods-N-Water

The patriotic folks at [Woods-N-Water](#) hosted an outing for the residents at the [New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland](#). Together with Texas Roadhouse in Millville, they held a luncheon for 12 residents from the Memorial Home, as well as three invited Veterans. Texas Roadhouse marketer, Monica Headley, was an outstanding host and went out of her way to accommodate everyone. [View Facebook Post](#).

Thank you from all of us at DMAVA!

VETERAN SUPPORT ORGS



VFW PACT Act Website

The VFW has launched its new PACT Act website! Check out pactactinfo.org to quickly determine whether you may be eligible for PACT Act benefits and compensation.

Veterans Outreach Services

NJ REENTRY CORPORATION

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Veterans Emergency and At-Risk Housing
- Addiction Detox and Treatment
- Mental Health/Medical Services
- Medicaid (Hospital /Prescription Drugs)
- Case Management of Comprehensive Veterans' Services
- SNAP (food stamps)/General Assistance
- ID/Driver's License/DD214 Applications
- Bus Tickets/Transportation
- Housing Referrals
- Employment Training and Placement
- Work with Allied Veterans to coordinate New Jersey and VA benefits
- NJRC refers Veterans to VA Medical Centers and Behavioral Health Clinics
- NJRC partners with National Veterans Legal Services Program
- NJRC helps Veterans with upgrades of less than honorable discharge status and other legal needs

"OUR VETERANS HAVE SERVED THE NATION, LET US NOW SERVE OUR VETERANS" - NJRC

For more information, please contact
Sharon McGreevey
201.252.7641

Education & Health Centers of America

WE'RE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

If you are a veteran or a first responder suffering from PTSD and in need of an emotional support dog, please apply today or contact us for more information

Operation K9 Beethoven
 501(c)(3) NJ Non-profit Organization
 EIN: 87-1417235
 Telephone: 201-986-1111
 Email: k9beethoven@yahoo.com
 FB: Operation K9 Beethoven
 Insta: operation_k9_beethoven
 www.operationk9beethoven.com

IN THE NEWS



Families open hearts and homes to Coast Guard recruits on Christmas

Christopher Doyle | Press of Atlantic City | December 25, 2022

The Red Cross held its 41st annual Operation Fireside on Sunday.

The event has families from the Cape May area open their homes to recruits from the Coast Guard Training Center in Cape May so that they would have a warm, comfortable place to celebrate Christmas.

Coast Guard Capt. Warren Judge said the event was meant to help recruits who are missing their families during Christmastime while helping instill important values and a connection with the community.

"It brings the significance of family and community values all together," Judge said. "Being away from their families, I know it's tough for (the recruits), however having the family from the Cape May County communities come in and want to participate in Operation Fireside, it gives them a sense of home values throughout this holiday season."

[Read Full Story](#)

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.

January 11, 2008
Operation Iraqi Freedom
**LCpl Curtis A.
Christensen Jr.**
U.S. Marine Corps
Collingswood, New Jersey

January 16, 2005
Operation Iraqi Freedom
**SPC Alain L.
Kamolvathin**
U.S. Army
Blairstown, New Jersey

January 12, 2011
Operation Enduring Freedom
SPC Benjamin Moore
U.S. Army
Robbinsville, New Jersey

January 19, 2012
Operation Enduring Freedom
Cpl Kevin J. Reinhard
U.S. Marine Corps
Colonia, New Jersey

January 14, 2010
Operation Enduring Freedom
**SGT Christopher R.
Hrbek**
U.S. Marine Corps
Westwood, New Jersey

January 23, 2010
Operation Enduring Freedom
LCpl Jeremy M. Kane
U.S. Marine Corps
Cherry Hill, 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

VETERANS' ORAL HISTORIES



Mark Otto
Panama / Desert Storm



John Chlapowski
Vietnam / Desert Storm

Veterans History Project

HISTORY



The Essex Troop at Governor Moore's Inauguration

January 14, 1836

Hugh Judson Kilpatrick, Civil War cavalry commander and postwar politician, was born near Deckertown in Sussex County. Kilpatrick, a West Point graduate who gained the nickname "Kill Cavalry" due to his recklessness during the Civil War, was involved in a number of controversial incidents as a soldier and postwar politician. He died of chronic nephritis on December 2, 1881 while serving as Minister to Chile.

January 15, 1961

Twenty-eight men, US Air Force and civilian personnel, were killed after the collapse of Texas Tower #4, a massive radar installation in the Atlantic Ocean seventy-five miles off the New Jersey coast, in a winter storm. The tower, one of three similar structures named for

January 15, 1865

At the Second Battle of Fort Fisher, North Carolina, nineteen-year-old US Marine Corps Corporal Andrew J. Tomlin of the Goshen section of Middle Township, Cape May County, inspired his men to hold the line against a Confederate attack and rescued a fellow Marine who was wounded and under heavy fire. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic conduct.

January 15, 1942

The British oil tanker Coimbra was sunk by a German submarine 100 miles east of Sandy Hook and twenty-eight miles south of Long Island, signaling the arrival of World War II to New Jersey waters. The tanker was sailing unescorted, with its lights on, and was hit at 1:40 AM. Of the forty-six man crew, ten

their resemblance to Gulf of Mexico oil rigs, was designed to provide early warning of a Soviet air attack so that Nike Hercules antiaircraft missiles could respond. Dubbed "Old Shaky" by the men who worked aboard it because of its tendency to shift in the ever-moving ocean, the structure was built on three pilings in 185 feet of water. Following the disaster the remaining towers were decommissioned.

survived.

January 19, 1932

When A. Harry Moore was inaugurated for his second term as governor of New Jersey before a crowd of thousands in Trenton. His honor guard escort was Newark's Essex Troop, the founding unit of the 102nd Cavalry.



