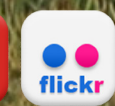


NJDMAVA HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 24, 2015



Bridge dedicated in Brielle

Brielle, NJ – Gold Star Family members, veterans, representatives from the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and State legislators from Monmouth and Ocean Counties, along with members of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars gathered in Brielle to dedicate the Route 35 Veterans of All Wars Memorial Bridge July 10, 2015.

The bridge, which crosses the Manasquan River between Brielle and Point Pleasant, had received this designation in 1951, but the resolution expired that same year.

In January 2015, S-1027/A-3758 was signed into law, making the designation permanent.

During the ceremony, State Senator James Holzapfel, Brig. Gen. Michael Cunniff, the Adjutant General of New Jersey; Ray Zawacki, Deputy Commissioner of Veterans Affairs and Gold Star father Kenneth Gurbisz from the Gold Star Family Monument Foundation spoke to the importance of honoring the sacrifice and selfless service of our veterans.

“This bridge’s name will forever remain a conscious reminder to all who travel across that bridge, that their American freedom and security has been paid for by the lives, blood and sacrifice of all who



Brig. Gen. Michael Cunniff, the Adjutant General of New Jersey, speaks at the dedication ceremony for the Veterans of All Wars Memorial Bridge July 10, 2015. (Courtesy photo)

have served this great Nation,” said retired Col. Leonard Luzky.

“The original naming of this bridge in 1951 was a fitting tribute to the men and women who have served and continue to serve,” said State Senator James Holzapfel. “This permanent designation today will ensure that their service and sacrifice will never be forgotten.”

The Bridge Dedication Committee, chaired by Vietnam veteran Terry J. Fearon, in collaboration with Skip Amundson and American Legion Post 348 raised the money to make and place two signs at the approaches to either side of the bridge.

“America is deeply indebted to our veterans,” said Fearon. “We can never forget nor under appreciate their sacrifice.”



Familiarization ride

Master Sgt. Jason Gioconda, aircrew flight equipment superintendent, 177th Fighter Wing, explains egress procedures to Bulgarian Air Force Capt. Ivan Dinkov prior to a familiarization flight in an F-16D Fighting Falcon at Graf Ignatievo Air Base, Bulgaria, July 15, 2015. The 177th is participating in Thracian Star, a bilateral training exercise to enhance interoperability with the Bulgarian Air Force and to bolster readiness to conduct combined air operations. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Andrew J. Moseley/Released)

Cover photo

Charlie Company campers play soccer at the 21st annual New Jersey National Guard Youth Camp at the National Guard Training Center at Sea Girt, N.J., July 12, 2015. (Photo courtesy 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

AROUND THE STATE



57th gets new commander

Col. Walter R. Nall, left, receives the 57th Troop Command colors from Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff, The Adjutant General, at the National Guard Armory in Atlantic City, N.J., July 12, 2015. The 57th Troop Command is one of five major commands in the New Jersey Army National Guard. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by 1st Sgt. Kryn Westhoven/Released)



Future Leaders

Capt. Stuart Loy, standing back, observes officer candidates, left to right, Eric Tomkins, Alex Kasem and Kyle Durso during the field leadership exercise at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., during June. The candidates were evaluated by the platoon training officers on their leadership potential as they performed various situational training exercises including assault, recon and ambush. Situational training exercises are short, scenario-driven, mission-oriented exercises designed to train one collective task, or a group of related tasks or battle drills, through practice. (Courtesy photo)

Heart of a Hero Scholarships available

Trenton, NJ - Continuing to foster the Christie Administration's ongoing commitment to military members, veterans and their families, First Lady Mary Pat Christie announced on June 18, New Jersey Heroes' fourth annual Heart of a Hero Scholarship.

Mrs. Christie established the program as another resource to help New Jersey's military men and women make their higher education and career goals a reality. This year, New Jersey Heroes is funding ten \$5,000 scholarships to be awarded in time for the 2015-16 school year.

"New Jersey Heroes is again honored to have this opportunity to repay our military heroes in this small way for their service and sacrifice on behalf of our country," said Mrs. Christie. "Over the past three years, the Heart of a Hero Scholarship has helped 30 of our military service members advance their professional lives- from law enforcement and nursing to business management and environmental science. We're pleased to be able to play a part in the career preparation of these most deserving New Jerseyans."

