

DMAVA Highlights

April 29, 2010 Volume 12 Number 15



DMAVA, Jersey Guard lead the way in alternative energy

By Sgt. Wayne Woolley, DMAVA Public Affairs Specialist

It was a busy week on the alternative energy front for DMAVA and the New Jersey National Guard.

Things kicked off April 20 with The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, making sure the Senate Budget Committee understood that the Department and New Jersey National Guard have emerged as national and state leaders in the use of solar technology.

“No other state agency or department has embraced alternative energy with DMAVA’s enthusiasm,” Rieth said. “When it comes to ‘Going Green,’ DMAVA is number one. There is no number two.”

DMAVA’s six solar projects are expected to all be operational by the end of the year, generating 1.6 megawatts of power and saving at least \$3.5 million in utility costs over the next decade.

Two of the people behind DMAVA’s green efforts, John Hastings and Chief Warrant Officer Thomas Comyack, traveled to the National Guard Bureau in Arlington, Va., last week to receive a Federal Energy Management Program award on behalf of the Department.

Kevin T. Geiss, the Army’s program director for energy security, lauded DMAVA’s efforts to harness the power of the sun – even in a climate that doesn’t yield daily sunshine.



The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth (foreground) and retired Col. Stephen G. Abel, Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs, speak to the State Budget Committee concerning energy issues in the department. Photo by Mark Olsen, DMAVA Public Affairs.

This week, Hastings and Comyack helped organize a three-day alternative energy summit at DMAVA. Among the highlights: a demonstration of electric cars similar to the 25 vehicles the Department is slated to receive in August from the U.S. Army. The cars will have top speeds of 35 mph and will be assigned to National Guard facilities at Lawrenceville, Lakehurst, Fort Dix and Sea Girt.

Air Guard holds Business & Industry Days at McGhee-Tyson for employers



Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, right, The Adjutant General of New Jersey, and State Command Chief Master Sgt. Michael R. Francis, left, New Jersey Air National Guard, along with, left to right, Robert Coulton, New Jersey State Associations of Police Chiefs; Maureen McGuire, McGuire Consulting; Tim Farrell, Bank of America; Judge Henry Broome, Municipal Judge; George Butson, Apollo Security; Robert Coghlan, BNP Paribas and Patrick Shields, Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, attended the Air National Guard Business & Industry Days at McGhee-Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tenn., from April 28-30, 2010. The event served as an opportunity to acquaint these civic leaders with the national defense mission being performed by the Air National Guard, as well as to educate employers within each region on the benefits of employing guard members in their organizations. During the event, guests were familiarized with the operational mission and educational and training benefits available to their employees through ANG membership. The program included a base tour, various demonstrations, aircraft familiarization, educational briefings, discussions and a retreat ceremony. The participating states for the April 2010 program were: Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.

DMAVA changing paycheck distribution method

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is revising its method of distributing paychecks. In an effort to save taxpayer dollars DMAVA will no longer mail out employee's checks to their homes.

Alternatives to paper paystubs are through direct deposit and Electronic-Pay Stub on the web. The Electronic-Pay Stub on the web program utilizes direct deposit and eliminates a paper paystub. All information is available on line via the internet. Please check with your local Human Resources Office for information on direct deposit, Electronic-Pay Stub and other paycheck distribution alternatives.

President signs law to protect Tricare

By Rick Maze, Military Times

The Tricare Affirmation Act, aimed at protecting people in the military health care program from being penalized for not having private insurance, was signed into law Monday by President Obama.

The new law provides a specific exemption for Tricare beneficiaries and for nonappropriated-fund civilian employees of the Defense Department from a requirement of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that will require people without minimal health cover to either buy private insurance or face a \$750 penalty.

Tricare health insurance is specifically defined by the law signed Monday as minimal essential coverage, which provides an exemption from the penalty.

Rep. Ike Skelton, D-Mo., the House Armed Services Committee chairman who opposed the national health care reform law but was a key sponsor of the Tricare Affirmation Act, said he hopes this resolves questions by active-duty family members, retirees and their families about how national health reform might affect them.

Signing the new law "reinforces that military health care coverage will not be adversely affected by the health care reform law," Skelton said.

Skelton's committee will consider legislation in May that would extend to Tricare beneficiaries one of the provisions of the new health reform law that allows unmarried children to remain covered by a parent's insurance until age 26. That legislation is expected to be included in the 2011 defense authorization bill.

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

I have figured out that Americans must be some messy folks! I read recently that during an average year, an American uses approximately 2,200 napkins, making that about six every day. Oh the landfills!!

