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DMAVA

HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 16, 2011



Staff Sgt. Jacqueline Rivera-Buie, Recruiting and Retention Battalion, assists with placing patches of the National Guard states and territories on the National Guard's birthday cake. Several Soldiers from the New Jersey National Guard helped "Cake Boss" master baker, Mauro Castano, decorate the cake at Carlos Bake Shop in Jersey City, N.J., on Dec. 12. The cake was presented at the birthday celebration at the Army National Guard Readiness Center in Arlington, Va., on Dec. 13, to commemorate the 375th birthday of the National Guard. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Armando Vasquez, NJDMAVA/PA)



FAMILY AND FRIENDS SAY GOOD-BYE

Photo left, Airman 1st Class Braun T. Hurley, a munition storage mechanic, spends time with a family member, as family and friends said good-bye to Airmen from the 177th Fighter Wing who deployed on Dec. 7, to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Photo above, Staff Sgt. Kurtis A. Kuhle, an aircraft electrician, 177th Fighter Wing, gets in one last hug with his family before deploying to Afghanistan Dec. 7, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photos by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177th FW/PA)



Photo left, Airmen from the 177th Fighter Wing and the 108th Wing, New Jersey Air National Guard, along with fourth graders from the Seaview School in Linwood, N.J., sing holiday carols at the Annual Holiday "Songfest" at the Vineland Veterans Memorial Home on Dec. 14. This is the 11th year the Wings have visited the Home. The carolers congregated in cafeterias, day rooms, as well as serenading veterans in their rooms (those residents that are bed-ridden), as well as chatted with the residents. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177th FW/PA)

Photo right, Staff Sgt. Vanessa L. Torres-Pagan, 177th Fighter Wing, presents Vineland Veterans Memorial Home resident George Welch a candy cane on Dec. 14. Airmen from the 177th Fighter Wing and the 108th Wing, both assigned to the New Jersey National Guard, were joined by fourth graders from the Seaview School in Linwood, N.J. for the Annual Holiday "Songfest" at the Vineland Veterans Memorial Home. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177th FW/PA)



**New Jersey Department
of
Military and Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Outreach Campaign
Rockaway Townsquare Mall
301 Mount Hope Avenue, Rockaway

January 17 - 19
Medal Ceremony at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 17
Kiosk Hours: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., daily

Veterans Service Officers will be available to provide
information on state and federal entitlements

“Serving Those Who Served”





PAKTIKA PROVINCE, Afghanistan – Army Staff Sgt. David Pereda, Provincial Reconstruction Team Paktika Security Forces squad leader and a New Jersey National Guardsman, listens to radio communications as 887th Engineer Support Company engineers use an armored vehicle, called a Buffalo, to search for possible unexploded ordnance Nov. 7. In the background are two local 7-year-old children who, along with their parents, reported the ordnance to an Afghan Local Police station close to their home. The three waited behind the safety of a rock wall as the engineers dug for the ordnance. When asked what they do when they find ordnance the children said, “We know we’re not going to touch it, (they pointed to the police station and said,) we tell the police and they deal with it.” (Photo by U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Ryan DeCamp, Paktika Provincial Reconstruction Team Public Affairs)



Soldiers from the 1-150th Assault Helicopter Battalion, New Jersey National Guard, go on a battalion run at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst on Dec. 4. The Soldiers became more motivated when they noticed Santa running along side of them. (Courtesy photo)



Cpl. Quelcia Olea, left, SARSS 1 Operator, explains the Standard Army Retail Supply System to Col. Bardhyl Hoxha, foreground, Logistic Brigade commander and Lt. Col. Lavdim Cota, right, deputy commander of Material Management Center, both with the Albanian army, at the United States Property and Fiscal Office Warehouse in Lawrenceville, N.J. on Dec. 13. The New Jersey National Guard hosted members of the Albanian army for a material management familiarization visit from Dec. 11-16, 2011. (Photo by Mark C. Olsen, DMAVA/PA)

State family program office has new office, phone number

The State Family Program’s office is now located at the Bordentown Armory on Route 206.

In addition, their new office number is 609-324-7060.

The office’s address is 1048 Route 206 South, Bordentown, NJ 08505-2124.

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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