# Connecticut Guardian

VOL. 3 NO. 9 HARTFORD, CT SEPTEMBER 2002

# Up Front with the Adjutant General

MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM A. CUGNO
ADJUTANT GENERAL

## *A year remembered –*

It has been a busy year since the tragic events of September 11, 2001. The events of that day changed our lives forever and presented new challenges for our Guard. I am proud of our soldiers, airmen, and state military employees for answering the call of our country to enhance our domestic preparedness and combat terrorism.

I share with you the following 11 September commemoration message from the Chief of Staff of the Army as we reflect on the past year....

On 11 September 2001, without warning or reason, the forces of hatred and fear attacked America. We all remember the pain and anger we felt in the aftermath of those attacks as we honored fallen comrades, colleagues, dear friends, and loved ones who had been lost. Some who survived will live in agony for the rest of their lives. We embraced all of their families during the pain of their bereavement

In remembrance of the sacrifices made that day, we will pause on 11 September 2002 for a moment of silence and quiet reflection at each installation and garrison throughout the army. The times for this observance will be coordinated by each major command.

Our nation has provided and continues to provide the world leadership needed to bring to justice those responsible for these terrible attacks. In the year since, the army, in concert with other services and our allies, has devoted itself to winning the global war on terrorism, providing stability in those regions of the world important to us, and training to defend the United States and its interests. These commitments have not been without further sacrifice by soldiers who have gone into harm's way on our behalf.

The army remains "on point for the nation," as it has for over 227 years. By protecting and preserving our way of life, soldiers are keeping faith with all Americans. The army is strong; it is ready. Secretary White and I, as well as the rest of the army leadership, are privileged by your service and inspired by your examples of loyalty, duty, honor, and integrity. Your courage, selfless service, and respect for one another, and for others, make us the great army that we are and enable us to fulfill our contract with the American people — to fight and win our nation's wars, decisively.

So as we pause this 11 September to remember the sacrifices of so many during those attacks — in Washington, in New York City, and in Pennsylvania it is appropriate that we reflect on what it means to be an American…. God bless each and every one of you, God bless this magnificent army of ours, and God bless America.

# Perspectives

## How has your life changed for the better since Sept. 11?

*Airman 1st Class C. Ashley Greene, services flight apprentice, 103rd Services Flight "I felt more sense of community with friends and family. We're keeping in touch more, making sure each other is okay, especially those out of state. All communities have come together and are staying together."*

*Tech. Sgt. William Rousseau Jr., Senior Munitions Inspector, 103 Logistics Group "I came home (from Kuwait.) I had a baby. I quit my job. I stay home now and take care of my kids. I work part-time. It's the best thing I ever did."*

*Sgt. Mark O. Salisbury, Squad Leader, 1048 Transportation Company "What I like to see is the country found pride in itself. I'm glad to see the pride in America again. I just wish 3,000 people didn't have to die for that to happen."*

*Airman 1st Class Lizette S. Rovaldi, munitions systems apprentice, 103rd Logistics Group "People are more patriotic. Everybody sticks together now. It's brought a lot of people together. We're more serious—I'm definitely more serious about my (military) job now."*

*Pfc. Rez B. Onde, CTARNG "We became more aware—not just this nation, but the rest of the world, to appreciate how life is more than ever. We have such a great nation behind us."*

*Pvt. 2 Daniel W. Hernandez, CTARNG "I take things into more consideration. I appreciate things more. During 9/11 I was in basic. It was crazy. Everything got strict. It's a whole new thing. I take the Army seriously."*


# Connecticut Guardian

360 Broad Street
Hartford, CT 06105-3795
Phone: (860) 524-4857
DSN: 636-7857
FAX: (860) 548-3207
E-Mail:
debbi.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil
john.whitford@ct.ngb.army.mil

Captain-General
*Gov. John G. Rowland*

The Adjutant General
*Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno*

Commanding General, CTARNG
*Brig. Gen. I. J. Zembrzuski*

Commanding General, CTANG
*Brig. Gen. Mary Ann Epps*

State Command Sergeant Major Designee
*Sgt. Maj. Raymond P. Zastaury*

State Command Chief Master Sergeant
*Chief Master Sgt. Wanda Wawruck*

State Public Affairs Officer
*Connecticut Guardian* Managing Editor
*Maj. John Whitford*

