

Back-to-Back Promotions at DMNA



LATHAM, N.Y. -- Month's end saw new beginnings for two New York Army National Guard Soldiers who work at DMNA.

In ceremonies here on July 29, John Nitka, the plans chief for the New York National Guard's Joint Operations Section, was promoted to lieutenant colonel (click [here](#) for full story), and Leah Crisalli, the non-commissioned officer-in-charge of the New York State

Division of Military and Naval Affairs Directorate of Logistics, was promoted to first sergeant. (click [here](#) for full story).

At left, Nitka's son Connor attaches his new rank as Brig. Gen. Raymond Shields looks on.

At right, Crisalli's husband Michael, who is a technical sergeant in the New York Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing, attaches her new rank.

Election Season Rules For JFHQ Members

Election season is in full swing. This fall we'll be voting for president, House of Representatives members, New York State Senate and Assembly members, and a host of local officials.

Members of Joint Force Headquarters — AGRs, technicians, federal civilians, Soldiers and Airmen on ADOS, and traditional Guard Soldiers and Airmen — need to be aware of basic rules that govern their actions during the election season.

The official policy on election rules that apply to full-time military members — including AGR Soldiers, Airmen and those in ADOS status — is in Department of Defense Directive 1344.10 "Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces" which can be found [here](#).

Official guidance governing civilian employees — dual status military technicians, state employees whose positions are paid for with federal funds, and civilian federal employees — known as the Hatch Act, can be found on the federal Office of Special Council website [here](#). [\(continued on page 2\)](#)

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Election Season Rules (continued from page one)

A New York National Guard Adjutant's General memo — "Political Activity by New York Army and Air National Guard Personnel" — details appropriate and inappropriate actions during election season. The memorandum can be read [here](#).

Active Guard and Reserve Soldiers and Airmen, Soldier on Active Duty for Operational Support and Traditional Guard Soldiers and Airmen on drill status cannot:

- ***Go to any campaign event in uniform or fund-raise for a political candidate in uniform.***
- ***Actively campaign or solicit votes for a candidate by going door-to-door or publishing partisan political articles or letters.***
- ***Speak before a partisan political gathering.***
- ***Fundraise for a candidate on a military installation.***
- ***Display partisan political banners in military housing or on a military base.***

Traditional Guard Soldiers and Airmen on a drill weekend or annual training, but can engage in all types of political activity when they are out of uniform and not in duty status.

Active Guard and Reserve Soldiers and Airmen, or Soldiers on Active Duty for Operation Support can:

- ***Express a personal political opinion in conversation.***
- ***Encourage others to vote.***
- ***Sign a political petition as a private citizen, not a military member; so Joe Smith signs the petition, not Sgt. Joe Smith.***
- ***Write a letter to the editor about the pros or cons of a candidate. But any letter cannot be part of an organized campaign — i.e. send 500 letters on this issue — and you cannot urge people to vote for the candidate you favor, and they should make it clear that this is a personal opinion and does not National Guard or Department of Defense policy.***
- ***Donate money to a politician or political party.***
- ***Display a "normal sized" bumper sticker on your vehicle.***

DMNA Federal dual-status technicians, federal civilian employees and state employees whose position is funded with federal dollars are covered by the Hatch Act.

Federal employees are divided into "least restricted" and "further restricted" categories of regulation depending on their job duties and titles. Most DMNA employees fall into the least restricted categories, and they cannot:

- ***Use their official authority or influence to interfere with or affect the result of an election.***
- ***Solicit, accept or receive a donation or contribution for a partisan political party, candidate for partisan political office, or partisan political group.***
- ***Run in partisan political elections.***
- ***Solicit or discourage the participation in any political activity of anyone who has business pending before their employing office.***
- ***Engage in political activity while the employee is on duty in any federal room or building, or use any federally owned or leased vehicle or computer system.***
- ***Display buttons, posters, coffee mugs, screen savers, candidate photographs, etc. that support or oppose partisan parties or candidates at work.***
- ***Wear t-shirts, hats, buttons, etc. that support or oppose partisan parties or candidates at work.***

Federal dual status technicians and federal civilian employees and state employees whose position is funded with federal dollars can:

