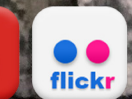


NJDMAVA HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 20, 2015



Infantrymen return from Enduring Freedom mission

By Master Sgt. David Moore, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

Thirty Soldiers from the New Jersey Army National Guard's 2-113 Infantry returned to the Jersey City Armory Aug. 13 after a nine month deployment to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Family members held balloons and banners as they waited to be reunited with their Soldier after the official ceremony.

While deployed, the Soldiers performed security force missions, protecting allied troops and sensitive infrastructure.

Spc. Elvin Davis Valentin-Nunez said it was a successful mission and everyone did their job and came home safely.

"Leadership did a great job leading us. During the deployment we all became a family," he said.

His brother, Spc. Elvin Dave Valentin-Nunez, added it was great to be home and see their father, Elvin David, who was waiting for them.

Daisy Werneck, the mother of Spc. William C. Werneck, wept tears of joy when she was re-united with her son. An immigrant to the United States from South



Spc. Louis Iasparri kisses his girlfriend Maggie McClemens at the welcome home ceremony for B Company, 2-113th Infantry, at the National Guard Armory in Jersey City, N.J., August 13, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen/Released)

America, Werneck said she was proud of her son's service to America.

"I am so proud of everything he did. I am always proud of his accomplishments for us being Americans," she said.

Brig. Gen. Michael Cunniff, the Adjutant General of the New Jersey National Guard, said by the time the Soldiers prepare for their deployment it is actually a year away from home before they are reunited with their families. But the new mission for them is to reintegrate them to being home.

"Our job in the National Guard is to reintegrate Soldiers with their families and civilian life seamlessly so they can pick up their lives where they left off," he said.

Capt. Brendon Cassidy reflected on the deployment and the support from the residents and civic groups of New Jersey for the Soldiers. Early on, he said, the Soldiers developed into a tight cohesive team and remained that way throughout the deployment. But now there is still more work to do, he said.

"We all have to make sure those who

went to school before leaving get back into school. Those who had a job successfully go back to work, and for those who need a job find successful employment," Cassidy said.



Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff, left, the Adjutant General, watches as Philip Cassidy, center, promotes his son, 1st Lt. Brendan Cassidy, to captain prior to the 2-113th's welcome home ceremony August 13, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen/Released)



Spc. William C. Werneck's mother, Daisy Werneck, poses with a sign during the welcome home ceremony for the 30 Citizen-Soldiers who returned home from a nearly year-long deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen/Released)

Cover photo

Sgts. Jean P. Anacreon and Roie Zuk, both Soldiers of B Company, 2-113th Infantry, wait for the welcome home ceremony to begin at the National Guard Armory in Jersey City, N.J., August 13, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen/Released)

'Kinsmen' who won a war

By Master Sgt. David Moore, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

In 1945, they were young, strong and had the cause of freedom on their side.

Margaret Jennings-Manzi was an Army nurse healing the wounded on a hospital ship navigating mine-filled waters and Louis Parisi was a Marine fighting in the bloodiest battle of in the Pacific Theater -- Okinawa.

On Sunday, the Monmouth County residents were honored for their roles in helping end the greatest conflict in history during a ceremony at the Brigadier General William C. Doyle Cemetery sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, the U.S. Veterans Administration and the non-profit group Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive.

Both Jennings-Manzi and Parisi did their part in keeping the spirit alive with vivid recollections of what it was like to be part of the largest group of Americans who ever united for a common cause.

"There were 15 million very young people, we shared our experiences and became friends with people from all over the country--Alabama, Texas and California," she said. "We became kinsmen. Kinsmen with one purpose: To win a war."

Jennings-Manzi's first assignment of the war was aboard the U.S.S. Seminole. The ship held 500 wounded service members and found itself under attack multiple times. Over 20 Atlantic crossings, Jennings-Manzi saw it all, from caring for German and Italian



Raymond Zawacki, left, Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs; Louis Parisi, center, and Margaret Jennings-Manzi salute at the wreath presentation during the World War II 70th Anniversary Global Tribute at the Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery, North Hanover Township, N.J., Aug. 16, 2015. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Devlin D. Drew/Released)

prisoners to the voyage when more than 300 of the patients were paralyzed and nurses wrote letters for the wounded.