State Senior Public Affairs NCO
*Connecticut Guardian* Editor
*Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton*

*Connecticut Guardian* Layout Editor
*Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton*
*and*
*Patricia Gentry*
*The Day Printing Company*

Contributors

Det. 1, 65th Press Camp HQ, CTARNG

Capt. George Worrall, III
103rd FW PAO, CTANG

103rd Communications Flight, CTANG

First Company Governors Horse Guard

Second Company Governors Horse Guard

First Company Governors Foot Guard

Second Company Governors Foot Guard

The *Connecticut Guardian* is an authorized publication for and in the interest of, the personnel of the Connecticut National Guard, State Military Department, State Militia and their families. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the CTNG Hartford Public Affairs Office and is not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, and the Department of the Army or the Department of the Air Force. The *Connecticut Guardian* is published in accordance with AR 360-1 on the first Friday of every month and is printed by The Day Printing Co., New London, Connecticut, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month preceding the month of publication.

Circulation: 7,000

# The role of the National Guard in Homeland Security/Defense since 9/11

2ND LT. CELINE T. MARINI
STATE ASSISTANT PIO

Many Americans are reflecting back to what happened on that horrific day one year ago when terrorists flew hijacked planes into the World Trade Center and Pentagon.

Everyone has a story to tell about where they were and what they were doing when they heard the news.

Here's one such story…but this one has a twist.

Col. Jeff Mathis spent most of the day of Sept. 10, 2001 emptying his office in the Pentagon where he worked as the Assistant to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau. He was preparing to move to his new office as head of the Weapons of Mass Destruction/Homeland Security section of the National Guard Bureau.

Ironically, on Sept. 11, 2001, he was in a meeting discussing the chances of the United States being attacked.

Meanwhile, the first plane crashed into the World Trade Center. Then the second. Then a third hit the Pentagon and a fourth was forced down by its passengers in a rural Pennsylvania field.

While Mathis did not die that day, more than 3,000 people did in the Sept. 11 attacks. They came from more than 80 different nations and from many different races and religions. Approximately 2,000 children lost a parent on September 11. Three hundred forty three firefighters and paramedics and 60 police offices perished at the World Trade Center.

9/11 not only changed the way America saw the world but changed the way the world saw the National Guard.

"Homeland Security (HLS) is a mission, with which the National Guard is most familiar," said Mathis. "The National Guard has been doing this for more than 364 years in both state and federal roles.

"It is not, however, our only mission. It is just one of many that the National Guard has always proven capable of performing so long as we are properly resourced with sufficient funding, the proper equipment and adequate time," explained Col. Mathis. "Missions will come and go but the National Guard endures."

According to Mathis, it is crucial that soldiers and Americans understand what the DoD's pillars of Homeland Defense (HLD) are; these definitions are from the predecisional draft of 23 Jun 02. Nothing has been finalized.

**Homeland Defense**: The protection of U.S. sovereignty, territory, domestic population and critical defense infrastructure against external threats and aggression.

**Civil Support**: DoD support to U.S. civil authorities for domestic emergencies and for designated law enforcement and other activities.

**Emergency Preparedness**: Those planning activities undertaken to ensure DoD processes, procedures and resources are in place to support the President and the Secretary of Defense in a designated National Security Emergency

**Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support teams (WMD-CST)** stand ready to assist first responders in identifying chemical, biological or radiological contamination and assessing potential impacts of these incidents and lending further technical advice in the event of a WMD attack. Congress has authorized 32 WMD-CSTs. Twenty-seven teams have currently achieved the certification required by law and Department of Defense criterion.

These specialized teams represent the first level of DoD support and greatly enhance the nation's ability to quickly bring to bear the resources necessary to mitigate the effects of WMD use.

These teams were established to assess a suspected WMD event in support of the local incident commander, advise civilian responders regarding appropriate actions, and work to both facilitate and expedite the arrival of military forces if needed.

