



The State of New Jersey
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Governor Phil Murphy Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver

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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

Brig Gen Maria Falca-Dodson
Deputy Adjutant General

Contacting us is easy!
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We're on the Web!
www.state.nj.us/military

Homeland Security Alert - Employees should remain vigilant.

Due to the recent elevation in the Terrorism Threat Level to Code Orange in Newark, Washington, and New York City, employees are reminded to be vigilant in receiving and opening letters and packages. The following information is, once again, being provided for your information and protection in the event a suspicious letter or package is delivered or opened in your workplace. Steps to follow if a letter or package looks suspicious:

- * Do not shake or empty the contents of the envelope or package.
- * Put the envelope or package in a plastic bag or other container to prevent leakage of the contents. If a bag or container is not available, cover the envelope or package with anything (clothing, paper, trash can, etc.). Do not remove the covering.
- * Leave the room and close the door or section off the area. Ask co-workers and others to leave and keep others from entering.
- * Wash your hands with soap and water.
- * Do not bring the envelope or package to an emergency department or doctor's office. Report the incident to local police or other law enforcement officials. If the incident occurs in the workplace, also notify building security or a supervisor.
- * Make a list of all people in the room or area when the letter or package was recognized.
- * Provide the list to law enforcement and public health officials.
- * Await further instructions from responding HAZMAT teams.

Steps to follow if powder or another substance from a suspicious envelope or package has spilled out:

- * Do not try to clean up the spilled contents.
- * Cover the spilled contents immediately with anything (clothing, paper, trash can, etc.). Do not remove the covering.

Thought for the day

"The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered, but to have fought well."

...Olympic Motto,
Pierre de Coubertin

Family Appreciation Day -

The Adjutant General, BG Glenn K. Rieth, invites you and your immediate family to Family Appreciation Day on 21 August 2004 (Rain Date: 22 August) at the National Guard Training Center located on the Atlantic Ocean at Sea Girt, NJ. This day is being set aside to thank the families of all our Airmen and Soldiers and DMVA employees. The fun begins at 10 a.m. and the day's activities will feature amusement rides, games, pony rides, clowns, etc. for the kids, and live performances of Doo Wop, Blues, Jazz, Rap, Big Band, Country, and Spanish music for everyone to enjoy. There will be appearances by Miss America, a USO troupe, WWE wrestlers, and the New Jersey National Guard's very own 63rd Army Band.

With games, great food, and an evening of fireworks planned, you won't want to miss the fun! So come one and come all and join us for a great day in the sun!

New Jersey Freedom Loans

What is a Freedom Loan?

- * Up to \$10,000
- * Annual APR 6%
- * Term: 5 years (no pre-payment penalty)
- * Unsecured Loan (no collateral required)

Who is eligible to apply?

NJ residents who are:

- * Members of the National Guard or Reserve
- * Mobilized for one year or longer to fight in the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) – excluding routine training.

Or

- * Served 90 or more consecutive days in the GWOT on federal or state active duty (excluding routing training) and have received orders extending cumulative active duty a year or longer.

How do I apply?

- * Contact participating banks. Call or visit your local branch office to obtain an application.
- * Guardmembers, Reservists, or family members

DMVA's Veterans Service Officers (VSO) continue to do an outstanding job on behalf of our veterans.

Throughout the state, DMVA's VSOs are continually assisting veterans to obtain the benefits that have earned by their service to our country. Mr. Dave Martin, Mercer County VSO, recently obtained lump sum payments for two area veterans. In one case, a veteran was awarded a \$32,000 lump sum payment dating back to 1992 for 12 years of a misassigned disability rating. In another case, a \$12,000 lump sum payment was awarded for 8 years of benefits, dating back to 1996. Mr. Robert Maulano and Luz Isip, VSOs at the Hackensack office, have been recognized by the Bergen County community for their outstanding performance on behalf of that county's veteran population.

Listed below are VSO statistics for the month of July:

- * 3,500 Veterans seen in our offices.
 - * Over 540 claims handled.
 - * Over \$5,800,000 in compensation awards obtained for NJ's veterans.
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New Jersey National Guard magazine, "Guardlife," Vol. 30, No. 2, is now available on the World Wide Web.

Guardlife magazine is available on the world wide web in a user-friendly, on-line version at: <http://www.nj.gov/military/publications/guardlife/volume30no2/>.

The "Hometown Team" magazine provides up-to-date information on the happenings within the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard. For all the current news on our soldiers and airmen, take a look at the new issue today. To view past issues of Guardlife magazine on-line you can visit <http://www.nj.gov/military/publications/> on the DMVA Publications homepage.

