



DMAVA

HIGHLIGHTS



JANUARY 12, 2012

A family farewell for 50th Financial Management Company

By Spc. Michael J. Davis,
444th MPAD

Within the old cement walls of the Flemington Armory, the auditorium came alive with the warm, familiar sights and sounds of an Army deployment ceremony: A wall-size American flag, the smiling faces of the Family Readiness Group (FRG) volunteers, tearful family and friends, and of course, Soldiers.

Members of the New Jersey Army National Guard's 50th Financial Management Company, who are slated to deploy to Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, exuded pride and commitment as they marched across the floor and heard the roar of heartfelt cheers and applause.

The feeling could be summed up in one word: family.

"The New Jersey National Guard is my extended family," said Hilary Webekin, wife of Staff Sgt. Richard Webekin, Jr., who is one of the Soldiers deploying with the 50th Financial Management Company. "We watch out for each other."

Webekin is about to embark on his third deployment with the New Jersey National Guard, and his first deployment as a father of five-month-old Richard Webekin, III.

He and his wife said that as each deployment presents new obstacles to overcome, their growing support system of family, friends and FRG resources will help get them through.

Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff, acting Adjutant General



of New Jersey, drilled home the importance of family support, especially during the separation that accompanies a deployment, during his remarks.

Cunniff said, "We're all

in this together... as a Guard Family."

While deployed, the 50th FMC Soldiers will be performing disbursement operations, commercial vending services,

military pay, travel and internal control functions for U.S. Armed Forces, U.S. government civilians, Department of Defense contractors, and many others, in support of OEF.

Stockton College honors service members during sports event

GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP, N.J. -- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey's women's basketball team saluted the brave servicemen and servicewomen before and at halftime of the 6 p.m. game at the Sports Center here on Jan. 9, against Marymount.

At halftime, New Jersey Air National Guard Senior Master Sgt. Scott Brown, a 29-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, presented a flag that was flown in battle in Iraq on November 7, 2011, to Stockton president Her-

man J. Saatkamp. Brown is the father of Kelsey Brown, a Stockton freshman center/forward from Washington Township, Gloucester County.

Fittingly, Brown scored a career-high 15 points with her father in attendance, yet the Ospreys suffered a 79-66 defeat in the contest.

Prior to tip-off, the Absecon VFW Memorial Post 9462 Color Guard performed the Presentation of Colors and the National Anthem was sung by Airman 1st Class Janelle Stokes of the 108th



Wing, New Jersey Air National Guard, based at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

All service members in uniform or with military ID were admitted to the game free of charge.

Association of NJ Chiropractors invite returning Iraq War veterans to seek free chiropractic care as part of its "Healing Hands 4 Heroes" program

BRANCBURG, N.J. -- After eight years of conflict, President Obama last month declared the United States war in Iraq over. As hundreds of U.S. military service members return to New Jersey, the Association of New Jersey Chiropractors (ANJC), which represents more than 1,900 chiropractors statewide, wants veterans to know they can receive free chiropractic care as part of the ANJC's "Healing Hands for Heroes" campaign. This program was launched last April in conjunction with Army OneSource, a U.S. Army Community outreach program and the Army Community Covenant.

Since April, ANJC participating member doctors have been treating returning veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars for free for a minimum of 60 days. Veterans are able to find a participating chiropractor in their area by visiting www.njchiropractors.com.

"This program has been greatly received by veterans throughout New Jersey," said Joseph D'Angiolillo, president of ANJC. "Many ANJC member doctors have signed on to participate in providing free care and we hope that returning New Jersey veterans from Iraq take advantage of our offer for free chiropractic services since we know that many are suffering from health problems that can be alleviated and treated by chiropractic care."

ANJC doctors that have participated in "Healing Hands for Heroes" have found the experience a rewarding one.

Sylvia Bidwell of Moorestown has treated several veterans from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

"This has been a rewarding experience for me," said Bidwell. "Veterans that I have treated have all suffered from lower back problems, as well as knee pain, headaches and cervical spine ailments. The carrying of heavy equipment played a large factor in causing these health problems."

