

DMAVA Highlights

March 25, 2010 Volume 12 Number 10



177th families say their farewells to Airmen



Immunizations NCOIC Tech. Sgt. Kerwin K. Barden Jr., left, 177th Medical Group, spends a quiet moment with his wife and daughter before boarding an aircraft to Southwest Asia on March 22. More than 200 Airmen from the 177th Fighter Wing deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht, 177FW/PA.

Special appreciation for kids during April's "Month of the Military Child"

From the desk of Amanda Balas, State Youth Coordinator

Please take a moment to thank your National Guard child for all their hard work and sacrifice. As a token of my appreciation, I would like to honor your National Guard military child or children with a certificate of appreciation as well as some giveaways during the Month of the Military Child. At the request of the parent or guardian, I will mail a package addressed to the child during this special month. To request a package, send the following information:



1. Parent/guardian name:
2. Military member's unit:
3. Family e-mail address:
4. Child(ren) name(s):
5. Youth's birthdates:
6. Youth's home address:

Submit the information to amanda.balas@us.army.mil between March 29-April 28. Thank you.

Hear Joseph Galloway speak at AUSA Spring dinner

The special guest for the spring dinner meeting of the Association of the United States Army Northern New Jersey Chapter 1502 will be Joseph L. Galloway, bestselling co-author of "We are Soldiers Still, A Journey Back to the Battlefields of Vietnam."

The dinner will be held on April 6 at the Royal Albert's Palace Restaurant, Fords. Cocktail hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

Galloway and Lt. Gen. Harold Moore also co-authored the book "We Were Soldiers Once...And Young" which was made into the movie, "We Were Soldiers," starring Mel Gibson.

The latest book tells the story of Galloway and Moore's return to Vietnam's Ia Drang Valley. Renewing their relationships with 10

American veterans of the conflict, along with their former adversaries, Moore and Galloway explore how the war changed them all.

Galloway was decorated with a Bronze Star Medal with a "V" for valor on May 1, 1998, for rescuing wounded Soldiers under fire in the Ia Drang Valley in November 1995. His is the only Bronze Star Medal for Valor the U.S. Army awarded to a civilian for actions during the Vietnam War.

If interested in attending the dinner, contact retired Col. Richard F. Plechner at 732-549-1535. RSVP by April 2. Cost is \$40 per person.

Military invited on field for Mets opening day

The NY Mets would like to invite veterans from all branches of services and eras to participate on their opening day, April 5, 11 a.m. sharp.

If you are interested in coming to the ball park (Citi Field 123-01 Roosevelt Avenue, Flushing, NY 11368) and being on the field to be honored with other veterans, e-mail Tony at tntellas@wound-edwarriorproject.org with the following information: Name, e-mail, cell phone number, branch, date enlisted, Will you be in military uniform or veteran organization uniform (minimum is hat, jacket, etc.) and if you need a ticket for a guest.



Special note, the NY Mets will provide you with one additional free ticket for one guest. You will receive a total of two free tickets – one for you and one for your guest. Your guest will not be able to be on the field. Dress attire is military uniform or uniform of veteran organization to which you belong. Transportation will not be provided to or from the game.

Please note there is a limited amount of tickets.

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Photo information

If your armory needs photos for the Chain of Command "wall," contact Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison at barbara.harbison@njdmava.state.nj.us or call 609-530-7088. Tell us which photos you need and we will mail them to you or get them ready for pick-up.

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.

DMAVA Green

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

What are you doing Saturday evening? Why not spend an hour in the dark?

On Saturday, March 27, the World Wildlife Fund is sponsoring the third annual Earth Hour, asking everyone to turn off their lights for one hour at 8:30 p.m. local time in a global call for action on climate change.

Last year, according to the Web site, <https://www.myeearthhour.org/about>, nearly one billion people participated in Earth Hour; involving 4,100 cities in 87 countries on seven continents. Earth Hour 2009 had 80 million Americans and 318 U.S. cities officially voting for action by turning off their light switches.

Some of the landmarks around the world that participated were: Empire State Building, Las Vegas strip, United Nations headquarters, Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Great Pyramids of Giza, St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, the Eiffel Tower and Sydney's (Australia) Opera House.

Here is your opportunity to save some electricity, have some fun time with your family and show that you can live for an hour with your light switches in the off position. But what do you do for an hour in the dark?

For safety's sake, bring out the candles ahead of time so you aren't tripping over kids, the coffee table and the dog.

An evening of board games with the kids by candlelight will keep the family occupied. Make sure to prepare any snack foods ahead of time and an evening of Clue™, Sorry™ or checkers can keep everyone happy.

Go for a walk. Since the full moon is due March 30, the sky should have some natural light to it. Look for stars, constellations, and local night life. Make sure to wear light colored clothing or reflective strips for safety.

