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## DMAVA Highlights Archives

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 NJ Dept of Military and  
 Veterans Affairs

BG Glenn K. Rieth

The Adjutant General

COL Maria F. Morgan

Deputy Adjutant General

COL Emil H. Philibosian

 Deputy Commissioner for Veterans  
 Affairs

Contacting us is easy!

Office of the

Joint Chief of Staff

Col (Ret) Michael B. Smith

Mrs. Laura A. Branham

Phone:

(609) 530-6987

Fax:

(609) 530-7109

Email:

[branham@njdmava.state.nj.us](mailto:branham@njdmava.state.nj.us)

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[www.state.nj.us/military](http://www.state.nj.us/military)

### Summer officially begins this weekend-21 June 2003.

Summer arrives Saturday at 3:10 p.m. with the summer solstice. *Solstice* is derived from two Latin words: "sol" meaning sun, and "sistere," to cause to stand still. This is because, as the summer solstice approaches, the noonday sun rises higher and higher in the sky on each successive day. On the day of the solstice, it rises an imperceptible amount, compared to the day before. In this sense, it "*stands still*."

### Veterans Service Officers continue to spread the word.

DMVA's Veterans Service Officers continue to inform the state's citizens about Veterans Benefits. J. R. Avanti, Veteran Service Officer in Atlantic City, has recently made presentations to the Great Bay Rotary Club and groups of Atlantic County seniors. Likewise, Don McNamara, Monmouth County Veterans Service Officer, has gone out and visited the Jewish War Veterans in his area. Thanks to these Veterans Service Officers for diligently working to inform our citizens of the benefits to which they may be entitled.

### Patriotic concert planned to Honor Our Heroes.

The Salvation Army Band in Asbury Park has planned a Concert of Sacred and Patriotic Music to be presented at the Ocean Grove Boardwalk Pavilion on Sunday, 29 June, at 3:00 p.m. This concert is part of the *Honor Our Heroes* celebration, an event planned to recognize and thank local military personnel, law enforcement officers, firefighters, first aid/rescue squads, public servants, and personal heroes for their courage, character, sacrifice, and service to our communities.

### Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Mercer County Mentoring Program.

DMVA will host an orientation to the *Big Brothers* and *Big Sisters* Mercer County Mentoring Program on Thursday, 26 June 2003, at 10 a.m., in Classrooms 1 and 2 of the Lawrenceville Armory. A representative from *Big Brothers* and *Big Sisters* will be discussing various facets of the program, including how you can become a mentor, and what to expect in terms of challenges and fulfillment from the program. The program assists students in the Trenton public school system in need of schoolwork assistance. Employees who volunteer will spend one hour a week with a student at the student's school. The Mentoring Program is an opportunity for those of you in our department who would like to help a young student, but have had difficulty finding the time to do so. Volunteers for this very important program will be screened, trained, and matched with a student by staff from the *Big Brothers* and *Big Sisters* organization. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Serdiuk, Human Resources Division at 609-530-6878.

**"A perfect summer  
 day is when.**

**the sun is**

**shining,**

**the breeze is  
 blowing,**

**the birds are  
 singing,**

and the lawn mower  
is  
broken."

.James Dent, Author

### Armory Happenings - Check to see what's happening at an Armory near you.

20-22 June	Sports Card and Memorabilia Show	Woodbridge Armory
22 June	Emcee Sports Card and Comics Show	Bordentown Armory
28 June	Bead Show	Cherry Hill Armory
28-29 June	Basketball Tournament	Jersey City Armory
5 July	Tool Show and Sale	Washington Armory
12 July	Flea Market	Teaneck Armory
18 July	Tool Show and Sale	Dover Armory
19 July	Tool Show and Sale	Riverdale Armory
30 June - 5 July	Carnival	Lawrenceville Armory

### The Irish tall ship, *Jeanie Johnston*, will visit New Jersey.

On June 24-25, 2003 the *Jeanie Johnston*, a tall ship from Ireland, will visit New Jersey. Come visit the ship, a replica of a "famine ship" at the Burlington City Riverfront Promenade. It will be open daily from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. For further information, call (609) 587-6854 or visit the website at [www.trentonaoh.com](http://www.trentonaoh.com).

