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# NDMAVA HIGHLIGHTS



FEBRUARY 21, 2013

*Well Done!*



Ray Zawacki, left, deputy commissioner of veterans affairs at New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, shakes the hand of Carpenters Mate Third Class Edward McGrath before presenting the World War II Navy veteran with the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal Feb. 19, 2013, as Lt. Col. Jamal Beale, center left, and Sen. Joseph Vitale, center right, observe. McGrath, an Edison resident, was one of 18 veterans awarded with medals at the Woodbridge Center Mall. The medal ceremony marked the start of a three-day outreach campaign by NJDMAVA. (Photo by Kryn P. Westhoven/NJDMAVA/PA)



**State Sen. Diane Allen (R-Burlington), right, addresses veterans leaders during an open house at the Joint Military Family Assistance Center. (Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen)**

BORDENTOWN, N.J. -- On Feb. 19, Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff, The Adjutant General of New Jersey, and state Sen. Diane B. Allen (R-Burlington), a member of the Armed Forces and Veterans Council, hosted a tour of the Joint Military Family Assistance Center, along with local elected officials and veterans advocates.

The Joint Military Family Assistance Center provides a full-spectrum of services to New Jersey's 17,000 military reservists and their families, from access to healthcare services to personal finance advice to employment assistance.

In addition, a host of agencies, including the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and the state Department of Labor have a presence in the facility, which opened in 2011.

The facility helps all military reservists and their families with issues stemming from deployments as well as any other challenges posed by balancing military service with civilian employment and family life.

The services provided will be further enhanced by the opening of an office for the state Armed Forces and Veterans Council. Staff will be available at this location Wednesday evenings from 4-7 p.m. The 19-member council serves as an advocacy organization for military members.



## WHOOPI GOLDBERG SIGNS SoS

Prior to her recent show at the Tropicana Resort and Casino in Atlantic City, N.J., entertainer Whoopi Goldberg took a minute to sign a Statement of Support for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

Presenting the framed certificate that identifies the Seven Seals of the military they serve, New Jersey State Chairman for ESGR, retired Marine Col. Alan Smith met backstage with Goldberg as she affirmed, through her signature on the Statement of Support, that the Guard and Reserve are essential to the strength of our nation and the well-being of our communities.

The East Coast is especially cognizant of the role of our nation's Citizen Soldiers, as many were activated following the recent devastation of Hurricane Sandy.

ESGR is a Department of Defense, mostly volunteer organization that seeks to create a culture where all American employers value and support the military service and sacrifice of their employees.

For more information visit: [www.esgr.mil](http://www.esgr.mil).

## DoD Announces the Distinguished Warfare Medal

The Department of Defense announced Feb. 13, the creation of the Distinguished Warfare Medal to recognize a service member's extraordinary achievements directly impacting combat operations.

Modern technology enables service members with special training and capabilities to more directly and precisely impact military operations at times far from the battlefield. The Distinguished Warfare Medal will be awarded in the name of the secretary of defense to service members whose extraordinary achievements, regardless of their distance to the traditional combat theater, deserve distinct department-wide recognition.

"I have seen first-hand how modern tools like remotely piloted platforms and cyber systems have changed the way wars can be

fought," said Secretary of Defense, Leon E. Panetta. "We should also have the ability to honor extraordinary actions that make a true difference in combat operations, even if those actions are physically removed from the fight."

Based on the order of precedence, the Distinguished Warfare Medal will sit directly below the Distinguished Flying Cross. It may be awarded for actions in any domain but not involving acts of valor.

The medal, designed by The Institute of Heraldry, will be available in the coming months. The signed memo, criteria for the medal, along with the design, can be seen here: <http://www.defense.gov/news/DistinguishedWarfareMedalMemo.pdf>

## 2013 VETERANS JOB AND GI BILL FAIR

JOBS BENEFITS EDUCATION AND RETRAINING FOR VETERANS



Monday, March 18, 2013  
10 am - 2 pm

The Paul Robeson Campus Center  
Rutgers-Newark: 350 Martin Luther King Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102  
Co-Sponsored by Rutgers Newark, Rutgers University and the Rutgers Student Veterans Organization

### Job Fair Registration Open To:

- ★ Employers looking to hire veterans
- ★ Colleges accepting the GI Bill
- ★ The VA and other Government Benefits
- ★ Non Profits and other agencies providing assistance to Veterans

\*\*Employers take advantage of the new Veteran Tax Credit \*\*  
★ Up to \$9,600 in tax credits per veteran hired ★

Registration includes one six foot table, two chairs, and two lunches.

cost: \$500.00 or free for event sponsors  
Fee includes: Table, chairs, breakfast (for 2) and free parking



*The GI Go Fund*  
Where Veterans Go Forward

For More Information Contact Alexander Manis at (973) 802-1614 or visit us online at [www.gigofund.org](http://www.gigofund.org)

RECRUIT MILITARY®

## Job Fair for Veterans

THIS FREE HIRING EVENT IS FOR:

- ◆ men and women who are transitioning to civilian life
- ◆ veterans who already have civilian work experience
- ◆ members of the National Guard and reserve forces
- ◆ military spouses, other members of military families



**March 14, 2013**

FROM 11:00 A.M. UNTIL 3:00 P.M.