*(Editor's Note: See the October 2002 issue of the Connecticut Guardian for more on the role of the National Guard in Homeland Defense/Security and an interview with the NorthCom Chief of Staff.)*

*Before the attack...*

*...immediately after the attack...*

*...during the clean-up and restoration...*

*...and today. (Satellite images of the Pentagon)*

## *Excerpts from President Bush's Address to a Joint Session of Congress and the American People on Sept. 20, 2001*

In the normal course of events, Presidents come to this chanber to report on the state of the Union. Tonight, no such report is needed. It has already been delivered by the American people.

We have seen it in the courage of passengers, who rushed terrorists to save others on the ground...

...We have seen the State of our Union in the endurance of rescuers, working past exhaustion. We have seen the unfurling of flags, the lighting of candles, the giving of blood, the saying of prayers - in English, Hebrew and Arabic. We have seen the decency of a loving and giving people who have made the grief of strangers their own.

My fellow citizens, for the last nine days, the entire world has seen for itself the state of our Union - and it is strong.

---

Tonight we are a country awakened to danger and called to defend freedom. Our grief has turned to anger, and anger to resolution. Whether we bring our enemies to justice, or bring justice to our enemies, justice will be done.

---

Our nation has been put on notice: We are not immune from attack. We will take defensive measures against terrorism to protect Americans.

---

After all that has just passed -- all the lives taken, and all the possibilities and hopes that died with them -- it is natural to wonder if America's future is one of fear. Some speak of an age of terror. I know there are struggles ahead, and dangers to face. But this country will define our times, not be defined by them. As long as the United States of America is determined and strong, this will not be an age of terror; this will be an age of liberty, here and across the world.

Great harm has been done to us. We have suffered great loss. And in our grief and anger we have found our mission and our moment. Freedom and fear are at war. The advance of human freedom -- the great achievement of our tim, and the great hope of every time -- now depends on us. Our nation -- this generation--will lift a dark threat of violence from our people and our future. We will rally the world to this cause by our efforts, by our courage. We will not tire, we will not falter, and we will not fail.

# Defending America at home and abroad, Air Guard recalls 9/11

CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL III
103RD FW PAO

On September 11, 2001, as the terrible events of the day began to sink in on the minds of most Americans, those in this nation's military began to wonder how they would be called to serve retribution on those responsible.

Within hours, the Flying Yankees of the Connecticut Air National Guard had aircraft sitting on alert status, loaded with ordinance and crews standing by. The tasking to defend Bradley International Airport fortunately remained untested throughout the several days the unit spent on alert. All the aircrew contacted understandably declined to comment on the mission for this article.

"It was intense," said Chief Master Sgt. Joseph P. Fuller, life support superintendent, 118th Fighter Squadron, who will have 30 years of service this month. "I stayed here for three days straight, sleeping when I could."

For the rest of the Connecticut Air National Guard, there was much to wonder about. Hundreds of Connecticut's airmen were already in Southwest Asia. Given the attacks, their question was would they return from places such as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Turkey, or stay there indefinitely.

"After hearing the news, I think what I will remember the most is how quiet the dining hall was," said Master Sgt. Steven L. Seaha, life support specialist, 118th Fighter Squadron, who was deployed to Kuwait on 9/11. "All you could hear were the cooks and silverware clanking ... everyone was eating in silence."

*Maj. Roy Walton, 103rd Logistics Group, poses by the mural he painted in Kuwait in memory of September 11. (103rd Logistics Group photo)*

For those not deployed, they wondered if they would be activated for a new mission at home or abroad, or simply take their turn on the Southwest Asia deployment.

"I had left Kennedy (Airport) at 0830 and got as far as Indianapolis," said Lt. Col. Barry Martin, A-10 pilot, 103rd Fighter Wing, who was flying for his civilian airline employer on 9/11. "I was the first plane to land at O'Hare when the country opened after two days ... then two days later I was on a plane for Kuwait (with the his unit)."

The rest of the unit did not have to wonder long. As the war against terrorism began in October, members from security, fire protection, disaster preparedness, air operations and air control were activated. Some, after just returning from Southwest Asia, found themselves activated for a year and moving to multiple locations.