- ***Be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections.***
- ***Register and vote as they choose.***
- ***Assist in voter-registration drives.***
- ***Contribute money to political campaigns, political parties, or partisan political groups.***
- ***Attend political fundraising functions when off-duty.***
- ***Attend and be active at political rallies and meetings when off-duty.***
- ***Join and be an active member of political clubs or parties.***
- ***Hold office in political clubs or parties.***
- ***Sign and circulate nominating petitions.***
- ***Campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments, or municipal ordinances.***
- ***Campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections.***
- ***Deliver campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections.***
- ***Distribute campaign literature in partisan elections.***
- ***Volunteer to work on a partisan political campaign.***
- ***Display "normal sized" bumper stickers for a candidate (one per candidate).***

Social Media — Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, or other platforms — has become the way we share our lives and opinions, and especially political opinions.

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Election Season Rules (continued from page two)

DOD regulations, though, cover what military personnel and employees can say and share when it comes to politics. Using social media for political purposes is considered the same thing as posting a lawn sign for a candidate or passing out campaign literature.

When it comes to Social Media all DOD employees and military personnel may not:

- *Engage in any personal social media political activity while on duty or in the workplace or using government equipment.*
- *Refer to one's official title or position while engaged in political activity on social media.*
- *Suggest or ask anyone to make political contributions at any time.*
- *Link to the political contribution page of any partisan group, nor "like," "share," or "retweet" a solicitation, including an invitation to a fundraising event. This is considered the same as distributing campaign literature which is a no-no for military members.*

Uniform Sleeve Policy Announced

In accordance with recently-published Army policy, the New York Army National Guard is allowing company commanders to set the uniform of the day — for example, sleeves rolled up or down.

Joint Force Headquarters troops may roll their

sleeves or not based on personal comfort. The Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment commander will set the uniform for formations.

Contact State Command Sgt. Major David Piwowarski if you have questions.

Technician Personnel Management Courses (TPMC) Offered

The New York Federal Human Resources Office is offering three TPMC courses. Per TPR 400, these courses are required for all full-time technician and AGR supervisors of our military technician workforce.

The courses cover topics like labor-management relations, classification, conduct management, pay and leave, workforce management, staffing, EEO and Sharp, performance management and incentives, EAP, workers compensation, benefits and retirement, performance appraisal application and the AGR Program.

The courses are available at these dates and locations:

- **Aug. 30 to Sept. 1 at 109th AW, in Scotia, N.Y.**
- **Sept. 20 to 22 at 107th AW, Niagara Falls, N.Y.**
- **Sept. 27 to 29 at DMNA, Latham, N.Y.**

If you're a new supervisor or haven't attended a TPMC in more than three years, please plan to attend the courses. To register, please contact Master Sgt. Tracey Miller at DSN 489-4685/comm(518)786-4685 or at tracey.c.miller.civ@mail.mil.

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Classes Scheduled in September

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board will be teaching three TSP classes at DMNA:

TSP at a Glance For Early to Mid-Career Employees (Sept. 6 — 8 to 10 a.m.): This class focuses in greater detail on what's important to employees who aren't yet nearing retirement, such as choosing your investments and how different life events might affect your TSP.

TSP Pre-Separation Workshop - To Retirement and Beyond (Sept. 6 — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.): This class closely examines the issues facing employees who are within 10 years of retiring, including catch-up contributions, withdrawal options, and tax implications.

TSPA to Z (Sept. 7 — 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.): This class covers everything you need to know about the TSP, including contributions to your account, investment options, and withdrawing funds in retirement.

All interested technicians must receive supervisor approval before signing up, and limited Army tech travel funding may be available.

Seating is limited, so priority will be given to technicians retiring within five years, and others will be placed on a waiting list. Submit requests to Sgt. Rachel Hewitt at (518) 786-4681 or rachel.a.hewitt4.mil@mail.mil. Please specify which classes you'll be attending.

Free Museum Admission

Blue Star Museums is offering free museum admission to the nation's active duty military, National Guard and Reserve personnel and their families, from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2016.

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration by the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums. For a list of participating museums, click [here](#).