## Lincoln Financial Field

1020 PATTISON AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA



- ◆ Job Opportunities - Companies are hiring!
- ◆ Continuing-Education Opportunities
- ◆ Business-Ownership Opportunities



Produced by RecruitMilitary in cooperation with The American Legion  
For details and directions, visit <https://events.recruitmilitary.com>

New Year, New Schedule?

It's time to **find the right caregiver** to fill in the gaps!

New school activities? Different work schedule?  
Recent PCS? Use your Sittercity membership to find local sitters & nannies that fit your family's needs this year.



Activate today at: [sittercity.com/DoD](http://sittercity.com/DoD)



Find caregivers for:

- Before/After school
- Last minute needs
- PCS helping hand
- Infant care
- School closings
- Pet sitting
- Senior care

ARMY  
MARINES  
NAVY  
AIR FORCE

including active duty, Reserve & Guard families.

Your membership to Sittercity is fully paid by the Department of Defense and is at no cost to you!

## IDBP

INSTITUTE OF DEFENSIVE BUILDING PRACTICES

## REBUILDING JERSEY SHORE TOWN HALL MEETING

Sunday, February 24th, 1-4pm

Teaching Jersey How to Rebuild Defensively

**Location:** VFW Post 8867, 373 Adamston Road, Brick, New Jersey 08723

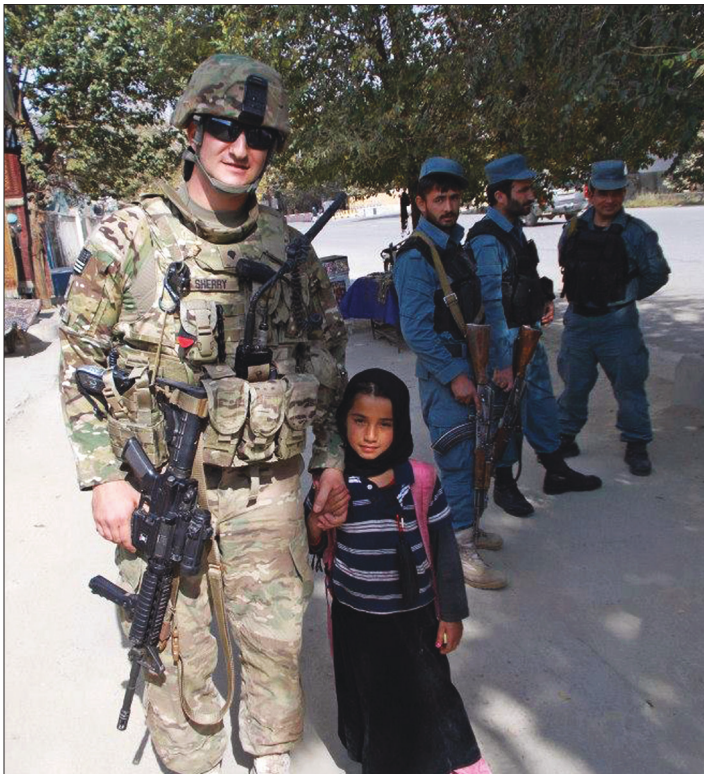
**Events:** Presentation and products demonstration featuring **Defensive Building Practices & Technology** that's cost-effective, safe and available now

**Sponsored by:** VFW Post 8867 & the residents of Jersey Shore

Attendees will receive complimentary appetizers & drinks courtesy of The Institute of Defensive Building Practices

Our Goal is to Educate You  
So You are in a Position of Strength  
**THIS IS YOUR REBUILD**

# HIGHLIGHTS



*Spc. Jacob Sherry, left, 508th Military Police, spends some quality time with a local Afghan girl while conducting police advisory efforts with Afghan National Police. The 508th is deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. (Courtesy photo)*



*New Jersey Youth Challenge cadets visited the Children's Home in Mount Holly for a basketball game Feb. 15, 2013. In a close game, the Children's Home edged the cadets 37-36. The Children's Home encourages its students to play sports as a way to build character and foster the youth to become more confident. (Photo by Kryn P. Westhoven/NJDMAVA/PA)*

## **NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS Veterans Outreach Campaign**

### **MONMOUTH MALL**

March \*19, 20 & 21

\* Medal Ceremony at 11:00a.m. on Tuesday, March 19  
Kiosk hours 10 a.m. – 8p.m.

180 Route 35 South, Eatontown, NJ 07724  
(Monmouth County)

### **LIVINGSTON MALL**

April \*9, 10 & 11

\* Medal Ceremony at 11:00a.m. on Tuesday, April 9  
Kiosk hours 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

112 Eisenhower Parkway, Livingston, NJ 07039  
(Essex County)

**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