

NOVEMBER 3, 2022



READY TO SERVE ★ PROUD TO HAVE SERVED

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



The NJ Department of Military & Veterans Affairs wishes Veterans throughout the state and country a happy Veterans Day. Thank you for your service and sacrifice in defense of our nation and freedoms. It is an honor to serve you and your families.

At DMAVA, we believe that every day is Veterans Day as we serve and care for our veterans across the state, including within our three nursing Homes and at our two transitional housing facilities.

DMAVA will recognize Veterans Day by participating in and supporting events across the state in honor of New Jersey's 311,000 Veterans. We encourage you to participate and show your gratitude in any way you can.

Thanks for reading. We look forward to continuing the conversation.

We encourage you to share ideas, events and feedback. Please email our team at outreach@dmava.nj.gov.

Brigadier General Lisa J. Hou, D.O.
The Adjutant General & Commissioner



ANNOUNCEMENT

New Jersey partnership announced with the Republic of Cyprus

DMAVA Public Affairs Office | October 26, 2022

TRENTON, N.J. – The New Jersey National Guard has been selected as the new state partner for the Republic of Cyprus, the third-largest island in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. Through the National Guard's State Partnership Program, National Guard units throughout the United States conduct military-to-military

engagements, guided by U.S. State Department foreign policy goals, and develop person-to-person ties with their partners.

The Republic of Cyprus is New Jersey's second SPP partner. The New Jersey National Guard recently marked 21 years of formal partnership with the Republic of Albania.

[Read Full Press Release](#)

FEATURED EVENTS



COMMUNITY RESOURCE AND JOB FAIR NOVEMBER 3RD, 2022

TO OUR MILITARY COMMUNITY:

In response to the growing need for community connections and employment resources, please join us as we host many vendors including the USPS, the Riverdale Police Department, Morris County Legal Aid, Mental Health Association, Bergen County Sheriff, NJ Department of Corrections, and more! Many potential employers looking to hire. All Military Service Members, Veterans and their families are welcome to attend.



SCAN TO REGISTER



Join us for a Community Resource and Job Fair

For our Military community, Veterans, and their families.

Thursday, November 3rd, 2022

10am – 2pm

At the Riverdale National Guard Armory!

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

Maureen Williams:
maureen.e.williams11.civ@army.mil

Diana Becker:
diana.e.becker2.civ@army.mil

Maria Morro:
maria.d.morro.civ@army.mil

NJ Veteran's Housing Symposium

Presented by: The NJ American Legion & the Dept. of Veteran Affairs
Hosted By: Stockton University

Stockton University's Atlantic City Campus
3711 Atlantic Ave.
Atlantic City, NJ

November 3rd, 2022
10:00A.M. to 2:00P.M.

This event will host presenters on a national and regional level who are subject matter experts in affordable housing and at-risk Veterans. This is a learning and networking experience for all person's interested in assisting our Nation's struggling Veteran population.

Topics Discussed will include:

- HUD / VASH Vouchers
- Funding Sources
- Architectural issues
- Real Estate Development
- And much more...

Contact Info

Jim Scanlon (732)306-9268 sajobsjds@aol.com
Robert Looby (908)894-0746 r.looby@americanlegion.org



Join us for a Community Resource and Job Fair

For Service Members, Veterans, and Dependents

Saturday, Nov 5th, 2022

10am – 2pm

Sea Girt National Guard Army Building 35

COMMUNITY RESOURCE AND JOB FAIR NOVEMBER 5TH, 2022

TO OUR MILITARY COMMUNITY:

In response to the growing need for community connections and employment resources, please join us as we host many vendors including UPS, IBEW Local 400, Wise Snacks, NJ Department of Corrections, Earle Co. NJ State Police, Helmets to Hardhats, Vetwork, Arms 2 Artisans, Affordable Housing Alliance, Ocean Mental Health, OCEAN Inc, and more! Many potential employers are actively hiring. All Military Service Members, Veterans and their dependents are welcome to attend.

Brenda Irwin

Soldier & Family Readiness Specialist

Cell: 609-341-6579

Email:

Brenda.LIrwin2.civ@army.mil



SCAN QR CODE FOR A COMPLETE VENDOR LIST





Millville Army Air Field Museum
21st Annual
Veterans Appreciation Day
Saturday, November 5, 2022
10 am to 2 pm

All veterans are invited!
Please join us as we honor you and your fellow veterans!






A Tribute to All Veterans
Celebrating the many contributions of our Korean War Veterans and Prisoners of War (POWS)

Ceremony at 11 am
Featuring Guest Speaker
WWII & Korean War Veteran
Charles "Sandy" Wentzell
Who served in the U.S. Air Corps/Force and was a POW in Korea

With a
Special Memorial Dedication
to the wives of museum volunteers

Jerry Benfer
Board Secretary

Paul Blackstock
Board Member

FREE Mess Hall Lunch
donated by Verna's Flight Line Restaurant
and much more!!

Come pay tribute to our nation's veterans!

