

DMAVA HIGHLIGHTS



JUNE 2, 2011

NO ONE IS FORGOTTEN



Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley, a public affairs specialist with the 444th MPAD, shows his daughter, Lillian, the proper placement of an American flag on the grave of Chief Warrant Officer 5 Randy Niedt at the Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery on Friday, May 27. More than 900 Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and Brownies fanned out across the 234-acre cemetery placing flags on every grave to commemorate the ultimate sacrifice of military service members from New Jersey. (Photo by Sgt. Bill Addison, 444th MPAD)



The Honor Guards from Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery march with the nation and state's flags during the Memorial Day ceremony on May 28. Gov. Chris Christie and Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the Adjutant General, were joined by representatives from more than 30 veteran service organizations at the state Memorial Day Ceremony. The Doyle Cemetery is the busiest state Veterans cemetery in the United States, averaging nearly 3,000 internments each year. (Photo by Sgt. Bill Addison, 444th MPAD)

By Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley, 444th MPAD

The American military follows this simple credo: No one is forgotten on the field of battle.

In New Jersey, this tradition was extended to the more than 43,000 graves at the Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery. At 5 p.m. on Friday, May 27, more than 900 Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and Brownies fanned out across the 234-acre cemetery in Wrightstown and placed an American flag on every grave. No one is forgotten.

Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno and Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General, were on hand to assist in the placement of the flags.

Guadagno said there is powerful symbolism in the event, which

officially began New Jersey's observance of Memorial Day.

"The young people who volunteer their time to perform this valuable service represent America's future," Guadagno said. "And the selfless service and sacrifices made by the veterans who are laid to rest at Doyle Cemetery helped preserve the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans."

On Saturday, May 28 at 10:30 a.m., Gov. Chris Christie and Rieth were joined by representatives from more than 30 Veterans service organizations at the state Memorial Day Ceremony at the

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Doyle Cemetery. Christie and Rieth were the keynote speakers. Other highlights included a flyover by several New Jersey Air National Guard F-16 fighter jets, a 21-gun salute and a performance by the New Jersey Army National Guard's 63rd Army Band.

"Memorial Day is a time to honor the men and women who wore this nation's uniform and made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of liberty," Christie said. "The ceremony at the Doyle Cemetery is a fitting tribute."

New Jersey is home to more than 460,000 veterans. The state



Department of Military and Veterans Affairs provides services to veterans from the time they leave military service until they are laid to rest.

The Doyle Cemetery is the busiest state Veterans cemetery in the United States, averaging nearly 3,000 interments each year. In addition to the cemetery, DMAVA operates three Veterans Memorial Homes; Paramus; Menlo Park and Vineland as well as a transitional housing program for homeless veterans in Winslow Township.



DMAVA also maintains a statewide network of Veterans Service Offices who work to ensure all of the state's Veterans receive the federal and state entitlements earned through their service. The DMAVA team of 18 Veterans Service Officers accounted for the awarding of nearly \$72 million in federal benefits to New Jersey Veterans last year.

Maj. Gen. Rieth said Gov. Christie has shown strong leadership in his efforts to support the state's Veterans community and in his role as Commander-in-Chief of the New Jersey National Guard.

In addition to supporting all of the vital programs provided by DMAVA, including a toll-free mental health hotline for Veterans, the governor has signed legislation that strengthens the support network for military families after the death of a service member, as well as a program that awards high school diplomas to Veterans who dropped out to serve in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

"Gov. Christie understands that it takes an entire team to support Veterans, from our dedicated staff to our partners in the state's veterans community," Rieth said. "He firmly believes that no New Jersey Veteran or their sacrifices should ever be forgotten."



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New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

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Brig. Gen. James J. Grant – Director, Joint Staff
Raymond Zawacki – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs
CW2 Patrick Daugherty – Public Affairs Officer
Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez - Public Affairs Specialist
Sgt. Wayne Woolley – Public Affairs Specialist

National Guard Militia Museum announces expanded summer hours

SEA GIRT, N.J. – The National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey is pleased to announce expanded summer hours for its main museum at the historic National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt.

Beginning Friday, May 27, and running through Labor Day, the museum will open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

“We are fortunate that our museum sits within walking distance of some of the Garden State’s most beautiful beaches,” said 1st Lt.

Vincent Solomeno, historian of the New Jersey National Guard and the museum’s curator. “With the summer season upon us, our expanded hours help us reach more visitors and in turn educate the public about our rich military history.”

A permanent exhibit – “A Splendid Little War: New Jersey and the Spanish-American War” – is set to open July 1. In addition, a special exhibit chronicling the state’s role in the emergency response to the September 11, 2001 attacks is slated for August.

Established in 1980, the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey at Sea Girt presents the role of the New Jersey Militia and the National Guard within the context of the larger history of the state. Collections include original and reproduction uniforms, weapons, photographs, artifacts and art from the period of Dutch, Swedish and British colonization through the War for Independence, Civil War and World Wars I and II to the present day, with particular attention paid to the diversity of the New Jersey citizen soldier and his or her experience.

Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit the museum’s web site at <http://www.nj.gov/military/museum/> or call 1st Lt. Solomeno at 732- 974-5966.



NJNG to celebrate Unity Day

The New Jersey National Guard will host its 13th Annual Unity Day Celebration on Thursday, June 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Joint Force Headquarters in Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

Come celebrate the ethnic, cultural, and organizational diversity of the New Jersey National Guard through food sampling, music, entertainment, educational displays, and dessert contest and giveaways.

Fun activities and community service projects will include a Zumba class; fun walk/run; and a blood drive and bone marrow registration.

Registration for these activities will be required:

Zumba – registration at 7:30 a.m. at JFHQ drill floor.

Fun walk/run – registration at 8:30 a.m. at front of JFHQ.

Blood drive and bone marrow registration – at the rear of JFHQ building from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The point of contact for the event is Army Maj. Barbara Brown-Wilson, state equal employment manager. Brown-Wilson can be contact via phone at 609-562-0856 or via E-mail at Barbara.g.brown@us.army.mil.

The Joint Force Headquarters building is located at 3650 Saylors Pond Road in JB MDL.

Veterans Outreach Schedule



June 2011

Wildwood Convention Center
4501 Boardwalk, Wildwood, N.J. 08260

OUTREACH EVENTS ONLY

Elks State Convention: June 2-3, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

American Legion State Convention: June 8-10, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

VFW State Convention: June 15-17, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

June 4

Monmouth Park

“Armed Forces Day”

175 Oceanport Ave, Oceanport, N.J. 07757

Outreach Event Only 10:30 a.m. – end of last race

**E-mail your Highlights submissions to
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NJARNG Recruiting and Retention Battalion produces state specific recruiting, retention, and informational Web site

SEA GIRT, N.J. -- The New Jersey Army National Guard's highly successful Recruiting and Retention Battalion has created a brand new, easy to use, and comprehensive Web site that went live effective May 2011. The Web site will benefit anyone who is searching for the most up-to-date information about the New Jersey Army National Guard.

This Web site is designed to promote the New Jersey Army National Guard by detailing the heritage, honor, and history of the Guard, as well as the most current enlistment programs available. This user friendly, aesthetically pleasing platform will be a force multiplier as anyone can refer a future Soldier to the Web site for the best and most current information about the New Jersey Guard.

The Recruiting and Retention Battalion kindly asks that you explore the Web site, bookmark it, and discover even more about the Guard for which you serve. You will be proud to send anyone to review the in-depth and transparent elements of the Web site.

Once a future Soldier, prior service Airman, Sailor, or Marine feels like they have been sufficiently educated on our great organization, there are several ways to reach out to the appropriate contacts. The RRB has ensured that everyone from high school



students looking to enlist, to college students looking to commission, get the information they need. The Web site also contains a wealth of information about retention incentives, veteran's benefits, and family programs.

Again, the RRB invites you to investigate this Web site for yourself and assist the New Jersey Army National Guard in continuing a tradition of excellence by working with the finest Soldiers in the fifty four states and territories. Please spread the word about the Guard and its robust new Web site to everyone you can. For more information please visit www.njarmyguard.com, or contact Master Sgt. Richard Platt, the RRB team non-commissioned officer-in-charge manager, at richard.w.platt@us.army.mil.

The American Bar Association has launched a new resource center: ABA Home Front



In response to First Lady Michelle Obama's call to support military families as a part of her new Joining Forces initiative, in May 2011, the American Bar Association launched a new web-based legal resource center for military families, ABA Home Front, which has three elements designed to supplement and extend the legal help that military families already receive through military legal assistance offices:

1. Military Pro Bono Center, where attorneys can volunteer to provide pro bono representation to military families through the Military Pro Bono Project, or attorneys can join the new *Consultation Center*, which is an expansion of the Project, to be available to receive calls or emails from military legal assistance attorneys in need of guidance on state-specific legal information relating to the volunteer attorneys' areas of expertise;
2. Directory of Programs, which includes contact information and descriptions of programs and services that can provide assistance to military families; and
3. Information Center, which includes basic written guides geared towards public education of the law for service members and their families.

Attorneys can register on the ABA Military Pro Bono Project website to join the Consultation Center to volunteer time to receive calls or emails from military attorneys in need of attorney-to-attorney advice on state-specific legal information relating to their legal areas of expertise, so the military attorneys can further assist their service member clients. Military legal assistance attorneys who are registered with the Project can access and use the Consultation Center's password-secured list of attorneys on the Project's website.

Volunteer attorneys throughout the county have registered with the Consultation Center to provide state-specific legal guidance to military attorneys in the following areas: bankruptcy, criminal, consumer, disability, domestic relations, education, employment, guardianship, health care, housing, immigration, personal injury, public benefits, tax, trusts and estates, and others. As of May 13, 2011, 115 attorneys in 26 states have registered with the new Consultation Center. The number of Consultation Center registrants will continue to grow. The Project plans to work with the ABA Young Lawyers Division and the ABA Section of Family Law Military Committee to recruit additional Consultation Center volunteers.

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