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This year's Car Show Sponsor
The Early Ford V-8 Club of America
Regional Group 147
Doris Fry - President

August 6, 2016, 10 am - 3 pm

Rain Date August 7

113 Holland Ave., Albany
At the Stratton VAMC

7th Annual HONOR OUR VETS CAR SHOW

Proceeds benefit local soldiers
and veterans treated at the VAMC

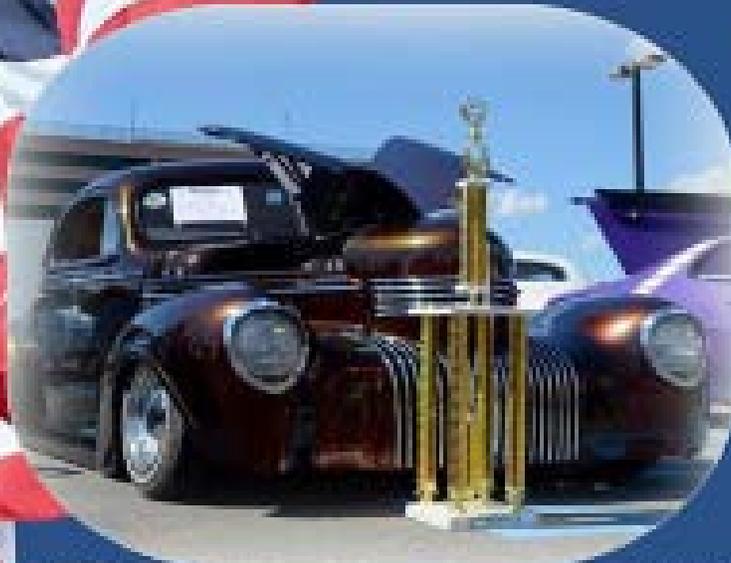


Presented by:
Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapters 8 & 79

Registration \$10 Minimum

Please be generous

Free Lunch For Participants



- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Food | <u>Trophies</u> |
| Music | Top 25 Favorites |
| Door Prizes | People's Choice |
| Dash Plaques | Kid's Choice |
| Military Vehicle Displays | DJ's Choice |
| Veteran Services Groups | Best of Show |
| | Best Paint |
| | Best Under The Hood |
| | Best Motorcycle |
| | Ladies' Pick |
| | Longest Distance |
| | Veterans' Picks |

DJ Andy



2015 Best Of Show Winner
1939 Chrysler Royal
Owner: Bruce Lee

Visit www.HonorOurVetsCarShow.com
for Car Show photos and information
Professional Adjustment Services
Genald E. Limer - www.ProAdjust.com

Rain Cancellation THIS show and
to see all the Car Shows in the
Capital District, visit
www.CapitalCarShows.com

All years, makes and models welcome!

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MILITARY FUNERAL HONOR GUARD

"Honoring Those Who Served"

The NYARNG Military Funeral Honor Guard allows a grateful nation to pay final tribute to veterans who, in times of war and peace, stood strong in defense of the United States of America. This ceremonial paying of respect is our final demonstration of thanks and appreciation.

Honor Guard Soldiers consider it a privilege to provide these services for our veterans and their families. Our teams take great pride in their appearance and the performance of this duty while earning pay and retirement points. Our Soldiers are provided uniforms and proper training.



Opportunities exist for you to serve on one of these elite teams:

CONTACT

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Cell: 845-857-7841

Email: erwin.a.dominguez.mil@mail.mil

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EATING ON A BUDGET?

Peg's Grab and Go



Soup of the Day	Soup of the Day	Soup of the Day
	Tues, Aug 2 Breaded chicken patty & potato salad	Wed, Aug 3 Hot meatball sub, side salad
Soup of the Day	Soup of the Day	Soup of the Day
Thurs, Aug 4 Personal pizza supreme	Fri, Aug 5 Fried fish sand., cole slaw, fries	Mon, Aug 8 Chicken salad & spring mix
Soup of the Day	Soup of the Day	Soup of the Day
Tues, Aug 9 Julienne salad	Wed, Aug 10 Pulled pork & salt potatoes	Wed, Aug 11 Turkey bacon avocado wrap
Soup of the Day	Soup of the Day	Soup of the Day
Thurs, Aug 12 Grilled cheese & tuna sand., fries	Fri, Aug 13 Nachos	Mon, Aug 16 Pizza burrito
Soup of the Day	Soup of the Day	Soup of the Day

Hours of Operation

Monday -Friday
7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

No credit card purchases
under \$5

*Soup served every
day until further
notice.



**Menu choices are
subject to change.