"I was only back two weeks before we were activated and deployed," said Senior Airman Kristen E. Little, security specialist, 103rd Security Forces Squadron who had just returned from a 28-day Northern Watch deployment in Turkey before the activation.

As the year went on, members from logistics, intelligence, finance, personnel and the command post were activated to support the additional workload at home station and other locations.

"It has been busy since we do the readiness portion with orders for the TDYs all over the place," said Tech. Sgt. Ana V. Ortiz, personnel readiness specialist, 103rd Mission Support Flight, who is serving a one-year activation which began in January 2002. "As a guardsman, it gives me insight into what goes on here everyday and I have learned a great deal."

The 103rd Security Forces Squadron and 103rd Air Control Squadron were activated as units, with members sent where needed from home station. The 103rd Civil Engineering Squadron's fire protection section had nearly all its firefighters activated and deployed to Nevada and the desert of Southwest Asia. The 103rd Communications Flight had a four-person Visual Information team activated to chronicle the buildup in Qatar along with the regular stream of dignitaries that visited.

"It makes you realize how many things you could do without that we have here," said Master Sgt. Mike L. Fennessy, video NCOIC, 103rd Communications Flight, who was involuntarily activated in February 2002 and returned in July following 147 days in Qatar. "I put my life on hold for what was to be 90 days, but the orders said 179 days."

*Staff Sgt. Michelle Wink, 103rd Mission Support Flight, waits with son Joseph, 3, to greet husband and father Staff Sgt. Chad Wink, 103rd Maintenance Squadron, on his return from Kuwait Oct. 3, 2001. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeanne Daigneau 103rd Communications Flight)*

*The team from the 103rd Civil Engineering Squadron unfurl a flag at their compound in Kuwait Oct. 5, 2001. (103rd Civil Engineering Squadron photo)*

*Activated Firemen from the 103rd Civil Engineering Squadron pack their gear October 26, 2001 before departing on a twelve month deployment. (By Captain George Worrall, 103rd Fighter Wing)*

# Answering the call to duty: Connecticut's Guardsmen travel state, country and world

SGT. 1ST CLASS DEBBI NEWTON
STATE SENIOR PA NCO

They called home to have bags packed and dropped off for them.

They left their civilian jobs, packed overnight bags and showed up at their armories.

They called to see if and where they were needed.

They brought in food for those who were camped in armories.

Others sat at Fort Dix, N.J. waiting to deploy to Bosnia, and wondering if their mission would be delayed for a new mission.

And they did it all because their country had been attacked by terrorists.

When terrorists flew planes into the World Trade Center Towers in New York, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. and tried to fly a fourth into an unknown location, Connectciut's Army Guardsmen didn't wait to be called to duty, they showed up.

"Our Guard has performed exceptionally," said Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General. "They have delivered in every aspect of this mission. We have participated in both Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle with outstanding results

"Our members have given unselfishly by leaving their families and living up to our Motto of 'Always Ready - Always There.' They have made our governor, our citizens and I, most proud."

At the time of the attacks, members of Company B, 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry and the 143rd Forward Support Battalion were sitting in a compound at Fort Dix, N.J. waiting for their flight to a peacekeeping mission in Bosnia.

The news had many wondering if their mission was to be scrubbed or delayed and if they would be rerouted to fight the war on terrorism.

"We had a mission we had trained for more than a year for," said Lt. Col. Michael Casey shortly after returning from Bosnia. Casey is the battalion commander for the FSB. "Of course we wanted to do what we could here, but we had a mission to take care of overseas. We had our job to do."

Within hours of the attacks, armories around the state went on heightened security alerts. Military police and other soldiers were almost immediately put on duty guarding their fellow soldiers inside the armories by checking the identification of everyone entering the buildings.

Connecticut medics, aviators and engineers were ready to go into New York City, or anywhere else they were needed, as soon as they got the call.

Engineer equipment was staged at Sherwood Island near the New York border, helicopters flew medics into New Jersey and upstate New York to be ready to go in. And members of Connecticut's Civil Support Team went into New York to assist the National Guard there.