There is no admission fee, but donations to the Museum are always welcome!

Millville Army Air Field Museum
1 Leddon St. ★ Millville Airport ★ Millville, NJ 08332
p47millville.org
Information: (856) 327-2347






**11TH ANNUAL SUPPORT OUR TROOPS CASINO NIGHT
NOVEMBER 5, 2022 7:00PM WESTFIELD ARMORY**



TICKET Information

(all tickets include buffet, beer, wine and \$ 75 gambling chips)

GENERAL ADMISSION: \$ 60

SENIORS AND VETERANS: \$ 40

MILITARY: (ACTIVE, GUARD, RESERVE)

SEE WEBSITE FOR SPECIAL PRICING



← 1402ND
CAVALRY AT
WESTFIELD
ARMORY

www.bondsofcourage.org



Mercer County Veteran Services
in conjunction with Mercer County Connection
and The Trenton Branch NAACP

**MERCER COUNTY
VETERANS EXPO**
SERVING THOSE WHO PROTECTED US!



**November 10, 2022
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

MERCER COUNTY OFFICE PARK - GYM
1440 PARKSIDE AVENUE, EWING



Brian M. Hughes, Mercer County Executive
Mercer County Board of County Commissioners



Suicide Prevention & Secure Firearms Storage



Monday, November 14, 2022
1000—1400
0930 Registration



Veteran's Haven North
200 Sanatorium Road, Suite 101
Glen Gardner, NJ 08826
Lunch will be provided



Register at:
<https://bit.ly/3p0WKXh>

KOVA Story

Topics Include:

Firearms Safety & Safe Storage

Panel Discussion

S.A.V.E
Signs of suicide to recognize
Ask "Are you thinking of killing yourself?"
Validate their intent
Encourage treatment and expedite help



Direct Program Questions to: Tanya Kero — tanya.kero@va.gov
General Questions to: Bob Looby — bobioboy@embarqmail.com, 908-894-0746

The ARNG National Credentialing Expo!

WEDNESDAY, NOV 16, 2022
1000-1500HRS EST

Two sessions:
1000-1200 EST
1300-1500 EST

JOIN OUR TEAM
TO ATTEND

Teams Code:
1oeyukp





Military Resource Fair

The Lawrenceville Soldier and Family Assistance Center will be supporting a Military Resource Day for the New Jersey National Guard Members and their Family Members.

Date: November 16, 2022

Time: 10AM-2PM

Location: Lawrenceville Armory
151 Eggerts Crossing Rd.
Lawrenceville NJ 08648

What: To provide resources, information and referrals to our military members

Who: The list of vendors is growing. Currently, we have the following:

Benefits: Tricare and US Family Health Plan	Personal Financial Counselor
Military One Source	Trenton Vets Center
Transition Assistance	Mercer County VSO

Education: NJ National Guard Education Department

Employment Assistance: Recruit Military Mercer County One Stop Helmets to Hard Hats

Employment Opportunities: State Police	Eastern Armored Services
Home Depot	Amazon Wawa

Skilled Trades: IBEW 269 UA Local 9 Building Construction Laborers Local 77

Utility Assistance: SJ Industries (Energy Assistance)



JOB AND RESOURCE FAIR



NJ FAMILY PROGRAMS



19 Nov 2022

Bldg 3700 (JT2DC)
Technology Dr.
JB-MDL, New Jersey
1000-1500hrs

SOLDIERS & FAMILY MEMBERS

JOIN US!
THERE WILL BE A HOST OF
EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS,
EMPLOYERS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO
EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS



JOB OPPORTUNITIES
Employers looking to hire responsible Citizen Soldiers and their family members



EDUCATIONAL GROWTH
Obtain your degree or pursue your next level of education



CAREER ENHANCEMENT
Broaden your horizons, Apprenticeship Programs and more.

For more information please contact:
Phil Morse at phillip.c.morse.civ@army.mil
Ken Lucas at Kenneth.d.lucas2.civ@army.mil

REGISTER
AT EVENT
BRIGHT



UPCOMING EVENTS

DMAVA Calendar

DMAVA will have a Veterans Service Officer present at most of these events. Check details to confirm.

- November 3, 2022 10:00AM - 2:00PM | Riverdale, NJ
[Community Resource & Job Fair](#)