If you are alone, spend the hour meditating or praying. Find a comfortable spot and relax....

Who knows, you may find an hour fun and continue for two hours or make it a weekly or monthly event.

Keep Green!

Quotes

If Columbus had an advisory committee he would probably still be at the dock.

--Justice Arthur Goldberg

Those who are faithful know only the trivial side of love; it is the faithless who know love's tragedies.

--Oscar Wilde

A synonym is a word you use when you can't spell the other one.

--Baltasar Gracian

DMAVA Highlights is published weekly by the Public Affairs Office of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force, the National Guard, Veterans Affairs or the state of New Jersey. Letters may be sent to: NJDMAVA, DMAVA Highlights, Public Affairs Office, PO Box 340, Trenton NJ 08625-0340. E-mail at pao@njdmava.state.nj.us.

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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

Circus comes to Sea Girt

Clowns, trapeze artists, elephants and lots of fun – it's the circus.

The circus is coming to the National Guard Training Center, Sea Girt, on April 2. There are two shows, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. You can get two free children's tickets with one paying adult ticket. Call Marie Durling at 609-530-6884 if interested.



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: April 21, 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>.

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

Great Adventure - Hurricane Harbor discount tickets now available in Family Programs

Discounted tickets to Great Adventure and Hurricane Harbor are available at the State Family Programs Office now through April 30. The tickets are good any day from the day the park opens until the close of season. Call Marie Durling at 609-530-6884 if you want to purchase tickets. Cash only.



Great Adventure/Safari - \$21 – (Regular price \$ 64.19)

Hurricane Harbor - \$15 – (Regular price \$36.99)

Meal Voucher - \$10 – (Regular price \$15)

Parking - \$10 – (Regular price \$ 15)

Youth trip to Washington, DC planned for June 4-6

The NJNG Youth Programs will be taking up to 35 teens (ages 13-17) and 10 chaperones on a trip to Washington, DC, on June 4-6.

If you are interested in touring and enjoying the nation's capital, contact Amanda Balas at amanda.balas@us.army.mil or 609-530-6836.

There will be two pick up points in New Jersey before heading to Bolling Air Force Base, where the group will be staying. The agenda is not completely set, but on the possible list is visiting the National Mall area where the historical monuments and museums are located.



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.

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

Sports & More

State employees encouraged to get H1N1 flu shots; free clinic dates have changed

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services scheduled H1N1 flu vaccinations clinics for all state employees. The clinics are open to all state employees and are free of charge.

Employees need to make an appointment prior to the scheduled clinic day when they want to have their vaccination. Call the hotline at 1-866-321-9571 to make an appointment.

Location	City	Date
DMAVA HQ	Lawrenceville	March 29, 9 a.m.-noon
BPU Gateway Plaza	Newark	April 7, 9 a.m.-noon

For those employees unable to attend a clinic but interested in a H1N1 flu shot; use the department's "Find a Flu Shot" locator at www.nj.gov/health or call the hotline.

Help for LMS - computer based training - problems

If you are experiencing problems logging onto the Learning Management System (LMS) or completing the mandatory training "The New Jersey State Policy Prohibiting Discrimination in the Workplace," here are some possible solutions.

1. Cannot access program
 - a. Are you registered with MyNJ portal? If not, please register. Contact Paul Serdiuk, 609-530-6878, to learn how.
 - b. Did you receive your access code? Lost the access code? Started the program and could not re-use access code? Contact Paul Serdiuk for assistance in re-issuing you an access code
2. Completed program but did not register that I took the training? Contact Paul Serdiuk for the Power Point presentation to learn how to receive credit for the training and print a certification.
3. Completed the program but could not print the certificate. Contact Paul Serdiuk for Power Point presentation.
4. If the LMS program will not load onto the computer, contact your local helpdesk for support.
5. If an employee cannot complete the training due to technical difficulties, contact your local Training Coordinator for an alternate training program. There is a DMAVA awareness quiz based on LMS training program
6. If an employee has completed all LMS training, but cannot print a certificate, contact your local Training Coordinator for an alternate means to receive credit for the course. Administrative action to complete course based on DMAVA awareness quiz. Certificates may not be generated
7. Allow 2-3 weeks processing time for all alternate means to receive credit.

Raising funds for a Red Oak tree

Five years ago a memorial was dedicated on the DMAVA campus to honor the four New Jersey Army Guardsmen who gave their lives during two days in June 2004 during their deployment to Iraq. This year plans are underway to plant a red oak tree, the state tree of New Jersey, by the memorial.

If you would like to make a donation to help purchase the tree, please send your checks, made payable to, "Family Readiness Council," to: Brig. Gen. (ret.) Frank R. Carlini
PO Box 340
Trenton NJ 08625-0340

Joint Base MDL celebrates Earth Day three times

Join the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst for Earth Day 2010 celebrations.