Parisi entered the Marine Corps in 1943 and saw combat across in the South Pacific. At one point, he was able to help rescue a baby who had been caught in the crossfire.

Now, 70 years later, Parisi said he has one simple wish.

"Hopefully someday there will not

be any wars and 406,000 who died in World War II will have everlasting peace," he said.

Raymond L. Zawacki, the DMAVA Deputy Commissioner for Veterans' Affairs, said younger generations need to hear the voices of World War II Veterans.

"The Greatest Generation won the war on two fronts," he said. "Thank you for teaching us today a valuable lesson of freedom and liberty."

ENERGY CONSERVATION TIP OF THE WEEK Cut your water heating bills

Solar water heating systems cost more upfront compared to traditional systems; however, a solar water heater could cut your water heating bills by 50 to 80 percent!

Installing an ENERGY STAR certified solar water heater will cut your emissions in half and prevent 4,000 pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere every year.

If you would like more information about our energy and water conservation efforts, contact Christopher Moore, Energy Manager at christopher.moore@dmava.nj.gov



You Are Cordially Invited



1st Annual New Jersey National Guard Suicide Prevention Stand Down

- Suicide Prevention is the TAG's #1 priority. DMAVA and the NJ National Guard is proud to present Brian Fleming, Army Veteran and Purple Heart Recipient, for "Living Resilient" a training event on resilience & suicide prevention emphasizing the importance of positive decision making and perseverance.
- We have partnered with the Office of the Governor, the Department of Human Services and Veteran's Organizations for a proclamation signing in support of ongoing suicide prevention efforts for Service Members and their Families.
- The NJ National Guard remains committed to the prevention of suicide and will continue to train, educate, and raise awareness on this matter. We are working to foster a climate that encourages help-seeking behaviors while de-stigmatizing behavioral health ensuring a **ready** and **resilient** force.

Lawrenceville Drill Floor Sept 9, 2015 @ 0830

R3SP is the POC for this event: MAJ Amy Glatz & Ms. Amanda Brown

609-562-0832

Selling the Army and buying it too

By Sgt. Bill Addison, 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Softball paid Nicole Callahan's way through Fordham University and helped her land a coaching job at West Point.

Something happened when Callahan started selling softball recruits on the prospect of becoming Army officers.

"I sold myself," she recalled.

On Aug. 9, Callahan was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the New Jersey Army National Guard as part of the 22-member Officer Candidate Class 58.

The graduates represented nearly every county in the state and came into the program with a varied degree of military experience--from a 14-year combat veteran to many fresh from basic training.

The class began 18 months ago with more than 50 candidates, said Capt. Robert Roma, a platoon training officer with the school. Roma said the more than 50 percent attrition rate not only exemplifies the difficulty of the program but the also the quality of the successful candidates.

"This is nothing that they were given, they earned this," he said.

For Callahan, the commission as an officer is only the first challenge. Her next will be to graduate from the Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill, Okla., and become only the second female combat arms officers in New Jersey.

The U.S. Army recently announced a plan to open all combat arms positions -- Infantry, Field Artillery and Armor -- to women no later than January, 1 2016. And while Callahan realizes she'll face some challenges, she's optimistic about the future of female officers in the role.

"I think there's going to be some cultural differences and stereotypes we need to break, but we're going to perform the same way," she said.