Just think if you switched over to cloth napkins, adding them to your regular loads of wash, you would save paper, the process needed to make the paper napkins and the landfill needed to store them.

To further save on your napkin usage – you can make your own and use some items that were on their way out the door to create them. Do you have a dress shirt with frayed cuff and collar? Use the back and maybe the fronts to create napkins. Maybe you can use a sheet that is no longer being used because you changed bed size. Look around your house and you are sure to find items that will fit the bill.

Other people have used inexpensive washcloths or bandanas for napkins. Use different colors for each family member to personalize their mealtime. Visit your local fabric store for remnant fabrics or maybe fabric with your child's favorite action figure or sports team.

Napkins are usually 14-20 inches square, but in researching this article, I found one Web site where someone made napkins for her children that were 11 inches square. Small hands don't need the larger sizes.

Here are a few sites with directions and tips on how to sew cloth napkins. And if you don't sew, maybe you can exchange a sewing session for a home-cooked meal – you get napkins and your friend gets dinner. Try one of these for instructions: <http://www.thefamilyhomestead.com/clothnapkins.htm>, <http://www.smartfamilytips.com/2009/07/13/cloth-napkins/>, <http://frugalliving.about.com/b/2008/07/07/make-your-own-cloth-napkins.htm>, <http://www.skiptomylou.org/2009/04/20/make-your-own-cloth-napkins/>.

Keep Green!

Quotes

To many people virtue consists chiefly in repenting faults, not in avoiding them.

--Georg Christoph Lichtenberg

Never praise a sister to a sister, in the hope of your compliments reaching the proper ears.

--Rudyard Kipling

All glory comes from daring to begin.

--Anonymous

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New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth – The Adjutant General

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

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

Maj. Yvonne Mays – Public Affairs Officer

Tech. Sgt. Barb Harbison – Public Affairs Specialist

Sgt. Wayne Woolley – Public Affairs Specialist

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

Families

Job opening at Atlantic City Family Readiness Center

A position is open as an Army National Guard Family Readiness Support Assistant at the 57th Troop Command, Atlantic City. Salary is \$36K annual. If you are interested, e-mail Marie Durling at marie.durling@us.army.mil for a job listing and application instructions.

Essex Troop opens 2010 college scholarship program

It is time to apply for the Essex Troop scholarships. Six \$500 scholarships will be given to applicants enrolled or accepted to an approved college or university or school of nursing.

Applicants must be members in good standing of the Essex Troop or their spouse, child or grandchild. Applications are also accepted from active drilling New Jersey Guard members currently assigned to the 102d Cavalry Squadron, to include Company D, 250th Support Battalion; and active drilling members of the 50th Brigade Special Troops Battalion.

To download an application, visit <http://www.essextroop.org/scholarship.htm>. Questions can be addressed to hilw5307@yahoo.com or call 973-736-0952 Wednesday evenings after 7 p.m.

Applications are due to Scholarship Committee no later than May 26.

Free concert, picnic for military at Come Alive Church on May 30

On May 30, beginning at 10:30 a.m., a free concert and picnic will be held at Come Alive Church, 240 Old Marlton Pike, Medford. The event is open to the entire community with a special invitation to active duty military and veterans and their families. This celebration is to honor you for your dedication and service to our country. Come on out, enjoy the concert, food, fun and games! For more information and free tickets call 609-654-8466. No rain date.

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
Military OneSource 1-800-342-9647; NJ 609-530-6867
Survivor Outreach Services – 609-530-6864
Fax – 609-530-6871

Marriage Enrichment weekend slated for May 14-16

Marriage Enrichment for May 14-16 has two openings for those who have never attended. If you are interested, please e-mail Marie Durling at marie.durling@us.army.mil. The seminar weekend will be in New Brunswick.

DoD offers interactive education resource for military families

Department of Defense Education Activity's Educational Partnership proudly presents "Students at the Center," an interactive educational resource for everyone involved in the education of the children of our military service members. It has a lot of information for families, military commands, school officials and more. Check out the Web site at <http://www.militaryk12partners.dodea.edu/studentsAtTheCenter>.

Get scholarships to Camden County babysitter training

The Camden County Red Cross has 15 Babysitter Training Scholarships for children of military families, ages 11-15.

Participants learn to: supervise children and infants, basic child-care skills (diapering and feeding), choose safe, age-appropriate games and toys, handle bedtime and discipline issues, identify safety hazards Care for common injuries and emergencies such as choking, cuts, bee stings, communicate effectively with parents, and find and interview for babysitting jobs.