For 2014 Heart of Hero recipient Katie Grogan an Air Force and NJ National Guard Reservist from Jackson, it was an honor to have received the 2014 Heart of a Hero scholarship. "The monetary amount helped cover the cost of my uniforms, books and part of the tuition for my nursing program," Grogan said. "I am so grateful to everyone involved in the committee that honors Veterans through this amazing scholarship."

For Navy Petty Officer 2nd Joseph Mack Mota, from Lacey Township, the Heart of a Hero scholarship helped him reach his educational goals. "With the support of the NJ Heart of a Hero Scholarship, I earned my Master's Degree in December and was able to secure employment working with student-veterans like me

who aspire to receive a college education," Mota said. "I want to thank Mary Pat Christie and the entire NJ Heroes Foundation staff for their dedication to all our New Jersey military veterans currently or formerly serving."

Applicants for the Heart of a Hero Scholarship must meet several program criteria: 1) be a United States citizen and New Jersey resident; 2) be a high school graduate or have a high school equivalency diploma (GED); 3) served in the military and submit documentation of military service; if discharged from the military, must show proof of honorable discharge; 4) enroll as a student at an accredited college/university or a vocational training school in pursuit of a degree for the 2015-16 school year; 5) demonstrate a commitment to volunteerism and community contribution, in the spirit of New Jersey Heroes.

Service members interested in applying for the Heart of a Hero Scholarship must fully complete the application form either online at the New Jersey Heroes website: <http://newjerseyheroes.org/index/2015-heart-of-a-hero-scholarship-application-form/> by no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2015 or submit an application via US Mail postmarked no later than July 31, 2015 and mailed to NJ Heroes, P.O. Box 95, Mendham, NJ 07945-0095. Application deadline is July 31, 2015.

Recipients will be notified in late August.

New Jersey Heroes is an initiative of First Lady Mary Pat Christie that showcases the positive and unique ways people and organizations are impacting New Jersey and their communities. To nominate a hero, go to <http://newjerseyheroes.org/index/nominate-a-hero/> and follow the application instructions to submit the person you believe is a true New Jersey Hero.



Residents receive donation

Joseph Brandspiegel, right, CEO, New Jersey Veterans Memorial home at Menlo Park, and Marsha Lasko, right, Supervisor of Recreation, accepted two checks from Frank Specht, representing the Union County New Jersey United States Bowling Congress and another check from Jersey Lanes, July 10, 2015. (Courtesy photo)

New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

PO Box 340
Trenton, NJ 08625-0340

1-888-8NJ-VETS(8387) or www.state.nj.us/military



Raymond L. Zawacki, Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs (609-530-7062)
Laura Branham, Executive Secretarial Assistant (609-530-7045)
Chuck Robbins, Assistant to DCVA/Outreach Coordinator (609-530-6855)

Fax: 609-530-7191

Veterans Healthcare Services (DVHS)

<p>Brigadier General Steven Ferrari, Director 609-530-6967 Donna Myers, Sec 609-530-6766 Virginia Fiess, QA Coordinator 609-530-6979 Fax: 609-530-6970</p>	<p>Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home Joseph Brandspiegel, CEO Jennifer Pajak, Sec 132 Evergreen Road, PO Box 3013 Edison, NJ 08818-3013 732-452-4102 Fax: 732-603-3016</p>	<p>Paramus Veterans Memorial Home Dianne Tabron-Felder, CEO Diane Callaghan, Sec 1 Veterans Drive Paramus, NJ 07652 201-634-8525 Fax: 201-967-8658</p>	<p>Vineland Veterans Memorial Home Bons Reissek, CEO Sharon Davis, Sec 524 North West Boulevard Vineland, NJ 08360-2895 856-405-4207 Fax: 856-696-6714</p>
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Veterans Services (DVS)

