



DMAVA HIGHLIGHTS

June 14, 2013

The 508th is Back!

Photo by Col. Walter Alvarado



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- Photos from New Jersey National Guardsmen, which can also be seen at our Social Network Sites:



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HIGHLIGHTS

Veterans enjoy intimate meal with spouse at “Couples Luncheon”

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez

The non-alcoholic champagne served and “Sweet Caroline” blared in the background while several veterans looked lovingly into their spouse’s eyes. Memories of their loving relationship swirled in their heads as they gazed at each other, smiled and shared a meal.

Now running on its 11th year, the “Couples Luncheon” at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park provided the opportunity for residents of the Home to enjoy an intimate meal with their spouse June 4, said Christine A. Caratozzolo, supervisor of recreations at the Home.

The luncheon, which was catered by Brunswick Memorial Home and entertainment provided by Lou B., hosted approximately 50 couples for dining and dancing at the Home’s Towne Square. In addition, each couple was provided with a personally-framed formal photograph as a keepsake.

For one couple, the event was a new experience. Michael Drahl, a former engineer and an Army veteran, was pleasantly surprised when he received the invitation. Having just moved into the Home on October, Drahl said he and his wife, Maria, were very appreciative of the opportunity to spend time together. The Belvidere, N.J. couple have been married for 34 years and raised two children.

For other couples, the opportunity to spend time with their spouse was even more special as they also celebrated their wedding anniversary during the month of June.

Elmer Buckley, a World War II Navy veteran, and his wife, Ora, celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary June 23. The couple, married since 1947, has raised four children, and has 10 grandchildren and four great-granddaughters.

Dennis Castelli, a U.S. Army veteran, celebrated his 23rd wedding anniversary June 2. Castelli and his wife, Rosemary, have two children and three grandchildren.

So as their meal was being served and the music played, the couples enjoyed their time together and danced to the tunes of “YMCA”.



238TH
ARMY BIRTHDAY



The Strength of our Nation is our Army
The Strength of our Army is our Soldiers
The Strength of our Soldiers is our Families

AND THAT'S WHAT MAKES OUR ARMY STRONG!

“Education on the Green”

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst’s Air Force Education and Training Center will host its annual “Education on the Green” College Information Fair on June 20, at the Falcon Creek Golf Course from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.. There are more than 20 colleges, universities, and agencies attending to provide information on college degrees, certificates, and educational opportunities available to JB MDL and surrounding areas. All military services, civilians, spouses, contractors, and high school students are invited to attend. (Non Department of Defense civilians must have a military sponsor to access base). For additional information, contact Jude Marranco; chief, Education and Training at 609-754-5345.

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HIGHLIGHTS



US Family Health Care, a Tricare Prime option providing a civilian based managed care network, will be holding Question and Answer sessions to provide information for servicemembers and families.

Joint Military and Family Assistance Center
1048 US Highway 206, Bordentown
June 13 and 20
12 to 4p.m.

JB-MDL McGuire Library
2603 Tuskegee Airmen Ave, JB-MDL
June 11 and 24
12 to 4p.m.

Camden County Veterans Affairs
3 Collier Dr.-Lakeland Complex, Blackwood, NJ 08012
June 10, 17 and 24
1 to 3 p.m.

Pinelands Public Library
39 Allen Avenue, Medford, NJ 08055
June 18
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Picatunny Arsenal
Army Community Services Bldg #119, Dover, NJ
June 26
1 to 3 p.m.

Warfighter and Family Readiness Center
Bldg. 488, Highway 547, Lakehurst, NJ 08733
June 27
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Call 1-800-241-4848 option 3 or visit www.usfhp.net for more information.



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Any questions, please contact Tara LaCount at 920-592-6165 or email at LaCountT@schneider.com or Jenny McDowell at 920-592-6082 or McDowellJ@schneider.com.

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HIGHLIGHTS



Six members of the New Jersey National Guard Running Team competed in the 36th annual Lincoln Marathon, which doubles as the National Guard Marathon, May 5, 2013 at Lincoln, Neb. From left to right are U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Jesse Arnstein, 177th Logistic Readiness Squadron; U.S. Air Force Maj. Jaime Gallagher, 108th Contingency Response Group; U.S. Army Staff Sgts. Katarzyna Czajka, Regional Training Site-Maintenance, and Mauricio Romero, New Jersey Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention; Sgt. 1st Class Melanie Rowton, NJARNG Recruiting and Retention; and Sgt. Maj. Alex Estrada, 42nd Regional Support Group. (Courtesy photo)



Joseph P.C. Prieto, a first sergeant with the 508th Military Police Company, New Jersey National Guard, surprises his daughter, Allison, at her sixth grade class at Sayreville Middle School in Parlin, N.J., June 7, 2013. Prieto had just returned June 6 from a nine-month long deployment along with nearly 140 members of the 508th MPs. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen/Released)



CONGRATULATIONS BRIG. GEN. BOLTON!

DMAVA Highlights is published weekly by the Public Affairs Office of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force, the National Guard, Veterans Affairs or the state of New Jersey. Letters may be sent to: NJDMAVA, DMAVA Highlights, Public Affairs Office, PO Box 340, Trenton NJ 08625-0340. e-mail at pao@njdmava.state.nj.us.

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