- November 4, 2022 11:00AM | Easthampton, NJ
[DMAVA Medal Ceremony](#)
- November 5, 2022 10:00AM - 2:00PM | Sea Girt, NJ
[Community Resource & Job Fair](#)
- November 5, 2022 10:00AM - 2:00PM | Newark, NJ
[Veterans Resource Fair](#)
- November 7, 2022 11:30AM | Hainesport, NJ
[DMAVA Medal Ceremony](#)
- November 9, 2022 11:00AM | Lawrenceville, NJ
[DMAVA Medal Ceremony](#)
- November 10, 2022 11:00PM - 2:00PM | Ewing, NJ
[Mercer County Veterans Expo](#)
- November 10, 2022 2:00PM - 4:00PM | Whiting, NJ
[Crestwood Manor Senior Living Veterans Day Ceremony](#)
- November 10-11, 2022 | Atlantic City, NJ
[NJ Education Association Convention](#)
- November 11, 2022 11:00AM - 12:15PM | Holmdel, NJ
[New Jersey Veterans Day Ceremony](#)
- November 14, 2022 10:00AM - 2:00PM | Gen Gardner, NJ
[Suicide Prevention & Secure Firearms Storage](#)
- November 15-17, 2022 | Atlantic City, NJ
[NJ State League of Municipalities Conference](#)
- November 16, 2022 10:00AM - 2:00PM | Lawrenceville, NJ
[Soldier and Family Member Resource Fair](#)
- November 17, 2022 10:00AM | Fort Dix, NJ
[VA Disability Claim Processing Briefing](#)
- November 18, 2022 4:00PM - 7:30PM | Bayville, NJ
[VFW District 12 Veterans Resource Fair](#)
- November 19, 2022 10:00AM - 3:00PM | Fort Dix, NJ
[Job and Resource Fair](#)

Veterans Day Calendar

- November 3, 2022 5:30PM | Carney's Point, NJ
[Salem County Military Service Medal Ceremony](#)
- November 6, 2022 11:00AM | Hopewell, NJ
[Mercer County Ceremony for Veterans Day](#)
- November 6, 2022 1:00PM | Augusta, NJ
[Sussex County's 22nd Annual Salute to Military Veterans](#)
- November 11, 2022 11:00AM - 12:15PM | Holmdel, NJ
[New Jersey Veterans Day Ceremony](#)
- November 11, 2022 8:00AM - 11:00AM | Collingswood, NJ
[Camden County Veteran Appreciation Breakfast](#)
- November 11, 2022 9:45AM | Toms River, NJ
[Ocean County Veterans Day Parade](#)
- November 11, 2022 1:00PM | Flemington, NJ
[Hunterdon County Veterans Recognition Medal Ceremony](#)
- November 11, 2022 10:00AM | Sewell, NJ
[Gloucester County Veterans Day Celebration](#)

Community Calendar

We add new events to our calendar on a daily basis so please bookmark and check back often.

[View Full Calendar](#)

SPOTLIGHT

NEW JERSEY VETERANS' BENEFITS GUIDE



**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**



The Benefits Guide has been updated
effective October 12, 2022.

[Get Current Edition](#)



Veterans Day 2022 Discounts & Free Meals

Veterans Day Discounts

From free meals to big discounts on shopping trips and favorite items, military Veterans Day discounts are a November favorite. But with thousands of Veterans Day discounts to choose from, how do you find the best ones?

[Military.com](#) has compiled a list of [2022 Veterans Day Deals, Discounts and Freebies](#) on restaurants, goods, services and events. Visit daily as the list is updated frequently!

Also, see a long list of Veterans Day discounts at [VA News](#).

Please Join
American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
OPERATION HOLIDAY SALUTE

Holiday Cards will be delivered to Veterans
in Hospice locally and across the United States

1. Address your holiday card to "Dear Hero" or "Dear Veteran"
2. Deliver Your holiday cards to your local AGSM, Inc. Chapter

OR

Mail your cards to:
American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
P.O. Box 152179
Cape Coral, FL 33915
Postmark Deadline: 20 November 2022

For more information go to AmericanGoldStarMothers.org

VETERANS SERVICES



Veteran Receives HS Diploma on 100th Birthday

Emil J. "John" Tuross was a resident of New Jersey and attended Passaic High School in 1939-40, but did not graduate due to illness and then being called to active duty with the United States Army in World War II.

Due to the efforts of his daughter, Kay, the family was delighted to present him with a New Jersey High School Diploma on his 100th birthday on October 20, 2022.

Known as "Operation Recognition", New Jersey will award a state high school diploma to Veterans who left high school to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Congratulations and Happy Birthday, John! Thank you for your service.



Medal Ceremony

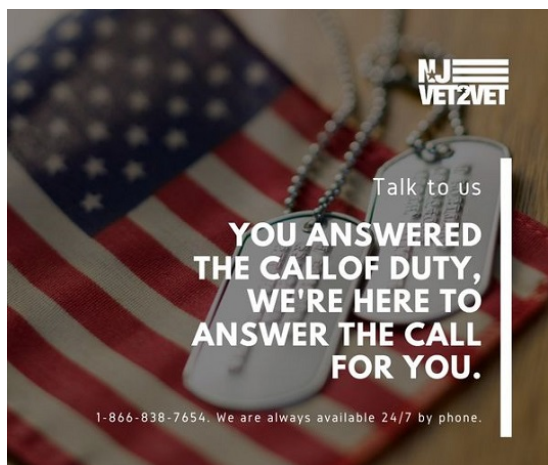
The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs held a New Jersey State Medals Ceremony at the Willowbrook Mall in Wayne, New Jersey, October 27, 2022.

