

TEAM UP FOR OPERATION "I AM READY"





New Jersey Air National Guard Tactical Air Control Party Airmen from the 227th Air Support Operations Squadron and New Jersey Army National Guard Soldiers from the 1-150 Assault Helicopter Battalion go over plans before a joint training exercise with the New Jersey State Police that will feature a Fast-Rope Insertion Extraction System and Special Purpose Insertion Extraction training, while at the Army Aviation Support Facility, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Nov. 18, 2016. Exercise "I Am Ready" is an aviation centric, joint training exercise between the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard and New Jersey State Police to validate mutual aid agreements and response efforts for homeland security and domestic operations requiring New Jersey National Guard rotary wing support. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht, NJDMAVA-PA)





Maj. Daniel Roske, a Tactical Air Control Party Officer with the 227th Air Support Operations Squadron, New Jersey Air National Guard rides on a Black Hawk during exercise "I Am Ready" at Island Beach State Park, N.J., Nov. 18, 2016. "I Am Ready" is an aviation centric, joint training exercise between the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard and New Jersey State Police to validate mutual aid agreements and response efforts for homeland security and domestic operations requiring New Jersey National Guard rotary wing support. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht, NJDMAVA-PA)







Tactical Air Control Party Airmen with New Jersey Air National Guard's 227th Air Support Operations Squadron, prepare to be extracted by a UH-60 Black Hawk with the 1-150th Assault Helicopter Battalion, New Jersey Army National Guard, during exercise "I Am Ready" at Island Beach State Park, Seaside Park, N.J. (Photos by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, NJDMAVA-PA)

A Tactical Air Control Party Airman with the 227th Air Support Operations Squadron, New Jersey Air National Guard, is retrieved from a rooftop to a hovering New Jersey Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk MEDEVAC helicopter during exercise "I Am Ready" at Island Beach State Park, Seaside Park, N.J. (Photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, NJDMAVA-PA)

Tactical Air Control Party Airmen with the 227th Air Support Operations Squadron, New Jersey Air National Guard, signal a hovering New Jersey Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk MEDEVAC helicopter that their TACP Airmen has successfully been lowered to the roof of a building during exercise "I Am Ready" at Island Beach State Park. (Photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, NJDMAVA-PA)





SEASON C

TURKEYS IN TOMS RIVER

New Jersey National Guard Soldiers and New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs employees participate in the Governor's Season of Service at the Salvation Army Center at Toms River, N.J., Nov.,21, 2016. More than 100 families received Thanksgiving turkeys and winter coats.

(Photos by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, NJDMAVA-PA)



New Jersey's U.S. Senator Cory Booker stopped by for Heritage Day at the Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home on November 22. The town square of the Menlo home was filled with displays and music from a variety of cultures. Booker greeted every resident with New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs senior leaders, Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff, The Adjutant General; Ray Zawacki, deputy commission; and Col. Edward Chrystal, director, veterans health services. (Photos by Kryn P. Westhoven, NJDMAVA-PA)





PROFESSIONALISM & LEADERSHIP

Story and photos by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 108th Wing Public Affairs

Professionalism and leadership.

"Professionalism is a verb because it requires action," said Air Force Lt. Col. George R. Sanderlin. "Professionalism very simply is the art of leading oneself."

Those two words were central to the message that Sanderlin presented to New Jersey Air National Guard and 87th Air Base Wing Airmen along with Army Reserve Soldiers at the Timmerman Center, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Nov. 9, 2016.

Sanderlin's presentation – Professionalism: Enhancing Human Capital – covered topics ranging from the attributes and dangers of personal bias, effective communication techniques, the phenomenon of entrenched thinking, how power changes relationships for good or bad, developing productive and healthy relationships, both at work and at home; the importance of knowing your people, and showing consideration for leading others. Since it began, more than 50,000 people have attended the course. New Jersey Joint Force Headquarters (Air) sponsored the course.

"We don't have to have some grand scheme to change the world; just make some small changes," said Sanderlin.

Sanderlin is assigned to the Profession of Arms Center of Excellence, which is located at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas. The Center focuses on collaborating, coordinating, and developing effective leadership skills and strategies for the Air Force.

"It's about serving Airmen, giving Airmen tools to be better Airmen, to be better leaders, to be better human beings, to be better spouses, to be better friends."

Central to skills and strategies is professionalism, which is incorporated in both the Air Force's Core Values and Profession of Arms. Supporting those two concepts were the themes commitment, loyalty, and trust.

Sanderlin posed the question: "How do we link our values to our mission?"