Connecticut Guardsmen were the first to answer President George W. Bush's call for Guardsmen to provide security in the nation's federal airports. They were on duty at Bradley International Airport, Tweed New Haven Airport and Groton New London Airport until May.

They also provide security in the state's municipal airports and at various power plants and other locations throughout Connecticut.

When the call came in from the Utah National Guard for vounteers to help provide security for the International Winter Olympics, again, Connecticut was among the first to answer the call, sending 300 soldiers out for the task force.

Individual soldiers of the Connecticut Army National Guard have also been called to duty for their individual expertise.

Maj. Ahmed Beerman-Ahmed spent several months in Afghanistan performing duties relating to his knowledge of the languages in that region of the country.

Col. Patrick Bowe just returned from Bagram Air base outside of Kabul, Afghanistan where he was involved in various engineering duties. *(Editor's Note: See the story on Bowe on page 6 of this issue.)*

With all of this activity affecting soldiers, their families and their civilian employers, how much of an impact did it have on the priorities of the Connecticut Army National Guard's future?

Not much, according to Cugno.

"We are very fortunate because we initiated operation 'Bold Move' more than a year before 9/11," said Cugno. "That effort put our Guard in a rebuild program moving into more MP units, new transportation units, and most importantly, new chemical decon units."

Cugno said that over the next few years he sees the Guard with new assets and units that will provide even more flexibility and resources to the state for emergency responses. He said the newest effort is to work with Washington to provide new resources to ensure a higher level of security at the state's military facilities, a move he sees happening across the country.

"Our Facility Engineers are working hard to ensure Connecticut leads the way," said Cugno. "Long before 9/11, we began our efforts to begin construction of our new MOUT site. Urban warfare will be an important part of our training. A facility, within a reasonable travel distance, is an important part of our program. The sharing of this facility with local law enforcement organizations will also strengthen our relationships within the state."

Improvements, changes and rebuilding costs money. But Connecticut is in good shape according to Cugno.

Because 'Bold Move" is an initiative that began two years ago, MILCON (Military Construction) dollars had already been programmed into Connecticut. More than 11 million dollars has come in for improvements and modernization of the Air Guard's Orange Air Control Station; more than two million dollars have come in for the design of the new Regional Training Institute to be located at Camp Rowland in Niantic; and the state is also in the final stages of funding for the Col. Robert Nett Leadership Hall, also at Camp Rowland.

The National Guard's role has become much more publicly recognized since 9/11, and will continue to grow in the Homeland Defense/Security arena.

According to Cugno, Connecticut will continue to "always be ready, always be there and always lead the way."

*Connecticut's Military Police were the first in the country to answer the President's call to action in the federal airports. The 143rd MPs and volunteers from several other units also performed security missions in municipal airports and at power stations throughout the state. (Connecticut Guardian file photo)*

*Lt. Gov. M. Jodi Rell (back to camera) talks with KISS Radio personalities at the Hartford Armory while urging people to bring in goodies for her care package initiative for soldiers stationed in Bosnia during the holidays. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)*

*Soldiers receive snowshoe training before heading off to Utah to provide security for the World Olympic Games being held there. Three hundred Connecticut Guardsmen volunteered for the duty. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski, 65th PCH)*

*Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno (back to camera) talks with Connecticut medics who were staged for deployment to Ground Zero if called. The medics were prepared to spend as much time in New York as needed. (Photo by Maj. John Whitford, State PAO)*

*Soldiers prepapred in all ways possible for any future deployment calls. Here, one soldier has blood drawn during medical screening. Immunizations and dental records were also updated during the physicals. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)*

# A last mission before retiring

SGT. 1ST CLASS DEBBI NEWTON
STATE SENIOR PA NCO

With less than six months left to go before retiring, Col. Patrick Bowe found himself, not attending retirement briefings, but instead, packing for Afghanistan.

"I was asked if I would go and I said yes, pending the TAGs approval," said Bowe, Director of Facilities Engineering for the Connecticut Army National Guard. The adjutant general, Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, said yes, as did Bowe's wife.