[View Images](#)



Donation for Veterans Haven North

Bruce Hoag (third from left), from Hawk Pointe Golf Club, presents Veterans Haven North with a donation check from their "Warrior Cup Charity Gold Outing" held on October 10, 2022. [Veterans Haven North](#) Veteran residents George G., Luis A., and Chris R. are pictured with Bruce.



NJ Veterans' Benefits Hotline
888-865-8387
vbb@dmava.nj.gov

ALWAYS READY, ALWAYS THERE

NJ Army National Guard



Citizen Soldier

"The opportunities are endless, I wish I knew about the National Guard earlier, but it's never too late."

PV2 Greg Guempel, an electrician from Seaside Heights, also with Bravo Company, 1-114th Infantry Regiment, talks about why the zero range is important and his feelings on joining the New Jersey Army National Guard at the age of 27.

[View Video](#)

[View Images](#)

NJ Air National Guard



Africa

108th Wing Security Forces Squadron members are making their mark while assigned to the 409th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron with the U.S. Africa Command. The deployed New Jersey Guardsmen secure, protect and defend Air Force weapons systems, air base assets, personnel and resources.

Join Our Team

100% Free College Tuition

Bonuses up to \$20,000

Student Loan Repayment



DMAVA DEPARTMENTS



Trunk or Treat

The New Jersey National Guard's Child & Youth Program held its annual Fall Fest & "Trunk or Treat" at the Joint Military & Family Assistance Center in Bordentown, New Jersey, October 20, 2022. The [Child & Youth Program](#) events are open to all military service members and their families.

[View Images](#)



Voices of Immigrant Veterans

The New Jersey Historical Commission (NJHC), a division of the NJ Department of State, will be hosting the 2022 New Jersey History Conference, *Freedom Seeker, Colonizer and Enslaved: Immigration and Migration in New Jersey*, virtually on November 4, 2022.

The one-day, virtual event will explore the history, cultural heritage, and contemporary issues facing immigrant communities through the lens of New Jersey studies.

Museum Assistant Curator Carol Fowler will be a featured panel

speaker during "Becoming American Through Military Service", held during the second afternoon session.

[Learn More](#)



NEW JERSEY
YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY

DREAM. BELIEVE. ACHIEVE.

YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY

Now accepting applications for Class 55 - January 23, 2023!

APPLY NOW!

TUITION FREE

For More Information:
njyca.org/admissions
rpm@dmava.nj.gov
(800) 997-5587

The advertisement features a dark blue background with a white circular frame on the right side. Inside the frame is a photograph of several people in high-visibility yellow vests standing in front of a classical building with columns. The text is in white and yellow, with a yellow starburst containing the words 'TUITION FREE'. A yellow speech bubble contains the text 'APPLY NOW!'. The top left corner has the text 'NEW JERSEY YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY' in white and yellow. Below that is the tagline 'DREAM. BELIEVE. ACHIEVE.' and the academy's logo. The middle section contains information about accepting applications for Class 55 on January 23, 2023, and a call to action 'APPLY NOW!'. The bottom left corner lists contact information for more information, including a website, email, and phone number.

STATE PARTNERS



RevolutionNJ
ENGAGE THE PAST. SHAPE THE FUTURE.

Call For Photographs!

RevolutionNJ is looking for photographs highlighting New Jersey's diverse history and population to use in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States!

The advertisement features a dark blue background with a white circular frame on the left side. Inside the frame is a photograph of a woman and a child looking at a tablet. The text is in white and yellow. The top right corner has the RevolutionNJ logo and tagline. The middle section contains the text 'Call For Photographs!' in a large, bold font. Below that is a paragraph of text explaining the call for photographs. A white arrow points to the right at the bottom of the text block.

RevolutionNJ Call for Photographs

RevolutionNJ is looking for photographs highlighting New Jersey's diverse history and population to use in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States!

New Jersey has been home to diverse communities for centuries. Please share with us your photos that reflect that history. Historic sites are for more than just looking. We want to see today's visitors interacting with your site. Seeing the interaction helps create an ENGAGING experience to show how one can learn by doing.

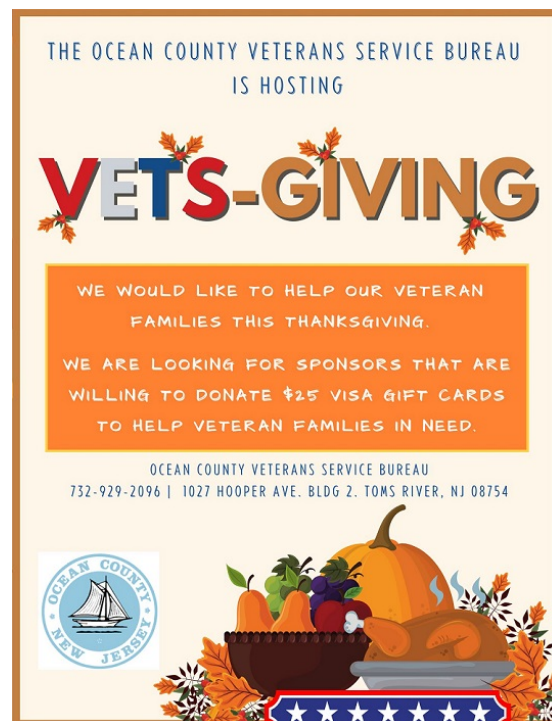
Send photos and questions to Isabella Sangaline at Isabella.Sangaline@sos.nj.gov. Please put "RevNJ PHOTO SUBMISSION" in the subject line.