He explained that professionalism drives people's behavior and is the link that connects the Air Force Core Values to the Air Force mission, which is where commitment, loyalty, and trust are the Core Values' essential components.

"Our identity is defined by the groups we are a part of," said Sanderlin. "Every group has its own kind of standards." Sanderlin stated that if you build a group that is based on commitment, loyalty, and trust, that is a team people will want to join.

"If I know what you value, I have a better chance of leading you."

And that is important; Sanderlin stated that everyone is a leader: "If you have no other responsibility, you are a leader for you."

Unfortunately being a good leader isn't easy and the biggest obstacle to being a good leader comes from an unexpected source."The hardest part about being a leader is how I lead myself," said Sanderlin.

He then demonstrated that using the right communication tools and methods can make individuals be better leaders.

Sanderlin focused on self-reflection as a means to better understand how audience members can become better friends, parents, spouses, co-workers, and leaders.

He used as an example of having dinner with his wife, Linda, after being away on temporary duty.

Sanderlin said the dinner conversation was going great until he reached into his communication tool bag and pulled out the wrong tool.

He told her what to do in a particular situation. In essence, he was acting like a commander and not a partner in marriage.

"I was quite shocked when Linda stared at me and walked away from

the table and didn't say another word," said Sanderlin. "Even though I had the right (communication) tools, I failed to execute the wisdom to use the right tool."

Sanderlin said that he should have asked Linda what she was going to do. This was just one example of how important effective communication is and how it can affect us on the personal level.

That importance of effective communication was demonstrated through a listening exercise. Sanderlin had the audience pair up; one person would talk about something that was important to him or herself; the other person would do their best to ignore what the person was saying.

So across the audience you had people talking enthusiastically and their partner blatantly ignoring them by sticking their fingers in their ears, or the classic, looking at their smartphone.

Next, Sanderlin had them do the opposite; one person would

talk and the other would focus on what they were saying and be actively involved in the conversation. You could see the difference, people were interacting, more importantly, they were not distracted.

When Sanderlin asked the participants what they learned, they had realized that listening is an active exercise.

"When you are having a one-on-one conversation with someone, you have to remind yourself before that conversation starts until that conversation is over, you are the second most important person in that conversation."

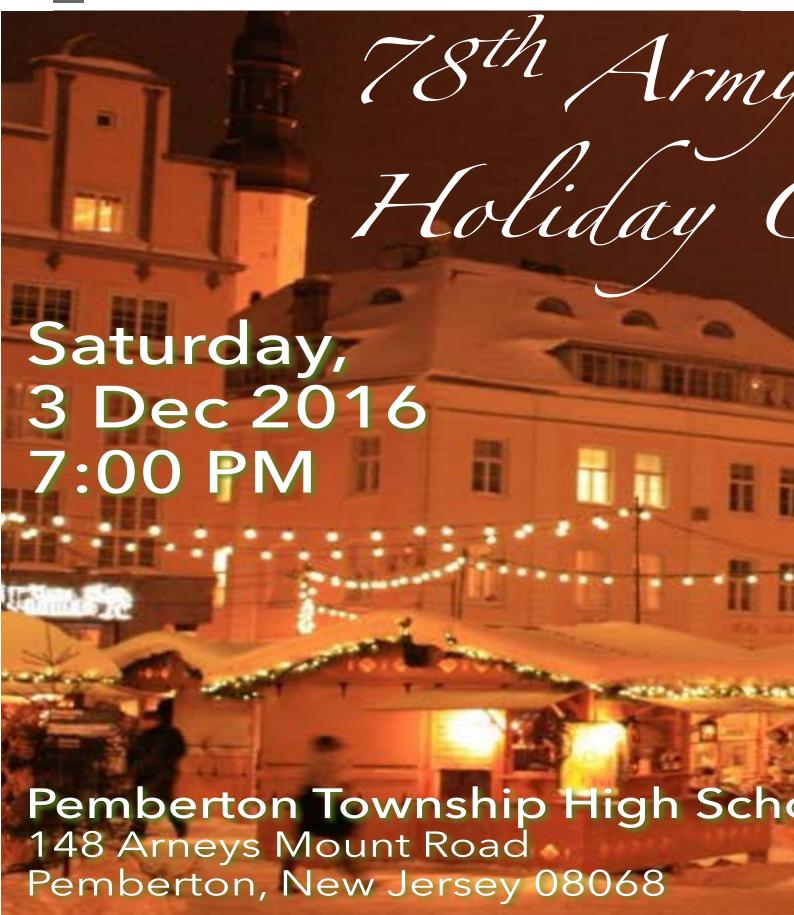
Which brought the conversation back to leadership."Leadership is simply human-to-human interaction. The better I learn to be at human interaction, the better I am as a leader."