After three weeks at Fort Benning, Georgia for in-processing and training, Bowe was in Afghanistan.

His original mission was to go into Afghanistan to assist and aid coordination with training operations related to organizing and standing up the new Afghani Army. But when he arrived, he found that his services were needed elsewhere, and headed for Bagram Air Base north of Kabul.

There he worked with the 10th Mountain Division and Coalition Forces from 20 nations on assessing the defensive posture of Bagram, infrastructure development, airfield operations, repair and base expansion.

He stayed there until the 18th Airborne Corps came in to take over.

His next job was with the Office of Military Cooperation in Afghanistan, working with US Special Forces troops.

"I worked on infrastructure development throughout the region and on additional, special projects for the Afghanistan military and government," said Bowe. "We worked on building bridges, improving military facilities and factories."

Working in this arena brought him in close working contact with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and host nation forces.

"Bagram was flat, windy, dusty and hot," said Bowe. "There were a lot of mine fields that needed to be cleared," said Bowe. "There was no rhyme or reason to the way they were laid out. There was no expectation of removal by those who had placed them. The mine fields were left by the Russians, the Taliban, and probably other forces. There were no records of where the mines were, making removal difficult. If an area was not marked as clear, then it was probably not clear of mines. They were everywhere."

Bowe worked with US and Coalition forces to improve base cluster defenses and reorganized the airfield layout and operation to make it more efficient.

"I was part of a very good team," said Bowe of his month at Bagram.

When he left Bagram, Bowe went to work and live at the Afghanistan National Military Academy in Kabul. There he took the position of Chief Engineer for the Office of Military Cooperation (OMC).

"I met with local military and civilian authorities and villagers on various engineering projects," said Bowe. "I supervised work crews, did a lot of the planning, oversaw construction of a large number of facilities and the destruction of a few. Some of the buildings and bridges being repaired had historical damage, while others had been damaged recently."

Bowe said that buildings in many cases had been very badly damaged. And then stripped. All electrical and plumbing fixtures had been stripped from most of the buildings. Fittings, pipes, valves, wiring, everything was gone. In addition, every window and door was gone on most buildings.

Despite the war and the years of oppression the people of Afghanistan impressed Bowe with their friendliness and hospitality.

"The people I met, without exception, were enormously friendly," said Bowe. "Even the poorest of people invite you to tea. It's a national custom called 'Chai.' In my experience, and it was absolutely universal, the people were extremely couteous."

Bowe took several meals with the local workers on his projects and the civil and military authorities he dealt with. It was a unique experience.

"Everyone eats out of a community bowl," said Bowe. The bowl is placed in the middle of the group sitting around the table or a cloth placed on the ground, and everyone takes what they want from the bowl. A piece of flat bread serves as a plate of sorts to put the food on, then it gets eaten when everything else is done.

Bowe said the people were also very protective of their reputations. He very often had to go out after dark to check on jobs in the countryside and around town. He said he never felt at risk because the people he knew would not let anything happen to him on their property, or in their areas.

"It would have been an insult to them if something had happened to me," said Bowe.

While in Afghanistan, Bowe worked side by side with soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division. It didn't take long for the National Guardsman from Connecticut to fit in with his active duty counterparts. All it took was doing the job he had been trained to do.

Bowe said he was glad to have had the opportunity to serve his country in Afghanistan before he retired. He said if he had to do it all over again, he would.

He was able to do a little bit of travelling outside the immediate areas of Bagram and Kabul, and he learned more about a part of the world currently embroiled in war, hopefully helping make things a bit better for the people who live there.

Bowe retired from the Connecticut Army National Guard on Aug. 31, 2002 after more than 30 years of service.