RevolutionNJ Quarterly Meeting

Please join Crossroads of the American Revolution and the New Jersey Historical Commission on Wednesday, November 9 from 12pm to 1pm on Zoom for the next update session on plans for RevolutionNJ, New Jersey's commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States, including a sneak peek at the new RevNJ website.

[Register](https://bit.ly/nov9revnj)



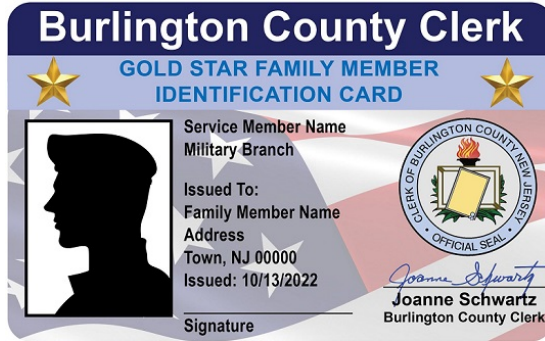
Ocean County Veterans Service Bureau

We know that the holidays can be a tough time for some of our sister and brother Veterans. So we are going to be hosting our inaugural VETS-GIVING, in which we will be providing \$25 Visa gift cards to Veteran families in need throughout Ocean County this Thanksgiving.

If you or someone you know would like to help and sponsor this event, we are accepting donations in the form of gift cards until November 18, 2022. We will be distributing the gift cards on Monday November 21, 2022.



Burlington County Supports & Recognizes Gold Star Families



Burlington County Offering Gold Star IDs

The Burlington County Clerk's Office is now issuing Gold Star Family identification cards to the spouses, domestic partners, civil union partners and children of military members who died while serving on active duty with the U.S. Armed Forces.

[Learn More](#)

NEEDED: Volunteer Veteran Mentors!

Help a Fellow Veteran Undergoing Life-Changing Rehabilitation, Counseling and Treatment!

The Cape May County Prosecutors Office operates a Veterans Diversion Program (VDP) which offers Veterans charged with crimes an alternative to trial and sentencing. The program offers Veterans treatment and assistance for mental health, substance abuse and other issues which may have contributed to their arrest and criminal charges.

Instead of incarceration, the program helps Veterans with:

- Treatment and Rehabilitation
- Community services and assistance
- Veterans Affairs counseling and benefits
- Mentoring support & coaching

VETERAN MENTORS are a vital part of the program, offering a frontline source of guidance and support for the participants...and MORE are needed in our community!




**ARE YOU READY TO
LEND A FELLOW VET A
HELPING HAND?**

PLEASE CONTACT:
David L. Shutter
SPC-4, US ARMY – LCDR, USNR
VFW-386, Cape May, NJ

Veteran Diversion Program Coordinator
Cape May County Prosecutors Office

dshutter@cmcpfos.net
609-465-1135




NJ State Agencies

- [Vote For Valor](#)
- [Career Connections for Veterans](#)
- [Tax Resources for Military/Veterans](#)
- [Educator Certification for Military Spouses and Veterans](#)
- [NJ National Guard Hunting / Fishing Licenses](#)
- [NJ Special Hawker and Peddlers License](#)
- [Veterans Designation for Drivers License](#)
- [Military CDL Skills Waiver Program](#)
- [Disabled Veteran / Purple Heart Recipient Placards](#)
- [Veteran and Disabled Veteran-Owned Business](#)
- [Division of Consumer Affairs Military Outreach & Support](#)

- Professional and Occupational Licenses for Veterans and Spouses
- Military and Overseas Voting



FEDERAL PARTNERS




VA opens health care eligibility for Vietnam, Gulf War, post-9/11 Veterans under PACT Act

Washington — On October 1, The Department of Veterans Affairs will expand and extend eligibility for VA health care for certain Veterans of the Gulf Wars and post-9/11 era.



This expansion will increase health care eligibility for hundreds of thousands of toxic-exposed Veterans. Additionally, VA has already expanded health care eligibility for certain Veterans of the Vietnam War. More detailed information about this expansion can be found on [VA.gov/PACT](https://www.va.gov/PACT).

President Biden signed the bipartisan [PACT Act](#) into law August 10, authorizing one of the largest expansions of VA health care and benefits in U.S. history. Veterans can go to [VA.gov/PACT](https://www.va.gov/PACT) to apply for health care or learn more about what this bill means for them and their families. [Read the full press release.](#)



THE 2022 PACT ACT


makes it easier for many survivors
to receive Dependency and
Indemnity Compensation.