The Camden County Red Cross has 50 Community First Aid and Safety Scholarships for military family members and returning veterans. Training includes: adult CPR and AED (Automated External Defibrillation), infant and child CPR, and basic first aid.

Scholarships are offered on a first come, first served basis. Call the Camden County Red Cross at 856-365-7100 for dates, times and to register.

When calling, identify yourself as "military". The offer expires May 31, 2010.

Also available are classes on "Coping with Deployments- Psychological First Aid for Military Families Course" and a "Get to know us before you need us" outreach program.

All of these offers are for Camden County residents only.

If you have any questions, contact Rick Paul from the Red Cross at 856-365-7100 ext. 222 or paulrick@usa.redcross.org.

Guard Youth Camp July 11-17

Applications are now available for the 2010 New Jersey National Guard Youth Camp being held at Sea Girt, July 11-17. To download an application, go to: http://www.state.nj.us/military/familysupport/youth_camp.html or contact your nearest Family Assistance Center. **3**

Et Cetera

Vets Haven gives thanks

From the desk of Robert Sauselein, Vets Haven Superintendent

I would like to thank the American Legion Frank Patterson Post Number 43 from Florham Park for their donation of \$5,000 to the Veterans Haven program. They continue to support our veterans over the years. We thank you.

Vets Haven also received a car donation from Gloucester Township. The program was given a 1998 Ford Crown Victoria. Our thanks go out to Laura Powers who was instrumental in making this happen. Cars donated to Vets Haven are given to the veterans that in turn enable them to go further into the community to find and get jobs than public transportation can take them.



Standing in front of the "new" car destined for one lucky veteran at Vets Haven is from left to right: Ms. Laura Powers, Gloucester Township Mayor Dave Mayer and Robert G. Sauselein, superintendent of Veterans Haven.

Get your baseball tickets!!

Baseball tickets listed below are available at Fort Monmouth Tickets N' Tours, building 702, call 732-532-3077 for more information.

Yankees vs. Baltimore Orioles, May 3, 7:05 p.m., seats are section 135 row 18, seats 1 and 2; price is \$95 each, 2 tickets per game.

Yankees vs. Minnesota Twins, May 14, 7:05 p.m.

Yankees vs. Cleveland Indians, May 28, 7:05 p.m.

Yankees vs. Baltimore Orioles, June 3, 1:05 p.m.

Yankees vs. Houston Astros, June 11, 7:05 p.m.

Yankees vs. Toronto, July 2, 1:05 p.m. (2 tickets)

Yankees vs. Seattle Mariners, Aug. 20, 7:05 p.m.

Seats are section 332B, Row 5, Seats 5-8, price is \$50 each, 4 tickets per game, unless otherwise noted.

Yankees vs. Minnesota Twins, May 14, 7:05 p.m., 4 tickets

Yankees vs. Houston Astros, June 11, 7:05 p.m., 6 tickets

Yankees vs. Cleveland Indians, May 28, 7:05 p.m., 4 tickets

Yankees vs. Toronto Blue Jays, July 2, 1:05 p.m., 6 tickets

Yankees vs. Baltimore Orioles, June 3, 1:05 p.m., 6 tickets

Yankees vs. Toronto Blue Jays, Sept. 3, 1:05 p.m., 6 tickets

Seats are section 432A, row 12, seats 13-18, price is \$26 each.

Or for you Mets fans –

4 Mets vs. Atlanta Braves, Sept. 17, 7:10 p.m., seats are section 503, row 15, seats 21-24, price is \$28 each.

Vets center promoting women veterans programs

The Wilmington (Del.) Veterans Medical Center Women's Health Program is hosting a luncheon for women veterans living in Southern New Jersey on May 12 at 11 a.m. at the Vineland Memorial Veterans Home.

RSVP to Mary Nairn at 800-461-8262, ext. 4953 by May 3 if you would like to attend.

Women veterans are reminded of the services available at the Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) in South Jersey.

Vineland CBOC – Comprehensive care for women including primary care, gender specific care (gyn care), mental health, podiatry and eye care

Ventnor CBOC – Primary care for women (soon to offer gender-specific care after provider training), mental health, podiatry and eye care

Cape May CBOC – Primary care for women, mental health, podiatry and eye care

Free Pelican cases available for wounded warriors

By Judith Snyderman, Emerging Media, Defense Media Activity

During a recent ceremony at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Retired Marine Corps Gen. Peter Pace, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presented the first custom Pelican cases for prosthetics to wounded warriors who have lost limbs.

