

DMAVA Highlights

July 30, 2009 Volume 9 Number 27



Paramus veteran shares 100 years of memories



HAPPY BIRTHDAY - Paramus Veterans Memorial Home resident Jacob Shores studies a picture held by retired Col. Stephen G. Abel (right), DMAVA's Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs, during Mr. Shores's 100th birthday party last Friday. The picture was taken during World War II, when Mr. Shores was Seaman Shores, a Navy Seabee who served on five construction ships in the Pacific Theater and helped build 441 structures including piers, hospitals and bunkers. Photo by Sgt. Wayne Woolley/DMAVA Public Affairs Office.



Unity Day celebration slated for Sept. 17 at JT2DC

Come join in the New Jersey National Guard 11th Annual Unity Day celebration on Sept. 17, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Joint Training and Training Development Center, Fort Dix.

Celebrate our ethnic and cultural diversity through music, food sampling, giveaways, homemade dessert contest, scavenger hunt and line dancing.

There will be a Fun Walk/Run at 8:30 a.m. starting at the JT2DC and a blood drive 10 a.m.-3 p.m. also at the JT2DC.

For more information, contact Capt. Barbara Brown-Wilson, Barbara.g.brown@us.army.mil or 609-562-0856.

A trip to the meat plant

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, GERMANY - This is not your usual Air Guard Public Health inspection.

On Wednesday, the Public Health Team of the 177th Medical Group assisted their active-duty counterparts from the 86th Medical Group in a monthly inspection of the Ramstein Central Meat Processing Plant. The plant processes a million pounds of meat a month bound for American military commissaries and U.S. Embassies in a dozen countries including Iraq and Afghanistan.

The three-hour inspection covered everything from the personal hygiene of the staff to every piece of equipment inside the only Department of Defense facility of its kind.

"Getting to see how (meat) was packaged and the sanitary requirements was an enlightening experience," said Staff Sgt. Jason Mell, a public health technician with the 177th. "Knowing the pre-packaging process enhances the ability to effectively conduct any food investigations. Having that knowledge is useful."

The 177th has seven facilities to inspect at home. The unit the 177th is paired with for Annual Training has more than 140.

Master Sgt. Patricia Hughes, the non-commissioned officer in charge of the Public Health team, said her unit's participation in such large-scale inspections will pay dividends when they return to New Jersey.

"The experience we gained here will make our Public Health better for the base and especially for the upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection," Hughes said.



Senior Airman Desiree Duffy (left) with the 177th Medical Group examines a strip with Staff Sgt. Amy Deboy of the 86th Medical Group that checks the parts per million of chlorine in sanitizing water during an inspection at the Ramstein (Germany) Central Meat Processing Plant.

No greater nor more affectionate honor can be conferred on an American than to have a public school named after him.

--Herbert Hoover, 31st President of the United States

The Barclays offers free admission to military

Hey golfers – here is your chance to see some of the professional golfers swing their woods and irons on the golf course. The Barclays 2009 will be held at the Liberty National Golf Course located along the Hudson River in Jersey City Aug. 24-30.

Active duty and retired members of all five branches of the military and the National Guard and their family members are invited to attend The Barclays free of charge and will be admitted by showing a military ID at the gate.

While at the course, active duty and military personnel and their family members can enjoy the Patriots' Outpost, an expansive military hospitality chalet located near the main entrance offering a panoramic view of the 4th green. The Outpost will provide military guests and their dependents with complimentary food and beverage, television coverage of competition every day, a special kids' area and a gaming area featuring Wii games such as Tiger Woods '09. Volunteers from the American Red Cross will staff The Patriots' Outpost during the tournament week.

The Patriot's Outpost is part of the PGA Tour's national Birdies for the Brave military outreach program. Visit www.birdies-forthebrave.com for more information.

For more information on the tournament or the course, visit <http://www.libertynationalgc.com/barclays/>.

Collection point for 'Cellphones for Soldiers' in Avalon

From the desk of retired Command Sgt. Maj. Mike Hughes, Family Assistance Specialist

Avalon, N.J., is joining the effort to support the brave men and women in the United States military by providing a "Cell Phones for Soldiers" drop off location at the Avalon Public Safety Building, on Dune Drive between 30th and 31st Streets, in Avalon. "Cell Phones for Soldiers" is a collection drive for used, unwanted cell phones. A collection box for the unused cell phones has been placed in the lobby of the new Avalon Public Safety Building. "Cell Phones for Soldiers" was founded by teenagers Robbie and Brittany Bergquist from Norwell, Mass., with \$21 of their own money. Since then, the registered 501c3 non-profit organization has raised almost \$1 million in donations and distributed more than 500,000 prepaid calling cards to soldiers serving overseas. The donated phones are sent to ReCellular, which pays "Cell Phones for Soldiers" for each phone; enough to provide an hour of talk time to soldiers abroad.

