



DMAVA HIGHLIGHTS



APRIL 12, 2012

Bill streamlining teaching certification for vets signed by acting gov

Legislation establishing the nation's first condensed teaching certification program designed specifically for a veteran cohort was signed April 6 by Acting Gov. Kim Guadagno at the National Guard Armory in Atlantic City. The program was initiated through legislation sponsored by Sen. James Whelan (D-Atlantic) and Assemblywoman Mila Jasey (D-Essex). The VETeach pilot will be housed at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and is slated to launch in September 2012.

"Stockton College is proud to host the inaugural VETeach class. The signing of this law further demonstrates the commitment of Governor Christie and Acting Governor Guadagno and the Legislature in seeking innovative ways to support the transition of our veterans," said Stockton president Herman J. Saatkamp. "As a result of the passage of this legislation, with strong bipartisan support, veterans in New Jersey and across the United States will have access to one of the most innovative programs available for those seeking a teaching degree."

VETeach is the first of a number of education-to-employment initiatives being developed by Operation College Promise (OCP) in collaboration with partner colleges and universities. OCP is researching condensed degree programs that optimize the distinct skills honed in the military in fields with potential for long-term employment. "Operation College Promise would like to extend our sin-



Brig. Gen. James J. Grant, far right, Chief of the Joint Staff, New Jersey National Guard, watches as Acting Gov. Kim Guadagno signs April 5, the bill supporting VETeach certification program at the National Guard Armory in Atlantic City. (Photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, DMAVA/PA)

cere thanks to Senator Whelan and Assemblywoman Jasey for sponsoring this initiative to accelerate our mission of developing condensed degree plans for student veterans," said Wendy A. Lang, director of Operation College Promise. "Today, with the signing of this legislation by Acting Governor Guadagno, New Jersey is sending a powerful message of mutual commitment to the veteran community that their service to our nation is acknowledged with viable education and employment options. The VETeach pilot program will do

just that." The legislation, S-1026, creates a 36-month teacher preparation pilot program. Veterans who successfully complete the program will receive a bachelor's degree and satisfy the necessary requirements to apply for a certificate to teach kindergarten through eighth grade. Stockton plans to prepare future educators in the critical fields of science, technology, engineering, and math. Veterans under the Post-9/11 GI Bill are receiving the most generous package of benefits since World War II;

however, the time constraints of the measure – 36 months – limit the ability of student veterans to pursue professions – such as teaching – which have requirements that exceed the traditional four-year degree plan. "I could have benefitted from this program," said Sgt. Matthew Generally, a Stockton graduate and a Soldier in the New Jersey National Guard. "I would have been a better prepared teacher. I hope many veterans take advantage of this opportunity to better the students of New Jersey."

STRONG BONDS 2012



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

WHO: All married/engaged members of the NJNG

DATE: 11 - 13 May

LOCATION: Heldrich Hotel, New Brunswick, NJ

POC: SGT Brittany Toomer - (609) 562-0207 brittany.toomer@us.army.mil
or int-chaplain@ng.army.mil

*To register or for more information email or call above POC.



Veterans civil rights seminar

The New Jersey Attorney General's Office in partnership with The American Legion will conduct a regional Veterans' Civil Rights seminar, on May 19, from 1- 3 p.m., at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Paramus.

All veterans, family members, and veteran service organizations are invited to attend. There will be other veteran-related support groups present to provide information and services. Light refreshments will be provided by The American Legion of Bergen County.

The event is part of a continuing Division on Civil Rights initiative designed to help those who have served in the military, and upon returning to civilian life, encountered discrimination in the workplace and elsewhere.

If you have any general questions pertaining to this seminar, please call Bob Looby, The American Legion's Coordinator, on 908-894-0746. You may also contact the Newark Attorney General's office at 973- 648-4826.

The New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home is located at One Veterans Drive in Paramus.

