



# DMAVA HIGHLIGHTS



MAY 3, 2012

## Civil Engineers prepare for Prime BEEF

**Photos and story by Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez, 108WG/PA**

Where can you find Prime BEEF... Not the type that you eat, but Airmen assigned to Prime Base Emergency Engineer Force?

Training at the 201st Red Horse Squadron Regional Training Center at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa., is where the 108th Civil Engineers Squadron could be found April 20-22.

As a Prime BEEF unit, the 108th CE Airmen would deploy to a war zone with tools to complete special projects of hardening airfields and critical base facilities. These include making repairs on existing systems, and updating/modernizing utilities; preparing new areas for "tent cities" for initial bed-down of arriving troops in country, and building bunkers for personnel protection.

So as an upcoming deployment seems imminent for these Airmen, maintaining their skills to complete all of these



**Airmen from the 108th Civil Engineer Squadron, New Jersey National Guard, make repairs to a concrete area simulating an airfield flight line during their predeployment exercise at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa., April 21. Photo below, tool bag used by the electrical systems personnel to perform their job.**



objectives is critical.

"At home base we can't train for contingency response," said Lt. Col. Paul Novello, 108th CES commander. "But here we have all the tools for our war objectives."

Within the training complex, the Airmen were able to work on installing emergency airfield lighting systems (EALS), constructing large base shelters, repairing airfields, water purification, heating ventilation air conditioner maintenance and repairs, and other tasks associated with a deployment to a war zone.

Novello said that using the actual equipment that is part of the contingency environment helps his CEs get first-hand experience.

And taking advantage of the tools around him was Senior Airman Bryant Ubando. The Dover resident was among the group of electrical systems personnel working on EALS and then climbing utility poles during the three-day deployment readiness exercise.

Ubando had previously deployed to the Middle East in 2010 and was eager for the upcoming deployment.



SENATOR JIM BEACH  
 MAJORITY LEADER LOU GREENWALD AND  
 ASSEMBLYWOMAN PAM LAMPITT  
 INVITE YOU TO

## SIXTH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT **JOB AND RESOURCE FAIR**

- This job fair is FREE and open to the community
- Candidates of all ages, experience levels and industries are encouraged to attend
- Companies will be looking to fill full time and part time positions
- Please come prepared with resumes and dress professionally
- Seek information on helpful state services for unemployed individuals

WEDNESDAY  
 MAY 16, 2012  
 11:00AM TO 3:00PM

CHERRY HILL NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY  
 2001 PARK BLVD.  
 CHERRY HILL, NJ 08002

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO  
 REGISTER, PLEASE CALL 856-435-1247

### NJ VIETNAM VETERANS REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

May 7

@

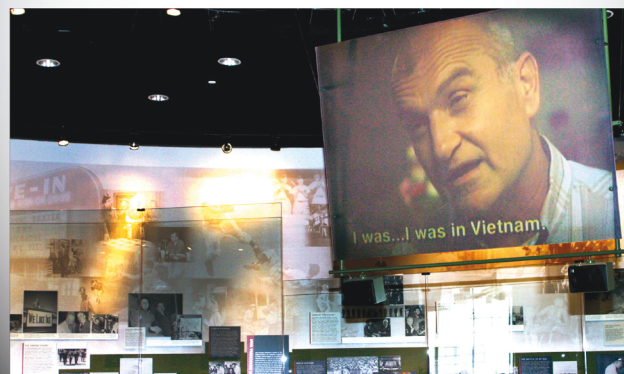


NEW JERSEY  
 VIETNAM VETERANS' MEMORIAL  
 VIETNAM ERA MUSEUM  
 & EDUCATIONAL CENTER



@ 11 a.m.

A Medal Ceremony Hosted by the New Jersey Department  
 of  
 Military and Veterans Affairs Will be Included in this Ceremony



DMAVA Will have an Outreach Table with Veteran Service Officers present before and after the ceremony

## BATTLESHIP New Jersey

MAY 21, 2012

DMAVA MEDAL CEREMONY ONLY AT 11 AM  
 Ceremony will be held on ship (front or "aft" area)  
 62 Battleship Place, Camden, NJ, 08103  
 (Camden County)

## Sen. Lautenberg's Veterans Fair

The office of Sen. Frank Lautenberg invites you to their Northern New Jersey Regional Vets Service Fair at the Culinary Institute Building at Hudson County Community College, Friday May 11, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

This event will serve as an opportunity for veterans, active service members, and their families to learn about what resources are available to them at the local, state, and federal levels.

HCCC is located at 121 Newkirk Ave in Jersey City.

For questions or to RSVP for this event, please contact Maggie Dewane at 973-639-8700 or via email at [maggie.dewane@lautenberg.senate.gov](mailto:maggie.dewane@lautenberg.senate.gov), or view the below brochure for more information.