VA will be contacting survivors who were
previously denied. You don't need to wait
for VA to contact you to submit a claim.

VA SURVIVOR BENEFITS

Learn more at VA.gov/PACT
1-800-MyVA411 (800-698-2411)


VA  U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



BE VIGILANT OF PACT ACT SCAMS


On August 10, President Biden signed the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act (PACT Act) into law. This law helps millions of Veterans and their survivors by:

- Extending VA health care eligibility for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and Post-9/11 (Post-September 11, 2001) eras
- Expanding benefits eligibility for Veterans exposed to toxic substances and their survivors



Tips to Avoid PACT Act Scams

Scammers are taking advantage of new opportunities to commit fraud. There's been an increase in PACT Act-related phishing (email), vishing (phone), and social media scams targeting Veterans to access their PACT Act benefits or submit claims on their behalf. Veterans should be cautious of anyone who guarantees a lucrative financial benefit or service.



Eligibility Extension on VA Family Caregivers Program

Washington — 10/1/2022

VA's [Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers](#) is expanding to include eligible Veterans and family caregivers of all eras.

Previously, PCAFC was only available to eligible Veterans who served on or after Sept. 11, 2001. This expansion opens the program to eligible Veterans who served after May 7, 1975, and before Sept. 11, 2001.

PCAFC provides caregivers of eligible Veterans with resources, education, financial assistance, health insurance, beneficiary travel, peer support and more. The program is a cornerstone of VA health care, ensuring that Veterans get the world-class care they deserve and that caregivers get the comprehensive support they need. [Read the full press release.](#)

2023 VA Disability Increase

In this episode of [#theSITREP](#), the host discusses the new, 2023 VA Disability Compensation rates based on Social Security's Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). Official compensation tables will be provided by VA in December 2022. Please [refer here](#) for the Social Security Administration's official notice regarding COLA. To watch the short video please go to [#theSITREP](#).

VRRAP

If you're a Veteran who lost your job due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the VA may have a solution for you. The [Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program \(VRRAP\)](#) offers education and training for a variety of high-demand jobs so you can get back to work.

If you qualify, apply soon! The VA will stop accepting new VRRAP enrollments on December 11, 2022 - or when they reach either the funding or participant limit, whichever comes first.



VA Life Insurance

Important changes are coming to VA Life Insurance programs. Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife) is launching on Jan. 1, 2023, as a new guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance program for service-connected Veterans. VA's current offering for service-connected Veterans—Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance (S-DVI)—closes to new enrollment after Dec. 31, 2022. Veterans currently enrolled in S-DVI may keep their coverage or switch to VALife.

While both VALife and S-DVI cover Veterans with any level of service-connected disability (0-100%), there are key program differences to consider before deciding which program is right for you.

So, what is the difference between VA Life Insurance and Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance? Read more at [VA News](#).

ANNUAL 2023 Benefits Enrollment

November 14 - December 12

FEDVIP Open Enrollment

Sponsored by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), FEDVIP is a voluntary, enrollee-pay-all dental and vision insurance program. It replaced the former TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP). In general, retired uniformed service members, their families, and survivors are eligible for FEDVIP dental coverage and, if enrolled in a TRICARE health plan, FEDVIP vision coverage. Please note: Opportunities to enroll outside of open season are limited.

The Federal Benefits Open Season is your annual opportunity to enroll in, change, or cancel a FEDVIP dental and/or vision plan. This year, open season runs from November 14 through December 12, 2022, with coverage effective January 1, 2023.

[Learn More](#)

Virtual Benefits Fair

The Virtual Benefits Fair is an online health fair that houses 2023 FEDVIP plan information in a single location, allowing military families to browse exhibits, download plan brochures, [register for educational webinars](#) and chat with BENEFEDS and FEDVIP representatives. [BENEFEDS](#) is the secure online portal to enroll in FEDVIP.

Log in anytime during the Federal Benefits Open Season, from November 14 to December 12, 2022. Representatives will be available to take your questions during the four live chat days:

Tuesday, Nov 15, 2022 10 am-5 pm (ET)

Tuesday, Nov 22, 2022 10 am-5 pm (ET)

Thursday, Dec 1, 2022 10 am-5 pm (ET)

Thursday, Dec 8, 2022 10 am-5 pm (ET)

**FOR ACTIVE-DUTY FAMILIES
AND MILITARY RETIREES***

**Get Ready for
TRICARE OPEN SEASON**

11/14/22-12/13/22

All your TRICARE Prime benefits plus more at \$0 cost!



- **ENHANCED VISION BENEFITS**
- **PREVENTATIVE DENTAL BENEFITS**
- **GYM REIMBURSEMENT BENEFIT**

Call us to hear your options so you can
make the best healthcare decision

1 (800) 241-4848 option #3
www.usfhp.net



*Military Retirees and eligible family members under age 65.
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USFHP Lunch & Learn

The Uniformed Services Family Health Plan (USFHP) @ Saint Vincents is a TRICARE® Prime military health plan sponsored by the Department of Defense (DoD). Lunch and Learn briefings are now scheduled in New Jersey.