DMAVA Green

By Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison, DMAVA Public Affairs Specialist

Last week's column had some tips that made being green seem less like work. Here are some more relatively easy ways to help the environment.

Find inexpensive and natural ways to do things around the house. For instance, instead of spraying smelly bug spray to get rid of pesky fruit flies, take a small glass fill it to a 1/2" with apple cider vinegar and 2 drops of dishwashing liquid, mix well. The fruit flies will fly to the solutions and be gone forever.

Replace the air filter. Whether it is heating or air conditioning season, the standard recommendation is once a month, but if you have pets or live in a dusty area, it's better to do it more frequently. The clogged filter will cause poor air circulation, thus making your unit work harder.

Switch out those standard incandescent bulbs for compact florescent bulbs (CFL). Not only will this save you energy, but CFL's burn cooler, helping you keep the temperature in the house down.

Drive consistently. Fast stops and starts eat up fuel. Driving 55 instead of 75 miles per hour saves you between 20-30 percent in fuel efficiency.

Use rags instead of paper towels to clean up messes. They can be reused and washed as often as you spill your milk.

Carpool to work, whenever possible. Even if you catch a ride to work one day a week, that's a 20 percent reduction in your annual work-related carbon emissions.

Keep your car tuned-up regularly, including tire pressure. A well-tuned car can run up to 30 percent more efficiently, which saves both carbon and cash.

Keep Green!

Quotes

Your net worth to the world is usually determined by what remains after your bad habits are subtracted from your good ones

--Benjamin Franklin

Reputation is what men say about you on your reputation than having nothing to do and plenty of time in which to do it.

--William Hersey Davis

A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where influence stops.

--Henry Adams

Even workhouses have their aristocracy.

--English proverb

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New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

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Col. James J. Grant – Joint Staff Director

Retired Col. Stephen G. Abel – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Patrick Daugherty – Public Affairs Officer

Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison – Public Affairs Specialist

Wounded Soldier and Family
Hotline
1-800-984-8523

Families

Take the bus to the Franklin Institute

Kids – join the Youth program on a trip to the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia.

On Aug. 19 the youth will be picked up at the Lawrenceville Armory, 151 Eggerts Crossing Road at 7:30 a.m. or the Cherry Hill armory, Grove Street and Park Blvd., at 8:30 a.m. for a fun-filled trip to the Franklin Institute. Walk through the heart, see the giant pendulum, check out the telescope, and ride on the train. Lunch will be provided.

For a permission slip and more information on the trip, contact Amanda Balas, youth coordinator, at 609-530-6836, or e-mail her at amanda.balas@us.army.mil.



Six Flags Military Day on Aug. 15

Six Flags Great Adventure is holding their Military Appreciation Day on Aug. 15, thanking those who serve the country with a special offer of fun for the entire family.

The discount package includes a one-day admission to Six Flags Great Adventure and Wild Safari and an All-You-Can-Eat buffet of hamburgers, hot dogs, salad, nachos and cheese and more – all for the price of \$29.50 per person.

To purchase tickets, mail checks to Liberty USO, Terminal A-East; Philadelphia Airport; Phila., PA 19153. Call 215-365-8010 for more information.

Give life, give blood at Teaneck

The Teaneck Armory is holding a blood drive on Aug. 1, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the armory, 1799 Teaneck Road, Teaneck. Contact PFC CanDice Hibbert at 201-833-8356.

Bring a photo ID and eat within four hours of donating blood. Each donor will receive a T-shirt.

State Family Programs

101 Eggert Crossing Road, Lawrenceville
Toll-free number 1-888-859-0352

Family Assistance – 609-530-6834/6884

State Youth Coordinator – 609-530-6836

Military Family Life consultants – 609-530-6835/6886

Yellow Ribbon Program – 609-530-6846/6853/6859

Fax – 609-530-6871

Enjoy movie night on the Intrepid

Enjoy a Military Family Movie Night at the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum, July 31 at 7:30 p.m. Watch “Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian,” under the stars.

Admission for the event is free, along with free popcorn and more. Hall of Fame pitcher, Tom Seaver, will be celebrating the men and women who serve the country and their families.