RevolutionNJ's New Website

The RevolutionNJ website is now active! It launched on November 30th and will continue to add information and photos over time. The website will be the location for all things related to RevolutionNJ around the state. Check out the [new website!](#)

Volunteers Needed For RevolutionNJ!

What is RevolutionNJ?

RevolutionNJ is a partnership between the New Jersey Historical Commission and the non-profit organization Crossroads of the American Revolution to plan the commemoration of the anniversary of the founding of the United States in New Jersey

We need help with:

- Historical Interpretation
- Archiving
- Record Keeping
- Guest Relations
- Gardening
- Education
- Research

JOIN US!
BE A PART OF A ONCE-IN-A-GENERATION COMMEMORATION FOR THE 250TH FOUNDING OF AMERICA

908-783-7836

TO REGISTER: SCAN BELOW

MORE INFORMATION
lesley.schierenbeck@sos.nj.gov

New Jersey Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal is a project of the New Jersey Historical Commission, Rutgers University Libraries, and Monmouth University.

The Journal publishes original scholarship on all aspects of NJ studies, including military history.

[View Archives](#)

DID YOU KNOW?



NJ Service Medals

Since 2005, more than 59,260 state awards, to include 37,564 New Jersey Distinguished Service Medals, 4,815 New Jersey Meritorious Service Medals, 965 New Jersey Korean Service Medals, 12,421 New Jersey Vietnam Service Medals and 90 New Jersey POW-MIA Service Medals, 355 New Jersey Global War on Terrorism Medals, 22 New Jersey Desert Storm Medals and 14 New Jersey Commendation Medals have been awarded. The awards have been presented at more than 658 ceremonies statewide. (*Data current as of 28 February 2022*).

The New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal – New Jersey's highest service award – was originally issued in 1858 for those who had distinguished themselves in the New Jersey Militia, but was used infrequently until it was re-authorized in 1988.

[NJ Service Medals](#)

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



SSG Christopher Petrizzo

Staff Sergeant Christopher Petrizzo, of 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry Regiment, New Jersey Army National Guard, receives a challenge coin from Brig. Gen. Tim Coakley, Director of the Joint Staff, New Jersey National Guard, in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, Jan. 3, 2023. The coin was awarded in recognition of SSG Petrizzo's work conducted throughout Monmouth and Ocean Counties while serving on the [Counter-Drug Task Force](#) (CDTF).

SSG Petrizzo has served as a Civil Operator with the CDTF since 2017. In this role, he assists community-based organizations with drug prevention and education as a part of the Drug Demand Reduction Outreach section.

Throughout 2022, SSG Petrizzo assisted in organizing and developing a new strategic plan for the Prevention Coalition of Monmouth County. Meanwhile, in support of DART Coalition of Ocean County, he created a map of faith based locations which was used in their grant packet that helped the coalition receive funding for their prevention efforts.

The mission continues for SSG Petrizzo, as he assists the Monmouth and Ocean County coalitions in mapping, facilitation, resource identification, and data analysis in drug prevention efforts within their communities and throughout the state.

RETIREE SPOTLIGHT



Kathy McGuinn

Kathy McGuinn celebrated her retirement with her colleague, Jill Priar, and the rest of the Construction & Facilities Management Office (CFMO) on December 21, 2022.

Kathy started working for DMAVA as a clerk typist in 1994. She began working for the Fiscal Division in 1995 then later that year moved to Installations which ultimately became CFMO.

Her list of achievements and contributions to the department is too lengthy to enumerate.

Congratulations and Thank You, Kathy! We trust that you will spend your retirement with your beloved family, furry friends, and cheering for your Midshipmen, Eagles and Phillies.



Joseph Bucco

Joe Bucco is retiring from the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs after 21 years of dedicated service.

Joe started as a Provisional Veterans Service Officer (VSO) 3 on November 27th, 2001, working to the position of VSO 2 in 2004, and ultimately to a VSO 1 in 2014. Joe worked tirelessly throughout his career as the ultimate professional, thus ensuring that our Veterans received the benefits to which they were entitled.

Joe, you have had a remarkable career, truly exemplifying what a Veterans Service Officer is and does. You have impacted countless lives, never ceasing to help Veterans.

You will be missed, not only by your DMAVA family, but also by the countless number of Veterans and their families to whom you have provided guidance and assistance.

May happiness, contentment, and good health be yours always. Congratulations on your well-earned and well-deserved retirement!

DMAVA QUICK LINKS



Veterans Service Offices



Request Military Records



Family Programs Office



Veterans Memorial Homes



NJ State Medals



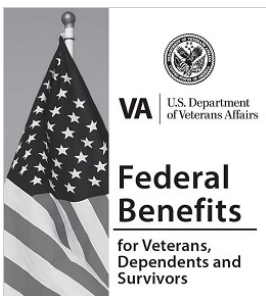
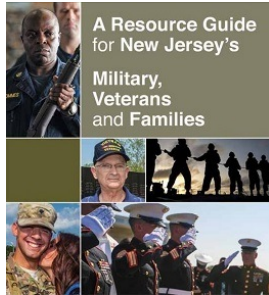
Military Funeral Honors



Doyle Veterans Cemetery

[DMAVA Homepage](#)

RESOURCES



DMAVA CAREERS



We Are Hiring!

At the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs we take our work in support of Veterans, Servicemembers and their families very seriously. Whether supporting our Veterans with nursing care, transitional housing, or assisting them in navigating access to their Veteran benefits, the Department provides valuable services and can offer rewarding career opportunities to members of the public.

We also have opportunities in facilities management and program management. In addition, we have job openings for members of our military to serve in AGR and Federal Technician roles.

Stay updated on job openings by subscribing to our [Jobs Bulletin](#).

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