Pace serves as the chairman of the board for Pelican Products and said that the program comes with no strings attached.

"We just want to be able to give to these great heroes," he said. "It's a small way of saying 'thank you' that will protect prosthetic arms and legs and make their lives a little better."

It is common for those who use prosthetics to have several, either as back-ups or for specific uses.

Lyndon Faulkner, president and CEO of Pelican Products, said his main concern is getting the word out to eligible servicemembers and veterans. Anyone who sacrificed an arm or a leg since Sept. 11, 2001, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom qualifies to receive a free case. That includes nearly 1,000 people now, as well as "anyone, unfortunately who will become eligible in the future," Pace said.

Each case will be custom-fitted with protective foam.

"When we get the individual's prosthetic need," Pace explained, "we can design the inside of the case precisely to those measurements."

Applications are available online at <http://www.pelican.com/PPF>.

Run the Armed Forces 5K May 13

Lace up those running shoes and enter to run in the Armed Forces Day 5K at Picatinny Arsenal. Start is at Choice's parking lot on May 13. Sign-up starts at 9:30 a.m., race starts at 10 a.m. All participants will be entered to win a free T-shirt. For more information, call Brian Chase or Joe Gombos at 973-724-6215.

Veterans & Military

Join the 4th Annual Freedom Ride May 16 to Joint Base MDL

Join the fourth annual Armed Forces Freedom Ride on May 16. The ride of nearly 1,000 motorcycle riders – all bikes are welcome – goes from Barb's Harley-Davidson in West Collingswood Heights at 10 a.m., up Route 295 to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. The trip takes the riders down the flightline of McGuire and ends at Doughboy Field in the Dix area of the base for lunch and lots of activities.

You can register now at www.ArmedForcesFreedomRide.org or at Barb's Harley-Davidson. The first 200 registrants will receive a free T-shirt. Register by May 14.

Cost is \$30 per rider. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Burlington County Military Affairs Committee and the U.S. Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation of Philadelphia.

Ultimate Warrior Career Workshop slated for June 9

Out there looking for a job? Looking to change career fields? Come to The Ultimate Warrior Career Workshops and Job Fair at The Timmerman Center on June 9 and 10 for workshops, services and opportunities to meet with companies who are hiring.

On June 9, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. there will be technical workshops and services. Workshops include interviewing tips and techniques and meeting with career and job coaches.

On June 10, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., a job fair with recruiters from defense contractors and private sector employers will be present.

For more information on the event or to register to attend, contact Sgt. Maj. James Clark at 301-674-9427, james.clarksr1@us.army.mil or Sgt. 1st Class Loranda Taylor, 609-864-2559, loranda.mitriece.taylor@us.army.mil.

Uniform for the event will be ACUs. No child care is available on site. Everyone must have a copy of their resume on a CD or hardcopy; thumb drives are not authorized.

Dinosaurs ready for Spring Gathering in Bordentown

Calling all Dinosaurs – that's New Jersey Air Guard retirees – the Spring 2010 Gathering at the Town and Country Diner, Bordentown, on May 19 at 1 p.m.

The menu will be salad, main course, coffee/tea and a dessert for \$15 including tip and tax; alcoholic beverages are extra. If you RSVP, you are obligated to pay since the group is charged for the number of lunches ordered. RSVP to Mel Sylvester at 609-298-5970 or NuffSaidMel@aol.com by May 14.

All soon-to-be-retired Air and Army Guard employees and Army and Air Guard retirees are invited to the gathering.

Take a course at the Berlin VFW

The Berlin Veterans of Foreign Wars ANMAC Post 6253 is holding a Criminal and National Security Intelligence Analyst course.

The course is open to the public and will be held on Tuesday evenings: May 4, 25, June 8, 15 and 19. Cost is \$5 per class.

In this course, the basic principles of intelligence analysis as practiced by the CIA, FBI, DEA, U.S. Customs as well as other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies are presented and discussed. Students are also taught deductive and inductive logic, formation of premise and inference, probability hypothesis development and testing, as well as sources of information and analytical techniques, i.e., association matrix, link analysis, flowcharting and financial analysis. Throughout the course, practical examples in investigations of organized criminal enterprises, drug trafficking, political corruption and human smuggling are presented and discussed.

The VFW is located at 34 Chestnut Ave., Berlin. Visit <http://berlinjvfw.blogspot.com> for more information.

Wall coming to Florence in June

The American Veterans Traveling Tribute will be at the Fountain of Life Center in Florence from June 24 to June 27.