<p>Albert J. Bucchi, Director 609-530-6962 Cheryl A. Henderson, Sec 609-530-6975 Fax: 609-530-7075</p>	<p>Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery Iven Dumas, State Supt – 609-738-2424 Genia DiBella, Sec – 609-738-2404 Cyndi Dzurisin, Interment Office Supervisor, – 609-738-2407 Dennis Macomber, Honor Guard, – 609-758-7505 350 Provinceline Road, Wrightstown, NJ 08562 609-738-2400 Fax: 609-758-0169 Maintenance/Cemeteries/Memorials Joseph Arroyo & Kenneth Smith Supervisor, 609-738-2408 Fax: 609-758-3490</p>	<p>Vietnam Veterans Memorial 1 Memorial Lane, PO Box 648, Holmdel, NJ 07733 732-335-0033 Fax: 732-335-1107</p> <p>Korean Memorial Boardwalk/Brighton Park, Atlantic City, NJ 08401</p> <p>War World II Memorial W State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608</p>	<p>Veterans Haven South Walter Nail, Supt – 609-561-4948 Vacant, Asst, Supt – 609-567-3715 301 Spring Garden Road, PO Box 80 Winslow, NJ 08095 609-561-0269 Fax: 609-567-5166</p>	<p>Veterans Haven North Sean VanLew, Supt – 908-537-1960 Laura Blaine, Sec – 908-537-1963 200 Sanatorium Road, Suite 101 Glen Gardner, NJ 08826 908-537-1999 Fax: 908-537-1990</p>
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<p>State Approving Agency-GI Bill Programs Charles Rowe, Bureau Chief – 609-530-6842 Marisol Meyer, Education Prog Asst – 609-530-6849 Lynn Yesalonia, State Admin – 609-530-6858 Joan Edwards, State Admin – 609-530-6948 Fax: 609-530-7196</p>	<p>Veterans Benefits Bureau Patricia A. Richter, Bureau Chief – 609-530-6949 Elizabeth Schofield, Prin Staff Officer – 609-530-6954 Paul Kale, Staff Asst – 609-530-6826 Cynthia Barnes, Sec – 609-530-6868 Michele Johnson, Sec – 609-530-7035 Fax: 609-530-6970</p>	<p>Veterans Service Offices Joseph Bucco, State Supervisor – 609-530-6830 Christopher Wambach, State Supervisor – 609-530-6863 Joseph E. Nyzio, VSO – 609-530-6857</p> <p>VA Regional Office/Philadelphia Vacant, VSO – 215-381-3033 5000 Wissahickon Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144</p>
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<p>Atlantic City/Cape May Edmond Famiglietti, VSO Vacant, Sec 1008 Absecon Boulevard, Atlantic City 08401-1999 – (Atlantic City Army) 609-441-3060/3061 Fax: 609-441-3899 (closed alternate Fridays)</p>	<p>Bergen/Passaic Richard Mannes, VSO Titus Osuagwu, Sec 125 State Street, Suite 109 Hackensack 07601-5435 201-996-8050/8051 Fax: 201-996-8009</p>	<p>Burlington Charles Piscopo, VSO Bernadette Whitman, Sec 555 High Street, Suite 6A, Mt. Holly 08060 609-518-2273/2274 Fax: 609-518-2275</p>
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<p>Camden/Gloucester Joseph Frost, VSO Diane Rosci, Sec 658 N Evergreen Avenue, Woodbury 08096 – (Woodbury Army) 856-853-1844/1854/186 Fax: 856-384-3781 (closed alternate Fridays)</p>	<p>Essex/Union Robert Maulano, VSO Vacant, Sec 20 Washington Place, Newark 07102-3174 973-297-3230 Fax: 973-648-2356</p>	<p>Hudson Vacant, VSO (Robert Maulano-Tuesday/Thursday) Michael Dorobis, Sec 678 Montgomery Street, 2nd Floor, Jersey City 07306 – (Jersey City Army) 201-536-3401 Fax: 201-536-3404 (closed alternate Fridays)</p>
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<p>Mercer William McDonnell, VSO Theresa Tomecheck, Sec 151 Eggerts Crossing Road, Room 136, Lawrenceville 08648 – (Lawrenceville Army) 609-671-6697/6696 Fax: 609-671-6698</p>	<p>Middlesex/Somerset Joseph Battilo, VSO Vacant, Sec 1060 Hamilton Street, Somerset 08873 – (Somerset Army) 732-937-6347/6348 Fax: 732-937-6417 (closed alternate Fridays)</p>	<p>Monmouth Robert Brown, VSO Rita Hyland, Sec 630 Bangs Avenue, Suite 320, Asbury Park 07712-6904 732-775-7009/7005 Fax: 732-775-3612</p>
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<p>Newark Liaison/VA Regional Office Lorena Huggins, VSO Helen Banks, Sec 20 Washington Place, Room 431 Newark 07102-3174 973-297-3336 Fax: 973-642-0830</p>	<p>Ocean Nicholas Petrozzino, VSO Iris Perez, Sec James J. Howard Outpatient Clinic 970 Route 70, Brick 08724-3550 732-840-3033/3034 Fax: 732-840-0399</p>	<p>Salem/Cumberland Leigh R. Pottle, VSO Vacant, VSO Catherine Raniolo, Sec 524 Northwest Boulevard, Vineland 08360-2895 856-405-4388/4390/4389 Fax: 856-696-6499</p>
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<p>Sussex/Morris William Robinson, VSO 479 West Clinton Street, Dover 07801 – (Dover Army) 973-366-0245/8347 Fax: 973-366-0360 (closed alternate Fridays) *Sussex, 12 Munsonhurst Road, Franklin, 07416 (Thursday/Friday) 973-827-4020 Fax: 973-827-4024 – (Franklin Army)</p>	<p>Warren/Hunterdon *Sibley Smith, VSO/Ombudsman Lisa Szymanski, Sec 200 Sanatorium Road, Glen Gardner, NJ 08826 908-537-0831/0832 Fax: 908-537-0833 *Flemington, 4 Gauntt Place, Flemington, 08822 (Wednesday) 908-284-6146</p>	<p>Southern Ocean County Resource Center Nicholas Petrozzino, VSO (Thursday only) 179 South Main Street (Route 9) Manahawkin, NJ 08050 609-978-5895 Fax: 609-978-6446</p>
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Menlo gets new gazebo