Brig. Gen. Michael Cuniff, left, the Adjutant General, presents 2nd Lt. Nicole Callahan, second from left, her commissioning certificate during the Officer Candidate Class 58 commissioning ceremony at the National Guard training Center in Sea Girt, N.J., Aug. 9, 2015. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Devlin D. Drew/Released)

OFFICER CANDIDATE CLASS 58 GRADUATES

2nd Lt. William Acunayupanqui, Quartermaster

2nd Lt. Christophe Baillargeon, Field Artillery

2nd Lt. Michelle Bolton, Quartermaster

2nd Lt. Rachel Brinkley, Quartermaster

2nd Lt. Susette Brooks, Ordnance

2nd Lt. Nicole Callahan, Field Artillery

2nd Lt. Gabriel Centeno, Engineer

2nd Lt. Andrew Conner, Infantry

2nd Lt. Derrick Covolus, Ordnance

2nd Lt. Kyle Durso, JChemical

2nd Lt. Michael Engelhard Jr., Infantry

2nd Lt. Steven Forrest Jr., Infantry, Distinguished Honor Graduate

2nd Lt. Julio Gamboa, Infantry

2nd Lt. Daifalla Jaloudi, Field Artillery

2nd Lt. Marcus Martinez, Engineer

2nd Lt. Michael Miller, Engineer

2nd Lt. Nicholas Priessnitz, Engineer

2nd Lt. Dino Radoncic, Infantry

2nd Lt. Loretta Rodriguez, Adjutant General

2nd Lt. Jason Smith, Finance

2nd Lt. Eric Tomkins, Infantry

2nd Lt. Sethanie Wright, Quartermaster

Graduates Billy Burgos and Amber Hughes chose to defer their commissions until a later date.

New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

PO Box 340
Trenton, NJ 08625-0340

1-888-8NJ-VETS(8387) or www.state.nj.us/military



Raymond L. Zawacki, Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs (609-530-7062)
Laura Branham, Executive Secretarial Assistant (609-530-7045)
Chuck Robbins, Assistant to DCVA/Outreach Coordinator (609-530-6855)

Fax: 609-530-7191

Veterans Healthcare Services (DVHS)

Brigadier General Steven Ferrari, Director
609-530-6867
Donna Myers, Sec
609-530-6766
Virginia Fiess, QA Coordinator
609-530-6879
Fax: 609-530-6970

Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home
Joseph Brandspiegel, CEO
Jennifer Pajak, Sec
132 Evergreen Road, PO Box 3013
Edison, NJ 08818-3013
732-452-4102 Fax: 732-603-3016

Paramus Veterans Memorial Home
Dianne Tabron-Felder, CEO
Diane Callaghan, Sec
1 Veterans Drive
Paramus, NJ 07652
201-634-8525 Fax: 201-967-8658

Vineland Veterans Memorial Home
Boris Reissek, CEO
Sharon Davis, Sec
524 North West Boulevard
Vineland, NJ 08360-2895
856-405-4207 Fax: 856-696-6714

Veterans Services (DVS)

Albert J. Bucchi, Director
609-530-6962
Cheryl A. Henderson, Sec
609-530-6975
Fax: 609-530-7075

Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery
Iven Dumas, State Supt – 609-738-2424
Genia DiBella, Sec – 609-738-2404
Cyndi Dzurisin, Interment Office Supervisor, – 609-738-2407
Dennis Macomber, Honor Guard, – 609-758-7505
350 Provinceline Road, Wrightstown, NJ 08562
609-738-2400 Fax: 609-758-0169
Maintenance/Cemeteries/Memorials
Joseph Arroyo & Kenneth Smith Supervisor, 609-738-2408 Fax: 609-758-3490

Vietnam Veterans Memorial
1 Memorial Lane, PO Box 648, Holmdel, NJ 07733
732-335-0033 Fax: 732-335-1107
Korean Memorial
Boardwalk/Brighton Park, Atlantic City, NJ 08401
War World II Memorial
W State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608

Veterans Haven South
Walter Nail, Supt – 609-561-4948
Vacant, Asst, Supt – 609-567-3715
301 Spring Garden Road, PO Box 80
Winslow, NJ 08095
609-561-0269 Fax: 609-567-5186

Veterans Haven North
Sean VanLew, Supt – 908-537-1960
Laura Blaine, Sec – 908-537-1963
200 Sanatorium Road, Suite 101
Glen Gardner, NJ 08826
908-537-1999 Fax: 908-537-1990

State Approving Agency-GI Bill Programs
Charles Rowe, Bureau Chief – 609-530-6842
Marisol Meyer, Education Prog Asst – 609-530-6849
Lynn Yesalonina, State Admin – 609-530-6858
Joan Edwards, State Admin – 609-530-6948
Fax: 609-530-7196