[Learn More and RSVP](#)

Featured Links

- [Simplifying the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill application process](#)
- [VA extends delay of upcoming electronic health record deployments to June 2023](#)
- [Free legal services for Veterans, service members](#)
- [VA Health and Benefits Mobile App - six essential facts](#)
- [Women Veterans Call Center](#)
- [Preserve Your Loved Ones Story with Veterans Legacy Memorial](#)
- [Million Veteran Program](#)

#VetResources

Subscribe to #VetResources to receive a weekly newsletter from the VA for Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors.

[Subscribe](#)



Veterans Home at Paramus

Members of the Bergen County Police Association hosted a barbeque for the residents at the [New Jersey Veterans Home at Paramus](#).



Birdies for the Brave

DMAVA was well represented at the Annual *Birdies for the Brave* charity event at TPC Jasna Polana in Princeton, NJ on October 18, 2022.

Brigadier General Timothy Coakley and Brigadier General Patrick Kennedy were guest speakers at the event. In addition, a crew of volunteers from the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey exhibited military artifacts for the attendees. [View Images](#).

Birdies for the Brave is a military outreach initiative proudly supported by the PGA Tour that is dedicated to supporting the brave men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families. Since 2005, the Tour has joined with PGA Tour players and corporate partners to raise millions of dollars for military homefront groups that provide critical programs and services to meet the specialized needs of wounded warriors and military families.

One of the beneficiaries of this year's event at TPC Jasna Polana was New Jersey's [National Guard State Family Readiness Council](#).



Backpacks For Life

The terrific folks at [Backpacks For Life](#) provided 60 filled backpacks with personal items for the Union County Veterans Stand Down on October 20, 2022. Great job. Thank you from all of us at DMAVA.
Image Courtesy New Jersey Veterans Network Facebook

Catholic  Charities
representatives are
at the Carlton R.
Rouh Veterans Center
**Every 2nd &
4th Thursday**
11:00am - 2:00pm
NO Appointment Necessary



**Carlton R. Rouh
Veterans Center**
"A Place for Our Heroes"
777 Blackwood Clementon Road
Lindenwold, NJ 08021



VETERANS
"COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS"
EVERY
Thursday
10:00am-12:00pm
777 Blackwood Clementon Rd Lindenwold, NJ 08021
 **SPECTRA**
Care
FOUNDATION

IN THE NEWS



100-year-old WWII Veteran Honored with Street Renaming in New Jersey Hometown

October 19, 2022 by ABC7NY

EAST ORANGE, New Jersey (WABC) – One New Jersey town is honoring a 100-year-old World War II Veteran by renaming a street after her.

The street that Gladys Blount used to live on, North Oraton Parkway and Davis Place, is now named after her.

Seventy-seven years ago, Blount was shipped from her hometown of East Orange, New Jersey, to England to help in WWII.

[Full Story and Video](#)



Iowa, New Jersey Guard Chaplains Make History Together

October 24, 2022 by Staff Sgt. Tawny Kruse, Joint Force Headquarters - Iowa National Guard | Photo credit: [DVIDS](#)

JOHNSTON, Iowa – Two National Guard chaplains have become the first women to serve as state chaplains in their states and the country.

Lt. Col. Martha Kester will serve the Iowa National Guard, while Lt. Col. Heather Simon will serve the New Jersey National Guard. Both Kester and Simon started on Oct. 1, allowing them to claim the title together. Chaplain (Col.) Laurence Bazer, deputy director of the National Guard Bureau Office of the Joint Chaplains, commended them for their achievement.

“These two women represent the best of our Guard and you could not have picked better individuals to lead their states,” said Bazer. “They’re going to bring their wisdom and experiences to help not just their states, but our entire Army Guard chaplaincy, to greater levels.”

[Full Story](#)

NEVER FORGET



In Honor of all those from New Jersey who gave their lives in the fight against terrorism during Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. In humble gratitude, we remember their sacrifice.

November 2, 2003
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SGT Joel Perez
U.S. Army
Newark, New Jersey

November 12, 2005
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SSG Stephen J. Sutherland
U.S. Army
West Deptford, New Jersey

November 3, 2005
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SFC Daniel Pratt
U.S. Army
Williamstown, New Jersey

November 14, 2005
Operation Iraqi Freedom

MAJ Ramon J. Mendoza Jr.
U.S. Marine Corps
Morris Plains, New Jersey

November 4, 2005
Operation Iraqi Freedom

CPT James M. Gurbisz
U.S. Army
Eatontown, New Jersey

November 14, 2006
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SPC Eric G. Palacios Rivera
U.S. Army
Atlantic City, New Jersey

November 5, 2007
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SSG John D. Linde
U.S. Army
Union, New Jersey

November 15, 2003
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SPC Ryan Travis Baker
U.S. Army
Browns Mills, New Jersey

November 8, 2004
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SGT Bryan L. Freeman, Jr.
U.S. Army
Lumberton, New Jersey

November 15, 2004
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Cpl Marc T. Ryan
U.S. Marine Corps
Gloucester City, New Jersey

November 11, 2003
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SPC Marlon P. Jackson
U.S. Army
Jersey City, New Jersey

"But on the battlefield their feet stood fast, and in an instant at the height of their fortune, they passed away from the scene, not of their fear, but of their glory."