New Jersey Veterans Journal (Summer 2004) - now available on World Wide Web.

The New Jersey Veterans Journal Summer 2004 edition is now available on the world wide web in a user-friendly, on-line version at the following web address: <http://www.nj.gov/military/veterans/journal/summer2004/index.html>. The Veterans Journal is intended to serve New Jersey's veterans, their families, friends, and concerned individuals and groups. The journal provides up-to-date information on veterans' events, news, entitlements, and services. Take a look at the new edition today.

J-3 Training Shop is attending the Army Training Reservation Resource System (ATRRS) Symposium this week.

Representatives from the J-3 Training Shop are in Reno, Nevada this week attending the ATRRS Symposium. Also attending are the 254th Regiment, Regional Training Site Maintenance, and representatives from the Major Subordinate Commands (MSCs) in New Jersey. Next week the J-3 Training shop and the MSCs will attend the Joint Exercise Scheduling (JOES) conference, which discusses and schedules Overseas Training opportunities throughout the world. Units that have supported such missions in the past include Troop Command, 250th Forward Support Battalion, 50th Main Support Battalion, and other New Jersey units. This conference will look as far out as TY '08 for such opportunities for the States.

with Power of Attorney must submit copies of current mobilization orders with the bank's Freedom Loan application.

Current participants:

Commerce Bank
1-888-751-9000

Credit Union of NJ
609-538-4061, ext. 401

First Morris Bank & Trust
1-888-530-2265

Fleet
1-800-841-4000

Manasquan Savings Bank
732-223-4450

North Jersey Federal Credit Union
1-888-78NJFCU

Peapack-Gladstone Bank
(908) 719-BANK

Pennsville National Bank
856-678-6006

PNC
1-866-PNC-4USA

Sovereign Bank
1-877-391-6365

Sun National Bank
1-800-691-7701

Armory Happenings...

Check and see what's happening at an Armory near you.

14 Aug	Flea Market	Teaneck Armory
22 Aug	Sports Card & Comic Collectibles	Bordentown Armory
4 Sep	Flea Market	Teaneck Armory
26 Sep	Sports Card & Comic Collectibles	Bordentown Armory
30 Oct	Flea Market	Teaneck Armory

USO Gala - September 18, 2004 -

The USO of Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey (Liberty USO) will hold their annual gala on Saturday evening, September 18, at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel. This year's gala promises to be impressive. The distinguished Liberty Award will be presented to Honorable James Saxton, 3d District-NJ, who has been an effective supporter of our Armed Forces. Miss Shandi Finnessey, Miss USA 2004, will also join us for the evening. For more information on tickets for this event, visit website: <http://www.libertyuso.org/html/galasup.html>.

Veterans to be honored at upcoming Medal Ceremonies.

The following ceremonies have been scheduled to honor our State's veterans.

18 Aug, 11 a.m.	Korean War Commemorative Medal	Sears Court Echelon Mall, Voorhees, NJ
15 Sep, 11 a.m.	Distinguished Service & Meritorious Service Medal	Post 69 Middlesex County
30 Sep, 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.	Distinguished, Meritorious & Korean Service Medals	Westfield Armory Union, NJ

Armed Forces Voters Week - 3-11 September 2004.

The November 2004 General Election is almost upon us, registration deadlines are even closer, and time is running out for citizens who want to participate in the elections this year. That is why the Secretary of Defense has decreed the week of 3-11 September 2004 as Armed Forces Voters' Week. The purpose of this event is to encourage all citizens voting under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, who have not registered to vote or requested an absentee ballot this year, to do so as soon as possible.

Ten Things to Help Ensure Your Absentee Vote is Counted.

1. Start by contacting your Unit/Embassy/Organization Voting Assistance Officer for help in absentee registration and voting.
2. Visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program's website at www.fvap.gov for information on the absentee registration and voting process.
3. Ensure that you have applied for your absentee ballot using the hard copy or on-line versions of the Federal Postcard Application (FPCA).
4. Make sure your local election official has your current mailing address.
5. Sign and date all election materials.
6. Fulfill your state's witness/notary requirements (if required).

7. Ensure that your ballot or FPCA is postmarked.
8. Register to vote and request your ballot in a timely manner - not later than September.
9. VOTE - mail your ballot not later than October 15, 2004.
10. Use the Federal Write In Absentee Ballot if you are overseas and your State absentee ballot does not arrive in time to be mailed back by the state's deadline.