Veterans Benefits Bureau
Patricia A. Richter, Bureau Chief – 609-530-6849
Elizabeth Schofield, Prin Staff Officer – 609-530-6954
Paul Kale, Staff Asst – 609-530-6826
Cynthia Barnes, Sec – 609-530-6868
Michele Johnson, Sec – 609-530-7035
Fax: 609-530-6970

Veterans Service Offices
Joseph Bucco, State Supervisor – 609-530-6830
Christopher Wambach, State Supervisor – 609-530-6863
Joseph E. Nyzio, VSO – 609-530-6857
VA Regional Office/Philadelphia
Vacant, VSO – 215-381-3033
5000 Wissahickon Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Atlantic City/Cape May
Edmond Famiglietti, VSO
Vacant, Sec
1008 Absecon Boulevard, Atlantic City 08401-1999 ~ (Atlantic City Army)
609-441-3060/3061 Fax: 609-441-3899 (closed alternate Fridays)

Bergen/Passaic
Richard Mannes, VSO
Titus Osuagwu, Sec
125 State Street, Suite 109, Hackensack 07601-5435
201-996-8050/8051 Fax: 201-996-8009

Burlington
Charles Piscopo, VSO
Bernadette Whitman, Sec
555 High Street, Suite 6A, Mt. Holly 08060
609-518-2273/2274 Fax: 609-518-2275

Camden/Gloucester
Joseph Frost, VSO
Diane Rosci, Sec
658 N Evergreen Avenue, Woodbury 08096 ~ (Woodbury Army)
856-853-4184/4185/4186 Fax: 856-384-3781 (closed alternate Fridays)

Essex/Union
Robert Maulano, VSO
Vacant, Sec
20 Washington Place, Newark 07102-3174
973-297-3230 Fax: 973-648-2356

Hudson
Vacant, VSO (Robert Maulano-Tuesday/Thursday)
Michael Dorobis, Sec
678 Montgomery Street, 2nd Floor, Jersey City 07306 ~ (Jersey City Army)
201-536-3401 Fax: 201-536-3404 (closed alternate Fridays)

Mercer
William McDonnell, VSO
Theresa Tomecheck, Sec
151 Eggerts Crossing Road, Room 136, Lawrenceville 08648 ~ (Lawrenceville Army)
609-671-6697/6696 Fax: 609-671-6698

Middlesex/Somerset
Joseph Battilo, VSO
Vacant, Sec
1060 Hamilton Street, Somerset 08873 ~ (Somerset Army)
732-937-6347/6348 Fax: 732-937-6417 (closed alternate Fridays)

Monmouth
Robert Brown, VSO
Rita Hyland, Sec
630 Bangs Avenue, Suite 320, Asbury Park 07712-6904
732-775-7009/7005 Fax: 732-775-3612

Newark Liaison/VA Regional Office
Lorena Huggins, VSO
Helen Banks, Sec
20 Washington Place, Room 431 Newark 07102-3174
973-297-3336 Fax: 973-642-0830

Ocean
Nicholas Petrozzino, VSO
Iris Perez, Sec
James J. Howard Outpatient Clinic
970 Route 70, Brick 08724-3550
732-840-3033/3034 Fax: 732-840-0399

Salem/Cumberland
Leigh R. Pottle, VSO
Vacant, VSO
Catherine Raniolo, Sec
524 Northwest Boulevard, Vineland 08360-2895
856-405-4388/4390/4389 Fax: 856-696-6499

Sussex/Morris
William Robinson, VSO
479 West Clinton Street, Dover 07801 ~ (Dover Army)
973-366-0245/8347 Fax: 973-366-0360 (closed alternate Fridays)
*Sussex, 12 Munsonhurst Road, Franklin, 07416 (Thursday/Friday) 973-927-4020 Fax: 973-927-4024 ~ (Franklin Army)

Warren/Hunterdon
Sibley Smith, VSO/Ombudsman
Lisa Szymanski, Sec
200 Sanatorium Road, Glen Gardner, NJ 08826
908-537-0831/0832 Fax: 908-537-0833
*Flemington, 4 Gauntt Place, Flemington, 08822 (Wednesday) 908-284-6146



New Veteran Journal

Clicking on the picture will take you to a PDF of the magazine. Printed copies will be available soon!