~ Pericles

NJ Fallen Heroes Memorial

VETERANS' ORAL HISTORIES



Richard Bammert
Cold War / Iraqi Freedom



John Booth
Cold War

Veterans History Project

HISTORY



Atlantic City Hotel 1943

November 2, 1783

General George Washington delivered his farewell address to the Continental Army from his headquarters at Rockingham, near Princeton.

November 3, 1791

General Arthur St. Clair's army, including a battalion recruited in New Jersey, met disastrous defeat by Indians under the command of Chief Little Turtle near the Wabash River in Ohio. Over the course of its service, from May through November, 1791, 328 officers and men served in the New Jersey battalion. Of these, 34 deserted, 5 died of undisclosed causes, 51 were killed or went missing (presumed dead) on November 4, and 8 were wounded but escaped.

November 9, 1812

November 11, 1918

At 11:00 AM the World War I Armistice began, ending active combat for the National Guard soldiers of the New Jersey National Guard in the 29th Division and drafted Jerseymen in the 78th and other divisions and New Jerseyans in the USMC and Navy.

November 16, 1776

A British and Hessian force stormed Fort Washington, New York, and captured 2,600 Americans. Morale on the New Jersey side of the Hudson, where soldiers watched the disaster, plummeted, and the Americans evacuated supplies inland as British raiders began to cross the river, isolating Fort Lee.

November 16, 1945

The United States Army Air Force returned control of Convention Hall

Marcus Ward was born in Newark. Ward became a leading businessman and philanthropist and a director of the National State Bank. During the Civil War his efforts on behalf of soldier welfare earned him the title of "the soldier's friend." Newark's Ward General Hospital, established to care for wounded soldiers, was named for him and he established the Soldiers Home in the city to care for injured veterans.

in Atlantic City, used as a training headquarters since July, 1942, to civilian authorities.



Battleship New Jersey

It's a great time of year to tour our nation's largest, most decorated battleship on the waterfront in Camden, NJ.

The Battleship New Jersey is open for tours every day from 10 AM to 4 PM. Climb inside the 16-inch gun turret, walk through the bridge, learn how the crew lived aboard this floating city and more! To learn more, [click here](#).

DID YOU KNOW?



State Partnership Program

September 2022 marked the 21st anniversary in the relationship between the New Jersey National Guard and the Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania, which has evolved through the State Partnership Program. The Program links a component of the Department of Defense – a state's National Guard – with the armed forces of a partner country in a cooperative, mutually beneficial relationship.

State Partnership Program

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Fiscal Division

The Fiscal Division would like to recognize Ms. Soniya Reddy (left) and Mrs. Felicia Hornbaker. Soniya recently recognized that an employee was feeling ill in the ladies room, almost passing out. She immediately notified Felicia by text who came in to assist. Most of the office had already departed for the day. They notified 911 who came to assess the employee and determined her blood sugar was low. They released her and Felicia drove her home that day.

Thanks to Felicia and Soniya for acting when they did to make sure one of their coworkers was safe!

DMAVA QUICK LINKS



Veterans Service Offices



Request Military Records



Family Programs Office



Veterans Memorial Homes



NJ State Medals



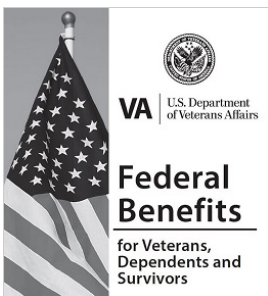
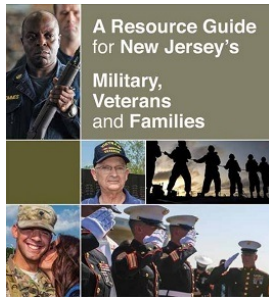
Military Funeral Honors



Doyle Veterans Cemetery

[DMAVA Homepage](#)

RESOURCES



DMAVA CAREERS



We Are Hiring!

At the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs we take our work in support of Veterans, Servicemembers and their families very seriously. Whether supporting our Veterans with nursing care, transitional housing, or assisting them in navigating access to their Veteran benefits, the Department provides valuable services and can offer rewarding career opportunities to members of the public.

We also have opportunities in facilities management and program management. In addition, we have job openings for members of our military to serve in AGR and Federal Technician roles.

Stay updated on job openings by subscribing to our [Jobs Bulletin](#).

Vacancies

STAY CONNECTED



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