"I am very happy that our profession is doing this," commented Steven Pollack, a doctor who has treated several veterans at his

Beachwood office. "I have treated about a half dozen veterans from the Lakehurst base and they pretty much have all suffered from a variety of musculoskeletal ailments, notably low back pain, as well as headaches. I look forward to continuing to provide these services to our veterans."

One young veteran that has benefitted from "Healing Hands for Heroes" is Marine Cpl. Sarang Ju. He was stationed in Iraq with his Marine unit in 2009 and 2010, helping to close down bases. He did a lot of physical work while wearing protective gear that weighed 30-40 pounds, which took a toll on his lower back. After returning home to North Jersey he suffered from severe discomfort, not being able to sit or drive for long periods of time or even bending down to put on his socks. His college insurance did not cover chiropractic but then he heard about "Healing Hands for Heroes" and he wound up becoming a patient of Michael Errichiello, a chiropractor based in Ridgely. The treatments he received alleviated the discomfort.

As Ju told a CBS news producer, during a Veteran's Day feature; "I feel good. I'm able to do everyday stuff without any pain. I actually haven't felt pain since doctor E fixed me up."

"These young men and women are heroes," said Errichiello. "They're risking their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan to save us and keep us free. It's important to give something back to them."

The ANJC is one of the largest associations of chiropractors in the nation, with 1900 members throughout the state. Their mission is to educate its members in the latest technology and advancements in the profession and to educate the public about the benefits of chiropractic care. ANJC strives to protect and promote its members, patients and the chiropractic profession by uniting essential resources throughout the state. For more information, please visit ANJC's public information website at www.njchiropractors.com or call their headquarters at 908-722-5678.

NEW JERSEY NATIONAL GUARDSMEN IN AFGHANISTAN



Photo left, Tech. Sgt. Lauren Humphrey, a weapons loader assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, sweeps snow away from an F-16C Fighting Falcon at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, Jan. 5.

Photo above, Air Force Staff Sgt. Matt Wolf, a crew chief with the 455th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, cleans snow off of an F-16C Fighting Falcon.

Photo below, Senior Airman Joseph Rice, also a crew chief with the 455th EAMS, operates a snowblower to clean snow away from an F-16C Fighting Falcon at Bagram Air field. All three Airmen are currently deployed from the 177th Fighter Wing, New Jersey Air National Guard, which is based at Atlantic City International Airport, N.J. (U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. Matthew Hecht, 455th AEW/PA)





The Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 119th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion became the first full unit to be reconstituted through the newly developed New Jersey National Guard Family Assistance Center in Bordentown, N.J. on Jan. 11. The 119th CSSB Soldiers returned home Jan. 3, from a year-long deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. (Photos by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA)



Child Care opportunities for New Jersey Guardsmen

PISCATAWAY, N.J. -- On Thursday, Jan. 19, a Resource Fair for New Jersey National Guard Child Youth Program will take place at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Care Center, located at 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway from 6 - 8:30 p.m. (Snow Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2012).

This is a partnership between Community Child Care Solutions (CCCS), 103 Center Street, Perth Amboy N.J., and the New Jersey National Guard Child and Youth Program, in which State Youth Coordinators Amanda Balas and Nicole Morgan-Lewis are actively working.

Nancy Lopez, child care specialist at CCCS, reached out to the National Guard in an effort to promote child care for military families in order to have child care for the children that the parent, or in some instances parents, will be leaving behind as they fulfill their military duties. This would include deployments, Annual Trainings, drill weekends and Yellow Ribbon events.

Lopez felt there was a need for a program that promoted the efforts of volunteers, child care providers, and accredited centers to come together and help out. Lopez inspiration came from her father. Her father, Efrain Lopez, was a WWII veteran, and had a great compassion for the care of all children. She recalls her father saying, "No child should ever suffer, because of their parent's situation."

Community Child Care Solutions has also partnered with New Jersey Family Child Care Providers Association (NJFC-CPA), in an effort to increase awareness of this military program.

Debra DePinho, vice president of NJFCCPA, runs a state registered family child care in Old Bridge and has attended every meeting since the inception of this idea. DePinho said, "family child care has a lot to offer military families." DePinho is also the daughter of a WWII deceased veteran, Benedetto N. Cardullo.

For more information, please contact Nancy Lopez at 732-324-4357 ext. 122 or via email at nlopez@communitychildcaresolutions.org.

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