**Date**  
Friday, May 11, 2012

**Time**  
10:00AM – 12:00PM

**Location**  
Hudson County  
Community College,  
Culinary Arts Institute  
161 Newkirk St.  
Jersey City, NJ 07306



## Veterans Service Fair

HOSTED BY  
THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR  
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

*Representatives from the federal and local levels will be available to assist our veterans.*

Speak directly with staff regarding pensions, disability claims, educational assistance, healthcare, and much more.

Includes representatives from:  
**United States Department of Veterans Affairs:**  
 -Newark VA Regional Office  
 -East Orange VA Medical Facility  
 -Lyons VA Medical Facility  
**New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**  
 New Jersey Veterans Benefits Bureau  
 Employer Support for Guard and Reserve  
 Regional Vet Centers  
 Veterans Business Development Office

As well as:  
 Other veteran and community organizations providing housing and financial assistance.

For additional information, and to RSVP please contact:  
 Senator Lautenberg's Newark Office at (973) 639-8700

This event is FREE and open to the public

# Veterans Job Fair



## Battleship New Jersey

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Open to Veterans of All Branches of Service**

**Friday, May 18, 2012**  
 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Battleship New Jersey**  
 Camden Waterfront  
 100 Clinton St.  
 Camden, NJ 08103

**Free Parking** at Parking Lot 2 on South Delaware Ave.  
 across from Susquehanna Bank Center

For details and directions see online at registration at  
<https://lwd.state.nj.us/formsapp/form/94>



Chris Christie  
Governor



Harold J. Wirths  
Commissioner

★ **Bring 50 Resumes and Dress for Success!** ★

## Registration open for Eighth Annual SGT Nutter Run

Looking to improve your running stamina and also helping military families in need?

Well here is your opportunity. The Eighth Annual 2012 SGT Nutter Memorial 5K Run will be held on Sunday May 6 at the National Guard Training Center, Sea Girt, N.J., immediately after registration ends at 9:30 a.m.

Sgt. Sam Nutter (1/28/66-1/2/2005) was a member of the New Jersey Army National Guard and served in the U.S Navy. Each year the NJ ARNG Officer Candidate School holds a benefit 5k run in his memory and 100 percent of the proceeds raised are donated to a NJ ARNG family.

Registration is currently open at the organization's Web site: <http://www.nutterrun.org/2012-nutter-run-information.html> or you can register on the day of the event beginning at 7 a.m.

The SGT Sam Nutter Organization is a registered non-profit organization which exists solely to benefit the lives of National Guard families in need.

**THE SPRING 2012 ISSUE OF VETERAN JOURNAL IS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:**  
[www.nj.gov/military](http://www.nj.gov/military) or [Veterans Journal](http://VeteransJournal.com)

## STRONG BONDS 2012

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

**WHO:** All married/engaged members of the NJNG

**DATE:** 11 - 13 May

**LOCATION:** Heldrich Hotel, New Brunswick, NJ

**POC:** SGT Brittany Toomer - (609) 562-0207 [brittany.toomer@us.army.mil](mailto:brittany.toomer@us.army.mil)  
 or [int-chaplain@ng.army.mil](mailto:int-chaplain@ng.army.mil)

\*To register or for more information email or call above POC.



## Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair

Washington Crossing State Park, Titusville, NJ  
Saturday, May 12, 2012 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.

FREE ADMISSION

Parking - \$5.00/Vehicle

RAIN OR SHINE



NJ DMAVA will have a VSO table available to provide veterans with information about municipal, state and federal entitlements.

## Veterans Retraining Assistance Program

In an effort to reduce veteran unemployment, the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 was passed and signed into law last November. Included in this new law is the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) for unemployed 35 to 60 year old veterans, which will begin on July 1, 2012 – VA will begin accepting applications on May 15, 2012.

VRAP offers 12 months of training assistance to 99,000 unemployed Veterans who are at least 35 years old but no older than 60. Eligible participants will receive up to 12 months of training assistance at the full-time payment rate under the Montgomery GI Bill–Active Duty program (currently \$1,473 per month). DOL will offer employment assistance to every veteran who participates or applies to the VRAP program. You can learn more about VRAP at

<http://benefits.va.gov/vow/education.htm>.

Please visit: [http://gibill.va.gov/benefits/other\\_programs/vrap\\_email\\_signup.html](http://gibill.va.gov/benefits/other_programs/vrap_email_signup.html).

You will be prompted to provide your first name, last name, and email address. Once submitted you can expect to receive six to seven emails about VRAP, including notification on when applications open.

If you have any technical problems with the link or the image please email the VA at [225D.VBACO@VA.GOV](mailto:225D.VBACO@VA.GOV) for support. Detailed information on VOW and VRAP is also available at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/VOW>.

Help spread the word by sending this information on to any veteran in your community.

**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](mailto:pao@njdmava.state.nj.us).

### New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff – The Adjutant General

Brig. Gen. James J. Grant – Director, Joint Staff

Raymond Zawacki – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Patrick Daugherty – Public Affairs Officer

Air Force Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez - Public Affairs Specialist

Army Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley – Public Affairs Specialist