And what do you do as a leader?

"Take that leadership and go make a difference," said Sanderlin.
"Go do it. What are you waiting for?"



Lt. Col. George R. Sanderlin, Profession of Arms Center of Excellence, addresses New Jersey Air National Guard and 87th Air Base Wing Airmen along with Army Reserve Soldiers at the Timmerman Center, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Nov. 9, 2016. Sanderlin spoke about Professionalism: Enhancing human capital, which focuses on self-reflection as a means to better understand how military members can become better friends, parents, spouses, co-workers, and leaders. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sqt. Mark C. Olsen/Released)





TREES FOR TROOPS





New Jersey Christmas tree growers donated 100 trees to New Jersey National Guard Soldiers and Airmen at the annual Christmas Trees for New Jersey Military Families event at the Joint Military and Family Assistance Center, Bordentown, N.J., and at three armories across the state Nov. 30, 2016. New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture Douglas H. Fisher, Brig. Gen. Steven Ferrari, Deputy Adjutant General, New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, along with the New Jersey Christmas Tree Growers Association and the New Jersey Agricultural Society's Farmers Against Hunger Program participated in the annual event.

(Photos by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, NJDMAVA-PA)

VETERANS AFFAIRS



STATE LEGION COMMANDER VISTS VHN



American Legion Department of New Jersey commander Roger Gengaro visited Veterans Haven North on November 9 to see how part of his state commanders project will benefit the homeless veterans participating in the transitional housing program. Sean P. Van Lew, Sr., Superintendent, provided a tour of the facility for the senior American Legion leaders. Gengaro hopes to \$16,000 to purchase 16 new computers and 30 new chairs for computer labs at Veterans Haven North. The American Legion state commander's project will also fund a new gazebo and lawn furniture for Veterans Haven South. The major portion the yearlong fund raiser will go the non-profit 'Hope for Veterans' program at the VA's Lyons hospital to pay for a licensed professional counselor. Photos by Kryn P. Westhoven, NJDMAVA-PA



US BOWLING CONGRESS DONATES TO MENLO

As part of the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) program "Brightening Veterans Lives" the Monmouth County USBC chapter donated \$8100.00 to the Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home for recreation therapy. Chrissy Lee, Monmouth County USBC President, left, is joined by Joanne Ramsey, Monmouth County USBC Vice-President in presenting the check to Joseph Brandspiegel, CED.

Photo by Dorothy E. De Los Reyes, CTRS, Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home

HELPFUL INFORMATION

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



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Diane Callaghan, Sec

Paramus, NJ 07652

1 Veterans Drive

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

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Joseph Brandspiegel, CEO

Jennifer Pajak, Sec

Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home

132 Evergreen Road, PO Box 3013 Edison, NJ 08818-3013

Brigadier General William C. Dovle Veterans Memorial Cemeters Usen 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

201-634-8525 Fax: 201-967-8658

Vietnam Veterans Memorial

W State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608

Veterans Services (DVS)

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

Veterans Haven South

Walter Nall, Supt - 609-561-4948 William Lobach, Asst, Supt – 609-567-3715 Carisa Shufford, Sec 609-561-4990 ext. 120 301 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

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James J. Howard Outpatient Clinic 970 Route 70, <u>Brick</u> 08724-3550 732-840-3033/3034 Fax: 732-840-0399

Warren/Hunterdon *Sibley Smith, VSO/Ombudsman

Lisa Szymanski, Sec 200 Sanatorium Road, <u>Glen Gardner</u>, NJ 08826 908-537-0831/0832 Fax: 908-537/0833

*Fleminaton, 4 Gauntt Place, Fleminaton, 08822 (Wednesday) 908-284-6146

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VA Regional Office/Philadelphia

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Burlington Matthew Still, VSO

Michelina Giuliano, Sec 555 High Street, Suite 6A, Mt. Holly 08060 609-518-2273/2274 Fax: 609-518-2275 Hudson

Esther Chucaralao, VSO

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Monmouth Peter J. Midgley, VSO Rita Hyland, Sec

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Salem/Cumberland

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Southern Ocean County Resource Center

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Women Veterans Roundtable, Luncheon and Career Fair



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Highlights submissions deadline 4 p.m. Wednesday: nicholas.p.young12.mil@mail.mil

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Life doesn't have to be a battlefield

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