LEE GREENWOOD



Special Show for Military & Guests

Sept. 1, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa

1 Borgata Way

Atlantic City, NJ 08401

For tickets, contact Michelle.M.williams2.mil@mail.mil or

Sarah.a.Noethdurft.mil@mail.mil

Tickets can be picked up at the Borgata Events Center

Must show Military ID

Veterans Outreach Campaign

Sept. 8 & 9
DMAVA Veterans Outreach Campaign

10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Brunswick Square Mall
755 Highway 18
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Sept. 12
“Rockin Fest” to support student veterans
11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sussex County College
For details:
sussex.edu/rockinfest
1 College Road
Newton, NJ 07860

E-mail your Highlights submissions to: mark.olsen@dmava.nj.gov by close of business Wednesday



NJDMAVA Highlights is published weekly under provisions of AR 360-1 and AFI 35-101 by the Public Affairs Office of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for all members of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard, their families, the New Jersey veterans community, retirees and civilian employees. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force, the National Guard Bureau, Veterans Affairs or the State of New Jersey. Letters may be sent to: NJDMAVA Highlights, Public Affairs Office, NJDMAVA, PO Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340. E-mail at: pao@dmava.nj.gov

BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL L. CUNIFF
The Adjutant General

RAYMOND ZAWACKI
Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 PATRICK DAUGHERTY
Public Affairs Officer

MASTER SGT. MARK C. OLSEN
Editor, layout, photographer

STAFF SGT. WAYNE WOOLLEY
Writer, photographer

TECH. SGT. MATT HECHT
Photographer, graphic artist



The US Family Health Plan has been a trusted partner of the Military Healthcare System for more than 30 years.

We provide the TRICARE Prime option to service families and retirees.

US Family Health Plan contracts with over 12,000 physicians.

For more information on our plan, visit us @ usfhp.net



CONTACT:
Bob Looby, Chairman: (908) 894-0746
boblooby@cmbarqmail.com

Join The American Legion and Atlantic City Mayor Don Guardian at the South Jersey Regional Veterans Resource & Opportunity Fair

Services will include vendors that provide assistance with Employment, Homelessness, Mental Health, and Criminal Justice initiatives

Atlantic City, NJ – The American Legion and Atlantic City Mayor Don Guardian will host a Veteran Job & Resource Fair to bring together Area Veterans with service organizations and employers that can assist and enhance the lives of the brave men and women that defend our freedom.

This event, tailored to Active Duty, National Guard, Reservists, Veterans, and their families is looking for vendors and providers to join the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and the NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, and many others that provide services for homelessness, mental health & Women issues, and veterans' affairs in general. The NJ State Parole Board will be present to discuss various criminal justice initiatives that will benefit veterans.

WHAT: Military & Veterans Job and Resource Fair. The VA's Mobile Vet Center will be onsite to further support attendees. A Transitioning Workshop will also be conducted.

WHO: Over 50 employers and service providers.

WHEN: Thursday, October 8, 2015, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Transitioning Workshop at 10 am. (Resumes, search, interviews, networking)

WHERE: All Wars Memorial Building (Old Soldiers Home)
1510 Adriatic Ave., Atlantic City, New Jersey 08401

RSVP – EMPLOYERS, SERVICE PROVIDERS - Employers with current job openings or entities that can offer services **MUST** PRE-REGISTER With Martin Houston, State Parole Board, at martin.houston@spb.state.nj.us (PREFERRED) or call 609-984-4588, **no later than October 1, 2015.**

RSVP – MILITARY & VETERANS - All Active Duty, National Guard, Reservists, Veterans, and their spouses are encouraged to pre-register with Martin Houston, State Parole Board, at martin.houston@spb.state.nj.us (PREFERRED) or call 609-984-4588, but “WALK-INS” are welcome!