On April 15, in building 123 in the Lakehurst area, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., there will be a tree ceremony, children's project, clean-up, fun run and walk and picnic. For more information, e-mail Michael.kon@McGuire.af.mil

On April 21, drop by the Recycling Center, Radin Avenue, McGuire area, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., for demonstrations, tree planting, picnic and green living information. E-mail Gloria.abarca@McGuire.af.mil for more information.

The Fort Dix area will hold their event on April 24 at Laurel Pond, 10th Avenue, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event is open to the public and you must pre-register through e-mail to Jennifer.armiento@McGuire.af.mil by April 14. Events include canoeing, hiking, tree climbing, puppet show, demonstrations, Planet Pirates, sawmill demo, watershed models, lyme disease prevention, tour a hybrid car, Woodsy Owl and a picnic.

You can recycle old cell phones at all three events to support the Cell Phones for Soldiers program.

Tickets available for National Guard Day at Hershey Park

It's Hershey Park Day again for the National Guard! If you would like to take your family for the day, April 18, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., the cost is \$22 per person. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/hershey-national-guard-tickets>. The pass code is 29837. If you have any issues with the link, e-mail kmmameval@hersheypa.com.

Veterans & Military

Riversharks vs. military All-Stars in Camden April 18

Come to Campbell's Field in Camden on April 18 at 1:05 p.m., to see the Camden Riversharks take on the Heroes of the Diamond – the military All-Star baseball team.

All military, veterans and season ticket holders will receive free admission. Tickets for the public are \$5.

You can meet the teams at the Fox and Hound in the Philadelphia at 6 p.m., prior to the game.

Check out www.riversharks.com or call 1-866-SHARKS-9 for more information.



Dinosaurs ready for Spring Gathering in Bordentown

Calling all Dinosaurs – that's New Jersey Air Guard retirees – the Spring 2010 Gathering at the Town and Country Diner, Bordentown, on May 19 at 1 p.m.

The menu will be salad, main course, coffee/tea and a dessert for \$15 including tip and tax; alcoholic beverages are extra. If you RSVP, you are obligated to pay since the group is charged for the number of lunches ordered. RSVP to Mel Sylvester at 609-298-5970 or NuffSaidMel@aol.com by May 14.

All soon-to-be-retired Air and Army Guard employees and Army and Air Guard retirees are invited to the gathering.

Get ready to sign up for Army Ten Miler; opens April 1

Now is the time to lace up those running shoes and start practicing for the 26th annual Army Ten-Miler. The race, which will take place on Oct. 24, 2010, opens registration on April 1. The 2009 race sold out in six days, so if you want to participate, the organizers encourage you to register early. Drop by www.armytenmiler.com for information, registration and more.

If you have an artistic streak, the race has a T-shirt design contest with a \$4,300 prize package. Great prizes and the opportunity to see your art emblazoned across the chests of thousands of runners.

Proceeds from the Army Ten-Miler go to support Army Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

It is a great opportunity to see 30,000 people line up and run through the streets of our nation's capital.

If you have any questions about joining a New Jersey team, or about running the Army Ten, contact Master Sgt. Gary Davidson at gary.m.davidson@us.army.mil.

Additional phases identified for Iraq Campaign Medal

The Department of Defense announced today that additional campaign stars are authorized for wear on the Iraq Campaign Medal (ICM).

The campaign stars recognize a service member's participation in DoD designated campaigns in Iraq.

Service members who have qualified for the ICM may display a bronze campaign star on their medal for each designated campaign phase in which they participated. The stars will be worn on the suspension and campaign ribbon of the campaign medal.

The additional campaign phases and associated dates established for the ICM are:

- Iraqi Surge – Jan. 10, 2007 to Dec. 31, 2008.
- Iraqi Sovereignty – Jan. 1, 2009 through a date to be determined.

Four other phases, previously identified, include:

- Liberation of Iraq – March 19, 2003 to May 1, 2003.
- Transition of Iraq – May 2, 2003 to June 28, 2004.
- Iraqi Governance – June 29, 2004 to Dec. 15, 2005.

The "National Resolution" phase, which began Dec. 16, 2005, has been determined to end Jan. 9, 2007.

Service members should contact their respective military departments for specific implementation guidance.

Job fairs in Newark, Parsippany

Veterans, active duty personnel and their families are invited to the Newark Veterans Job Fair hosted by the G.I. Go Fund and the City of Newark on March 29, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The fair will be held in the Essex Room, Paul Robeson Campus Center, Rutgers University, located at 350 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd., Newark. There is no cost for this event.

If you are a veteran and would like to attend this event, you are encouraged (but not required) to register online at <http://www.gigofund.org/veteransjobfairvets.html>

By registering, it ensures that you are notified for all future job fairs and events.