Residents at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park enjoy the new gazebo that was donated to the home by a group of veteran organizations. (Courtesy photo)

LEE GREENWOOD

Special Show for Military & Guests

Sept. 1, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa
1 Borgata Way
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

For tickets, contact Michelle.M.williams2.mil@mail.mil or Sarah.a.Nothdurft.mil@mail.mil

Tickets can be picked up at the Borgata Events Center
Must show Military ID

Veterans Outreach Campaign

Aug. 11 & 12
DMAVA Veterans Outreach Campaign
10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Bridgewater Commons Mall
400 Commons Way
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Sept. 8 & 9
DMAVA Veterans Outreach Campaign
10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Brunswick Square Mall
755 Highway 18
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

E-mail your Highlights submissions to: mark.olsen@dmava.nj.gov by close of business Wednesday

ENERGY CONSERVATION TIP OF THE WEEK

Don't forget to turn the lights off

Be proactive and turn off lights when you leave a room. Lighting accounts for 25 to 30 percent of a building's energy use, so reducing the amount of unnecessary lighting is an easy and cheap way to make a big impact.

The New Jersey Army National Guard has installed more than 1,600 kilowatts of solar photovoltaic array systems since 2009. These solar systems provide 15.5 percent of NJARNG's annual electricity use, help avoid more than \$200,000 in annual utility costs and reduces annual greenhouse gas emissions by more than 1,700 metric tons!

Source: <http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html>

If you would like more information about DMAVA's energy and water conservation efforts, contact Christopher Moore, New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs energy manager at christopher.moore@dmava.nj.gov.



NJDMVA HIGHLIGHTS is published weekly under provisions of AR 360-1 and AFI 35-101 by the Public Affairs Office of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for all members of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard, their families, the New Jersey veterans community, retirees and civilian employees. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force, the National Guard Bureau, Veterans Affairs or the State of New Jersey. Letters may be sent to: NJDMVA Highlights, Public Affairs Office, NJDMVA, PO Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340. E-mail at: pao@dmava.nj.gov

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Raymond Zawacki – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs
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