The display includes a miniature Vietnam Wall as well as a Walk of Heroes display and a World War II tribute. The display opens at noon on June 24 and remains open through the day on June 27.

For more information, please visit www.flcnj.org.

254th Regiment is flipping pancakes for breakfast May 1

The New Jersey Army National Guard's 254th Regiment (Combat Arms) welcomes you and your family to a pancake breakfast on Saturday, May 1 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the National Guard Training Center.

Suggested donation is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for children aged 3 to 11 and kids under 3 eat free. Proceeds benefit the 254th Regimental Association and its families.

Those unable to attend the breakfast but interested in making a donation to the association may make checks payable to the 254th Regimental Association, P.O. Box 277, Sea Girt, NJ 08750.

Memorial Day events

The Marlboro (Township) Memorial Day Parade will take place on Sunday, May 23, starting at noon. The parade route will start in front of the Marlboro firehouse at the corner of Route 79 and School Road West and proceed along School Road West to the Veterans Memorial at the Marlboro Municipal Complex on 1979 Township Drive.

The annual parade honors military veterans, active and reserve service members and all fallen military service members who have paid the ultimate price for our country's freedoms and way of life.

Calendar

Dash on down to the Nutter Run in Sea Girt, May 22

Get those running shoes ready for the sixth annual SGT Nutter Run on May 22. The 5K run will be held at the National Guard Training Center, Sea Girt. Sign in is 8-9:30 a.m., race start is 10 a.m.



Cost to run is \$10 if enrolled in JROTC, \$15 if postmarked before May 1 and \$20 on the day of the event. Profits from the run go to benefits the lives of National Guard families in need. This year the benefits will go the Stadelman twins – children of 2nd Lt. John Stadelman, a New Jersey Army Guardsman who passed away on July 9, 2009.

For more information about the prizes, donations to be raffled, applications to participate in the run and more, visit www.Nutter-Run.org.

Come enjoy the music at the Armed Forces Day concert

The Armed Forces Day Tribute Concert will be held on May 15, noon to 1 p.m. at the Ridgefield Community Center, 725 Slocum Ave., Ridgefield. The free concert is sponsored by the Patriot Brass Ensemble to celebrate our Armed Forces and all the music that they have inspired over the last 200 years.

Whether you are a Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine or Coast Guardsman, or simply an American, there will be all of your favorite military and patriotic songs.

For more information, visit http://patriotbrass.org/Armed_Forces_Day_2010.html.

Vets group holding 25th annual flag memorial, June 11-13

The Delaware Valley Vietnam Veterans are holding the 25th Annual Donald W. Jones Flag Memorial on June 11-13 at Falls Township Park, 9072 Mill Creek Road, Levittown Pa. The event is in honor of all veterans of all wars and the sacrifices they made.

The memorial, which plants more than 58,000 flags in the ground; one each for every American who was killed or is missing in action in the shape of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C.

The flags are planted on June 14, starting at 9 a.m.; volunteers are always needed.

On June 12, there will be a free concert and a Day of Reflection. The bands, such as Angry Vic, Classic Jurassic, Final Warning, Legend and more, start at noon.

A motorcycle rally will begin at noon on June 13, with a memorial service and repatriation ceremony at 1 p.m. If you wish to participate in the motorcycle rally, contact Sue at 215-783-7456.

For more information, contact Donnie Jones at 267-566-2860 or Jesse Hill at 215-949-2490.

Veteran Opportunity Expo on the calendar for May 27

For those veterans, transitioning military personnel, members of the Guard and Reserve, and military family members in the Greater New York city area who are looking for job openings – here is the occasion for you.

On May 27, 11 a.m. 3 p.m. at the New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave., New York City, a Veteran Opportunity Expo is being held in cooperation with HireVetsFirst, the American Legion, Purple Heart Services, and the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network.



Veteran-friendly employers, franchisors, and educational institutions will be in attendance offering a variety of opportunities.

To register for the event, visit <https://www2.recruitmilitary.com/expos/299-New-York-City/candidates/information>.

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.

May 7 New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Holmdel Medal ceremony at 11 a.m.

Outreach Events Only

June 3-4 Wildwood Convention Center
3-4 Elks State Convention
9-11 American Legion State Convention
16-18 Veterans of Foreign Wars State Convention

July 30 First Energy State Park, Lakewood
Lakewood Blue Claws
Veterans Appreciation Night

August 29 TD Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater
Somerset Patriots
Veterans of America Day

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.