Rain date is Aug. 1. Seaver will not be signing autographs on-site. The museum is located at Pier 86, West 46th Street, New York, N.Y.

Dorney Park offers discount to military

Dorney Park and Wildwater Kingdom in Allentown, Pa., is offering a discount to the military and their families. A discount for military personnel is available at the park entrance. At the ticket window, please present a valid military photo ID card to purchase a regular one-day admission ticket for only \$24.99 during the Early and Bonus Seasons and only \$32.99 each during the summer season (May 23 - Sept. 7). The military discount is available for all active or retired military personnel (including the National Guard, Reserves, and Coast Guard). Immediate family members include spouse, children, parents, grandparents and grandchildren. Military discount tickets must be purchased at the gate (a valid military ID must be presented to receive the discount). If the military person is currently deployed overseas, the family members are eligible for the military discount as long as they show a current military family ID when purchasing tickets.

Family Readiness Council offers grants

The New Jersey National Guard State Family Readiness Council has increased the amounts of family and business grants up to \$5,000 and \$10,000, respectively. Both are known as TIER I grants. TIER II family grants are also available to New Jersey Army and Air National Guard non-deployed service members who were on State Active Duty or State Missions (e.g., hurricanes, floods, border missions) for more than 20 consecutive days. Service members meeting these criteria are eligible to apply for a financial hardship grant up to \$1,500. Applications are available at all New Jersey Army and Air National Guard Family Assistance Centers.

Teaneck hosting picnic on Aug. 22

From the desk of Janis Shaw, Family Assistance Specialist

On August 22, the Teaneck Family Readiness Group/Family Assistance Center will be having a Welcome Home/Back to School Picnic for our returning soldiers at the Fountain Springs Country Club, Ringwood. This event will be sponsored by The Oritani Bank of Washington Township, N.J.

For more information, call 201-833-0632 or 201-833-8356.

State Employees

Save money with your employee discount!

Instructions to access updated New Jersey State Employee Discount List

1. Go to CSC website at <http://www.state.nj.us/csc/>
2. Click on Information on left side of web page
3. Select employee discount
4. Click on State Employee Discounts on left side

The most recent employee discount list will come up.

Museum holding 'Meet the Authors' event Aug. 2 at Sea Girt

By Bob Dennin, National Guard Museum Board of Trustees

Going to the beach this weekend? Why not stop by the Sea Girt National Guard Museum and Meet the Authors of "A Tribute to New Jersey Veterans"?

If you're planning a trip to the Jersey shore or just looking for an interesting destination this weekend, we recommend that you bring your family, friends or any organization to visit the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey located at the Sea Girt Training Center and meet one of the authors of the Museum's new book "A Tribute to New Jersey Veterans."

The "Meet the Authors" event will be held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 2. The book is a 128-page, historical hard-cover book that includes numerous unpublished photos from the Museum's collections, the N.J. National Guard, NJNG Regimental Associations' archives, Star Ledger's archives, personal collections and many other sources. It features approximately 300 pictures with text and captions in a style format that can best be described as a pictorial essay "coffee table book" edition. The authors reviewed approximately 6000 photographs in its selection process. The selected photographs chronicle the men and women of New Jersey who have protected democracy since the inception of our great country right up to today's conflicts, including a chapter entitled "In Harm's Way" featuring many photos from the recent deployments. It is a tribute dedicated to all who have served and sacrificed so much for our country and shows how New Jersey has honored and supported our veterans in the past, and will encourage our citizens to continue their support for our military.

Part of the proceeds from the sale of this book will benefit the museum. A limited number of first edition books signed by all of the authors will be sold at the Sea Girt and Lawrenceville museums. We think you'll find that a tour of any of the museum facilities will be interesting for both children and adults alike.

The Sea Girt Museum is open Monday through Friday 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and most weekends and holidays. However, check our weekend hours in advance by calling 732-974-5966. The Lawrenceville Museum is open Tuesdays and Fridays 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and by appointment. If you have any questions regarding the Lawrenceville Museum, please contact Col. Donald Kale, at 609-530-6802.

State employees reminded of direct deposit convenience

From the desk of Lisa Dandrea, Human Resources, Personnel Assistant

This is just a reminder that the convenience of direct deposit is offered to all state employees. It is encouraged that our employees consider taking advantage of direct deposit with all that it has to offer.

Enrolling into direct deposit means having your money directly deposited into your checking or savings account. You're going to be on vacation on pay day? Tired of waiting for Postal Service to deliver your money? Eliminate that with direct deposit. It is a convenient and reliable way to receive your pay and know it is safe in your account, when you need it to be. And the service is free!