### Vietnam, Distinguished and Meritorious Service Medal Presentation Ceremonies are scheduled.

25 June 11 a.m.	Vietnam Service Medal	Cherry Hill Armory Grove St. & Park Blvd, Cherry Hill, NJ
9 July 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.	Distinguished Service & Meritorious Service Medals	Millville Elks Lodge 1815 E. Broad St., Millville, NJ
15 July	Vietnam Service Medal	Morristown Armory 430 Jockey Hollow Rd., Morristown, NJ
23 July	Vietnam Service Medal	Athenia Veterans Post Clifton, NJ

### The Newark Museum announces the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Newark Black Film Festival.

The Newark Black Film Festival will be held from June 25 to July 30, 2003. This is your opportunity to experience the independent, black film movement. This year's festival will return to its roots with screenings of works by new and aspiring independent filmmakers. All screenings are FREE to the public, and seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Once the theater is filled to capacity, additional seating will not be provided. Group seating is limited to two groups of 25 for each screening. To reserve group seating, call 973-596-6550. Group seating will be held only until 6:45 p.m. For more information call 973-596-6550 or visit [www.newarkmuseum.org/nbff](http://www.newarkmuseum.org/nbff).

### NJ Vietnam Veterans' Memorial and Vietnam Era Education Center Announces its Calendar of Events for the summer.

21 June	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Restored Military Vehicle Display - presented by the Military Transport Association of NJ (MTA) and the South Jersey Chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA). Visit their websites at <a href="http://www.mtaofnj.org/">http://www.mtaofnj.org/</a> and <a href="http://hometown.aol.com/sjmvpa/SJMVPA.html">http://hometown.aol.com/sjmvpa/SJMVPA.html</a> . Raindate for the display is Saturday 28 June 2003.
27 July	9 a.m.	5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Classic Car and Motorcycle Show Rain Date: Sunday, 10 August 2003
8 Sep	9 a.m.	Golf Outing Olde York Country Club
19 Sep	11 a.m.	POW/MIA GSM Recognition Day Ceremony
21 Sep	11 a.m.	Rolling Thunder POW/MIA Awareness Motorcycle Run

For more information about any of these events, please call the NJ Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation office at (732) 335-0033.

## A Taste of Summer -

Summer means a whole new season of foods. So, enjoy these interesting facts about some favorite American summer foods.

- **Corn on the cob:** Did you know that corn is the largest crop in the United States? The origin of cultivated corn is unknown, however.
- **Watermelons:** Watermelons originally came from the Kalahari Desert region in Africa, which is interesting because the average watermelon is 92 percent water.
- **Peaches:** During the mid-1980s, world peach production totaled 5.5 million metric tons per year. The United States and Italy are the highest peach-producing countries.
- **Strawberries:** The strawberry is actually a member of the rose family. Each strawberry contains approximately 200 seeds.
- **Ice Cream:** One of the world's most popular desserts, ice cream was most likely first created in China, around 2000 BC.
- **Potato Salad:** What's a cookout without potato salad? Americans sure must eat a lot of it: The U.S. potato harvest in 1999 yielded 21.7 million metric tons of potatoes.
- **Barbecue:** The word barbecue comes from the Arawak Indian word *barbakoa*, meaning "frame of sticks."

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## Interesting but useless facts.

- ☺ A pigeon's feathers are heavier than its bones.
- ☺ Pigs get sunburn.
- ☺ Strawberries contain more Vitamin C than oranges.
- ☺ A one-day weather forecast requires 10,000 mathematical calculations.
- ☺ The first (or only) full moon in June is called the Honey Moon. Tradition holds that this is the best time to harvest honey from the hives.
- ☺ Swimming pools in the U.S. contain enough water to cover San Francisco.

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Department of Military & Veterans Affairs  
P.O. Box 340  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0340  
Phone: 609-530-4600

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