Veterans Remembrance Day event

The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation will hold its annual New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Remembrance Day ceremony Monday, May 7 at 11 a.m.

Created by legislation in 1991, May 7 is a unique day in New Jersey to honor all those who served in the military during the Vietnam Era from 1959 to 1975. More than 200,000 New Jersey residents served in the armed forces during that time.

In addition to being this year's keynote speaker, Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff, The Adjutant General, New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, will honor numerous veterans for their service by presenting New Jersey state military awards.

Admission is free for all visitors on May 7, and the Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center will open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museum is located adjacent to the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial off the Garden State Parkway at exit 116 in Holmdel. The Memorial is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Military Appreciation Night

Presented by Operation Homefront, Tri-State

Thursday June 14th 7:05PM

Camden Riversharks vs. Sugar Land Skeeters



FREE admission for all active duty and veteran military personnel to thank them for their service to our country!

Friends and family can purchase \$7 Tickets using the group code "military" at Riversharks.com!






Pre-game recognition for all members of the military!



For more information or to book your group please contact:

Michael Barone
856-583-0043
mbarone@riversharks.com

Once in a lifetime, every time.

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On Feb. 26, Capt. Michael Sojka, right, held a ceremony at the Teaneck Armory to honor Sgt. Henry, Clifford, left. Henry retired last summer after serving in the New Jersey Army National for more than 30 years. (Photo courtesy of Sgt. 1st Class Orlando Mirandaluna)

Before, during and after - April 9 was inprocessing day for the new class of the New Jersey National Guard Youth Challenge program and no first day is complete without the inprocessing haircut. Raymond Severino, 16, of New Brunswick lost more hair than most. Here you have the before, what's now missing from his head and the after picture with his mother, Clara Severino, who says "I'm proud of him for wanting to make this change." (Photo by Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley, DMAVA/PA)



SENATOR JIM BEACH
MAJORITY LEADER LOU GREENWALD AND
ASSEMBLYWOMAN PAM LAMPITT
INVITE YOU TO

**SIXTH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
JOB AND
RESOURCE
FAIR**

WEDNESDAY
MAY 16, 2012
11:00AM TO 3:00PM

CHERRY HILL NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY
2001 PARK BLVD.
CHERRY HILL, NJ 08002

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO
REGISTER, PLEASE CALL 856-435-1247

- This job fair is FREE and open to the community
- Candidates of all ages, experience levels and industries are encouraged to attend
- Companies will be looking to fill full time and part time positions
- Please come prepared with resumes and dress professionally
- Seek information on helpful state services for unemployed individuals

Veteran Opportunity Expo at New York City

RecruitMilitary, a top full-service military-to-civilian recruiting firm, in cooperation with the American Legion are sponsoring Veteran Opportunity Expo in New York City on Tuesday April 26.

This free and special event will benefit veterans, transitioning military personnel, members of the Guard and Reserve, and military family members. Event to be held at the New Yorker Hotel located at 481 Eighth Avenue, New York from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To register for the event, please visit RecruitMilitary's candidate information Web page at [RecruitMilitary Events](#) or contact Anthony Carney, military marketing specialist, at 513-677-7088.

Vets Career Expo at Newark

The "Be a Hero Hire a Hero" organization is sponsoring a Veteran's Career Expo at the Hilton Gateway on Monday, April 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Many employment opportunities will be offered by several veteran-friendly organizations. So dress for success and bring copies of your resume.

To register for this event, visit <http://www.beahero-hireahero.com/resumes.html>.

The Hilton Gateway is located at 1048 Raymond Boulevard in Newark and can be directly accessed from Newark's Penn Station.

**E-mail your Highlights submissions to
wayne.woolley@njdmava.state.nj.us OR armando.vasquez@njdmava.state.nj.us**

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New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
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Brig. Gen. James J. Grant – Director, Joint Staff
Raymond Zawacki – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Patrick Daugherty – Public Affairs Officer
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