To get enrolled you must complete the "Authorization Agreement for Automatic Payroll Deposits" form, and turn it in to your Human Resources Payroll Department. A copy of this form is available on DMAVANet under "Human Resources – Helpful Forms." Just print, fill out and send to Human Resources. Please allow up to three pay periods (six weeks) for your direct deposit to take effect.

To request a form or more information, contact Lisa Dandrea in Human Resources at 609-530-6888.

DMAVA Web site full of treasures for one and all

Have you taken the time to visit www.nj.gov/military lately?

You can find job announcements, publications, forms, information for families, information for veterans and information on both the New Jersey Army and Air Guard.

With a simple click of a mouse button, you can check out the most recent issues of DMAVA Highlights, Guardlife and Veterans Journal. Past issues are also archived on the Web site.

With another click, you can find blank DMAVA forms, TAG memorandums and policy letters and a variety of publications.

Another click gets you to the area where you can discover information on our three Veterans homes, the Doyle cemetery, the three war memorials we oversee, Veterans Haven, the medals we present to New Jersey combat veterans and more.

Two more clicks let you see all the benefits of joining the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard.

Click! Click! Click! You can find the pages on Family Support; Youth ChalleNGe; job announcements for state, federal, active Guard and Reserve; apply for a N.J. National Guard fishing license; look up the location of your local Veterans Service Office and so much more.

Take the time to visit the Web site that takes you around the New Jersey National Guard and Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; you will discover an abundance of information and assistance.



Veterans & Military

'Deal or No Deal' holding military auditions in NJ

Deal or No Deal is looking for members of the military (Army, Marines, Navy or Air Force) to be part of their special military week. If you are interested in joining Howie in a mission to make money and take down the banker – the show is holding auditions in the New Jersey area on Aug. 11 and 12.



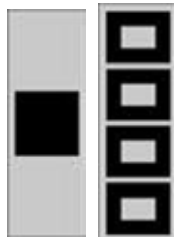
If you are interested, send an e-mail with the following information to deal-militaryweek@gmail.com. Once they receive your information, you will get a confirmation e-mail with

the location and time of the audition.

The e-mail must contain: your name, age, telephone number, e-mail address and military branch.

Join the Warrant Officers Association

The United States Army Warrant Officer Association, Fort Dix Doughboy Chapter, is looking for members. For membership information, contact Chief Warrant Officer Nancy E. Rowbotham at nancy.rowbotham@us.army.mil.



Coast Guard Day at Fort Wadsworth Aug. 1

Join the Coast Guard on Saturday Aug. 1 at Fort Wadsworth, N.Y., to celebrate Coast Guard Day!

There will be music – Natalie Stovall and her band will be performing live; food from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – meal tickets are \$8, children under 3 eat free; and lots of fun activities – bounce house, clowns, and other carnival games.

For more information, contact the Coast Guard Sector NY MWR, 204 Molony Drive, Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, NY; 718-354-4407 or visit <http://uscgsectorny.mwrtyl.com>.

Direct Deposit VA benefits into checking or savings account now. Call 1-800-333-1795 or visit www.GoDirect.org

Yellow Ribbon Reintegration slated for Aug. 16-17

From the desk of Master Sgt. Alex Estrada



The transfer program for the Army Ten Miler scheduled for October 4, ends on August 14. If you want to run the 25th running of the Army Ten Miler you have less than three weeks to transfer a race ticket and register for the race.

The last day to join any team August 27. If a team has less than four runners by midnight of the 27th, the team will be disqualified and all runners placed in individual age categories.

"Jersey Blues 09" - has two available positions - call Master Sgt. Estrada at 609-548-6883 if you want to join the team. The only requirement is that you can complete the entire race within 70 to 75 minutes.

Countdown to race date: 66 days

Run Strong / Run Army

AMVETS offers scholarships to DeVry University

The AMVETS are offering scholarships for DeVry University with a \$1,000 per semester tuition award and a \$9,000 total award. This is open to veterans of all branches of service, Reserve and Guard components. This offer is also extended to immediate family members (spouses, natural and adopted children). This scholarship is applicable for DeVry University and the Keller Graduate School of Management.

Deadline to submit scholarship applications is Sept. 28 for the Oct. 26 semester. For more information concerning the application or the application process contact AMVETS toll free at 877-726-8387 or devryscholarships@amvets.org.