NJ Vietnam Veterans' Memorial and Vietnam Era Education Center's upcoming event schedule.

On Saturday, 14 August, at 1 p.m. the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation will host a slide show and lecture by Vietnam Veteran Stanton Pratt entitled, "Capturing the War: An Army Combat Photographer in Vietnam," at the Vietnam Era Educational Center in Holmdel. Stanton Pratt, of Honesdale, PA, was a combat photographer assigned to the U.S. Army's 593rd Signal Photo Company, 2nd Signal Group in South Vietnam from June of 1965 until June of 1966. He will talk about his experience as a combat photographer while showing slides of his photography. Pratt covered the war from the Mekong Delta in the south to the ancient city of Hue in the north. He took the official portraits of nearly every Army general in Vietnam at that time. Lecture attendees are asked to RSVP to (832) 335-0033. A donation of \$5 per person is suggested.

14 Aug - 1 p.m.

"Capturing the War: An Army Combat Photographer in Vietnam"

17 Sep - 11 a.m.

National POW Recognition Day/Gold Star Mothers Day

18 Sep - 1 p.m.

"Leave No Man Behind" (re: POW/MIAs) by George J. Veith

11 Nov - 11 a.m.

Veterans Day Program

The Vietnam Era Educational Center is located adjacent to the NJ Vietnam Veterans' Memorial off the Garden State Parkway at Exit 116.

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

101 Critical Days of Summer – Watch out for those animals!

Deer, cows, and even squirrels are to blame for more than 26,000 injuries along the nation's roads each year, the Government said last week. It is the first time that the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has ever examined how many people suffer non-fatal injuries in car accidents involving animals. In half of the animal-related accidents surveyed, motorists were injured by hitting the animal, while the other half were hurt by swerving to avoid hitting the animals. Each year about 200 people die in animal-related crashes out of the nearly 44,000 traffic fatalities nationwide. There were 247,000 crashes involving animals in 2000, the latest federal highway data available. Animal-related accidents typically happen on rural roads or highways. Although nearly nine out of 10 such accidents involve deer, the CDC's crash study also found cows, squirrels, bears, dogs, and raccoons have also caused numerous accidents. Be careful and watch out for wildlife!

Olympic Facts -

* The first Modern Olympic games were held in 1896. Only 13 nations took part, and just over 300 athletes, more than 2/3 were Greek

- * More athletes than spectators attended the 1900 Paris games.
- * The 1904 St Louis games were anything but international. 85% of the competitors were American, 8% Canadian, one competitor from Australia and no British at all.
- * Jim Thorpe was the star of the 1912 Stockholm Games. He won both the decathlon and pentathlon.
- * The Olympic flame, burning from the start of the games to the closing ceremony was introduced at the 1928 Amsterdam games.
- * Americans, Jesse Owens and Mildred "Babe" Didriksen starred in the 1932 Los Angeles games.
- * 1936 Berlin Games were the first games to be televised.
- * 1940 Olympic Games, which were to be held in Tokyo, were cancelled due to the start of World War II.
- * The Soviet Union first entered the Olympics at the 1952 Helsinki Games.
- * 1956 Melbourne Games were the first held in the southern hemisphere.
- * The first Latin American host for the Olympic games was Mexico City in 1968.
- * Mark Spitz won seven gold medals and set seven world records in swimming at the 1972 Munich games.
- * Romanian gymnast, Nadia Comaneci, achieved the first perfect score of 10 at the 1976 Montreal games.
- * Communist China entered the Olympics at the 1984 Los Angeles games.

Today in History...

Today is Friday, August 13th. It is the 226th day of the year, with 141 days remaining.

- s 1784 - The United States Legislature met for the final time in Annapolis, MD.
- s 1889 - A patent for a coin-operated telephone was issued to William Gray.
- s 1907 - The first taxicab started on the streets of New York City.
- s 1931 - The first community hospital in the U.S. was dedicated in Elk City, OK.
- s 1959 - In New York, ground was broken on the \$320 million Verrazano Narrows Bridge.
- s 1961 - Berlin was divided by a barbed wire fence to halt the flight of refugees. Two days later, work on the Berlin Wall began.

Call today and volunteer to help at a Family Readiness Center near you.

As the New Jersey National Guard deploys soldiers and airmen around the globe, the families that are left behind need our support and assistance. Can we count on your help? Please call your local Family Readiness center and volunteer.



To reach any NJ National Guard Family Assistance Center

Call toll free 888-859-0352

Links

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