Bring lots of resumes.

For more information, call 973-802-1479 or e-mail manias@ci.newark.nj.us.

Check out the job fair being held by the Parsippany Area Chamber of

Commerce on April 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Meadow Wood Manor, 461 Route 10 East, Randolph, N.J.

The schedule includes open networking with employers in the main ball room for the entire four hours. There are four sessions in other areas to assist job searchers.

One on one resume reviews, 10-10:50 a.m. and noon-12:50 p.m.

Career coaching session, 11-11:55 a.m. and 1-1:55 p.m.

There is no cost for the event. To register to attend or for more information, visit www.employmentoutreach.org.

Calendar

Rod and Gun Club invites all to have a wild night

The Picatinny Rod and Gun Association invited one and all to their Annual Game Dinner on April 17 at 6 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person. To reserve your place, call the ITR office at 973-724-4014/4186 no later than April 2. Payment can be made with Visa, MasterCard, cash or check.

What's for dinner? Appetizers are Venison meat balls in currant/Dijon sauce, corned Canada goose Reubens, gray squirrel quesadillas, raccoon empanadas, cheeses/crackers and veggies/dip. The main course is mixed greens salad, venison vegetable soup, venison chili, pheasant a-la-shrooms, pheasant and broccoli over white rice, pheasant jambalaya, venison shepherd's pie, venison Stroganoff over egg noodles, venison Bourguignon, venison Milanese, leg of venison with horseradish sauce, venison meatloaf, baked trout, loin of tame boar, beaver barbeque, roast chicken rosemary, mixed veggies, garlic mashed potatoes, apple sauce and dessert. Beer, wine, soda and coffee are included.

Come have a wild night with us!

102d Regiment reunion being held March 27 in West Orange

The 102d Regimental Reunion, sponsored by The Essex Troop, has been rescheduled for March 27 at 2 p.m. at the West Orange armory. It is open to current and former members of the 1st or 2nd squadron, 102d Cavalry, 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 5th Tank Battalion or the 5-177th Cavalry.

Food and refreshments will be served compliments of the Essex Troop Association. Attendees are asked to bring along their memorabilia – pictures, dog tags, P38, etc – and meet with old friends to have a great afternoon of camaraderie and stories.

Call The Essex Troop office at 973-736-0952 to RSVP, or e-mail etroop@verizon.net.

Guard families holding Band of Brothers Memorial Poker Run

The families of the four New Jersey Army National Guard Soldiers who were killed in Iraq in June 2004 are honoring the memory of their fallen heroes with the Band of Brothers Memorial Poker Run which will be held on June 6, 2010.

The families are asking for their friends' and communities help and support with the event. All donations – monetary or otherwise – will be greatly appreciated and acknowledged on the day of the event. All donations are tax deductible. Individuals or organizations donating \$1,000 or more will have their names listed on the Run T-shirt.

All profits will be divided among the Friends of Frank Carvill Foundation, the SGT Ryan E. Doltz Memorial Foundation and the Duffy and Timoteo families.

For more information visit www.RememberingRyan.org.

Dash on down to the Nutter Run in Sea Girt, May 22

Get those running shoes ready for the sixth annual SGT Nutter Run on May 22. The 5K run will be held at the National Guard Training Center, Sea Girt. Sign in is 8-9:30 a.m., race start is 10 a.m.

Cost to run is \$10 if enrolled in JROTC, \$15 if postmarked before May 1 and \$20 on the day of the event. Profits from the run go to benefits the lives of National Guard families in need. This year the benefits will go the Stadelman twins – children of 2nd Lt. John Stadelman, a New Jersey Army Guardsman who passed away on July 9, 2009.

For more information about the prizes, donations to be raffled, applications to participate in the run and more, visit www.Nutter-Run.org.

Travel show, book fair being held at Picatinny March 26

Mark Your Calendars! The date is March 26. Join us at the Picatinny Arsenal Cannon Gate Conference Center, Bldg 121, for our Spring Travel Show and Book Fair. Hours are from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Visit with travel vendors from the tri-state area and gather information for your summer leisure travel. Some of the vendors attending are: Six Flags Great Adventure, Sight and Sound Theatres, Morey's Piers, Hilton Garden Inn and Greene County, N.Y. Lots and lots of free door prize drawings! Also, browse the Book Fair and find some great bargains for your reading pleasure. Any questions? Call Linda or Karen at 973-724-4014. Free admission!

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.

April 6*, 7, 8 Paramus Park Mall

*Medal ceremony at 10:30 a.m.

Deadline

Want to place an event or article in DMAVA Highlights?

Deadline for articles is noon Wednesday.

Send submissions to barbara.harbison@njdmava.state.nj.us.