Veterans Organizations contact information

State Veterans Service Council
Richard Clark, RJClark21@msn.com
BG William C. Doyle Cemetery Advisory Council
William Rakestraw, warjrnj@msn.com
Veterans Hotlines
Benefits and Entitlements
1-888-8NJ-VETS (1-888-865-8387)
Mental Health
1-866-VETS-NJ4 (1-866-838-7654)

Calendar

When – Aug. 11, 12, 13, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. (one day seminars)
What – TSP seminars for Federal Guard technicians
Where – Aug. 11 and 12 - JT2DC, Fort Dix; Aug. 13 - 177th FW, Atlantic City
More info – Capt. Devon Hanson, devon.hanson1@us.army.mil or 609-562-0881; DSN 944-0881

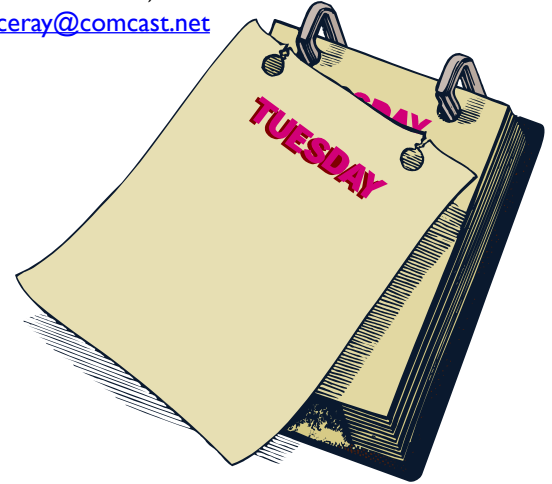
When – Aug. 19, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
What – Atlantic City Air Show
Where – The beach and boardwalk, Atlantic City
More info – www.atlanticcitynj.com/acairsho.aspx

When – Aug. 21-23 and Sept 25-27
What – Marriage Enrichment Seminars
Where – TBD
More info – Marie Durling, marie.durling@us.army.mil or (609) 530-6884

When – Aug. 23
What – Poker Run, for scholarship funds
Where – The Pub, Browns Mills

More info – www.rollingthunder-nj2.org

When – Sept. 21
What – 114th Inf Regimental Assoc. Golf Tournament
Where – Pitman Golf Course, Sewell
More info – royceray@comcast.net



Technicians: retirement seminar scheduled for Aug. 18-19

National Guard technicians – now is the time to register for the Technician Pre-retirement Seminar being held on Aug. 18-19 at the JT2DC, Fort Dix.

To reserve your spot or to get more information, contact Lorraine Jamison, 609-562-0874 or e-mail Lorraine.jamison@us.army.mil.



22nd annual golf outing for the Friends of ESGR

Golf is a game in which you yell “fore,” shoot six, and write down five. ~Paul Harvey

Join the New Jersey Friends of the Guard and Reserve in their 22nd annual golf outing scheduled for Sept. 26 at Falcon Creek Golf Course, McGuire Air Force Base.

The NJFOGR works in close cooperation with the New Jersey Committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve which supports the employers of the members of the Guard and Reserve as well as supporting the troops themselves. The proceeds of the annual golf outing helps offset the cost of supporting ESGR's programs.

Come out and golf or support the outing through a monetary donation sponsoring a hole or a cart or refreshments. If you are interested in golfing or a sponsorship, call the folks at ESGR at 609-562-0156 or 609-562-0157.

It took me seventeen years to get 3,000 hits. I did it in one afternoon on the golf course. ~Hank Aaron, 1971

Veterans Outreach Campaign schedule

The DMAVA Veterans Outreach Campaign has kiosk displays at malls throughout the state and other special events to help veterans and their family members discover and apply for the benefits they are eligible to receive.

July 28*, 29, 30
Aug. 7***

Ocean County Mall
First Energy Ball Park, Home of the Lakewood Blue Claws
Mercer County Waterfront Park, Home of the Trenton Thunder

Aug. 20***

Aug. 30**** TD Bank Ballpark, Home of the Somerset Patriots

Sept. 22*, 23, 24 Rockaway Town-square Mall

Oct. 20, 21, 22** Jersey Gardens Mall

Nov. 9*, 10 Woodbridge Center Mall



*Medal ceremony at 10:30 a.m.

**Medal ceremony at 1 p.m.

***Outreach program only, 7:05 p.m.

****Outreach program only, 4:05 p.m.

Deadline

Want to place an event or article in DMAVA Highlights?

Deadline for articles is noon Wednesday.

Send submissions to barbara.harbison@njdmava.state.nj.us.