*Col. Patrick Bowe, a competitive mountain biker, was able to borrow a mountain from a member of the Swedish Army while in Afghanistan. (Photo courtesy Col. Patrick Bowe)*

*The Hindu Kush Mountains form a backdrop for the American flag being flown over Bagram Air Base near Kabul. (Photo courtesy Col. Patrick Bowe)*

*A military industrial complex outside of Kabul leaves behind a vivid memory of the destruction war can bring...*

*...while a rose garden belies the beauty and serenity of a country at war. (Photos courtesy Col. Patrick Bowe)*

*A busy Kabul hillside neighborhood gives the impression of life going on. (Photo courtesy Col. Patrick Bowe)*

*'Peace and Prosperity through a United Afghanistan' is painted on the side of the Afghanistan National Army Training Center. (Photo courtesy Col. Patirck Bowe)*

# Retiring, Epps discusses mentoring, education, diversity

BRIG. GEN. MARY ANN EPPS
COMMANDING GENERAL, CTANG

In June of 1976 an experienced nurse decided to enlist in the Connecticut Air National Guard. Twenty-five years later she became its commanding officer.

"I never expected to reach the rank of lieutenant colonel, much less my current rank." said Brig. Gen. Mary Ann Epps, Assistant Adjutant General Connecticut Air National Guard as she recently looked back on her 25-plus-year career, which will culminate with her retirement on Oct. 1, 2002.

"In the early 60's, my dream to enlist in the military was crushed by my parents very early in my nursing career," said Epps. "Their reason was, the military was not conducive to African Americans, especially women. One of my uncles was in the Army; the other was in the Navy. Their experiences were enough to discourage my parents.

"The military was very much segregated at that time. I respected my parent's wishes and did not join but I did not lose my desire to serve. The words of President John F. Kennedy, 'Ask not what your country can do for you but what can you do for your country,' were a constant reminder to serve my country."

Epps' interest in the military was re-kindled in the mid- 70's when she found out about the ANG. Post divorce and a single parent, she subsequently joined a best-kept secret, the CTANG, in 1976. Her nursing background was a perfect entry level. She was advised to enter as an airman basic and start earning points toward retirement while waiting for the commissioning process.

"In hindsight I wished I had stayed in the enlisted force for a few years. The enlisted force is the foundation of our organization. The men and women are dedicated and committed to excellence and mission accomplishment," said Epps. "The men and women who have a solid enlisted background before commissioning have the best of both worlds. Their experiences provide a stronger bond of appreciation and understanding that is essential in an officer and management role."

As a newly commissioned lieutenant, Epps wanted to attend the Academy of Military Science. Her request was denied and she was told the school was only for line officers. The standard workload in the medical squadron where she was assigned was physicals, shots and training. She set a goal to try this job for three years.

"Although the concept of mentoring was not in vogue during my earlier years, my chief nurse cautioned me to always attend the commander's New Year's reception and officers club functions," said Epps. "To this day, I attend those functions whenever possible. This early informal mentoring tip helped to shape my career. It provided an avenue for networking within the ANG family."

The networking also introduced her to the state National Guard Association. Through the association, she began to learn about the Army National Guard.

"Today, it is imperative that our men and women become very familiar with how our state Guard operates," said Epps. "Homeland defense and homeland security are important reasons to become involved with many aspects of our Connecticut National Guard family."

The Medical Squadron was Epps' home for 21 years. Career development and career tracking were not stressed as much as they are today. As she learned about nursing management courses, she applied for them.

She soon discovered that by attending various courses, a new world of the Air National Guard on a national level began to evolve. The interaction with peers and subordinates from other states was an educational and motivating experience.

*Brig. Gen. Mary Ann Epps reviewing some paperwork when she was a captain and clinical nurse assigned to the 103rd Tactical Clinic during the early 1980's. (Photo courtesy of the 103rd Medical Squadron)*

*Brig. Gen. Mary Ann Epps (left facing), with Lt. Col. Donald E. Topor, addresses the 103rd Medical Squadron at a formation shortly after her resumption of the squadron's command and return from the prestigious Air War College in 1994. (Photo courtesy of the 103rd Medical Squadron)*

"Networking is a critical tool for growth and success," stressed Epps. "During this phase of my career I learned more about the importance of achieving professional military education (PME) requirements and the impact on a career.

When Epps became the medical squadron commander, she said it was imperative that she accomplish PME.

"I needed to set the example for my officers and enlisted," she said. "In addition, promotion was now more readily emphasized and connected to PME. The term "best qualified" was also more associated with people who look like me."

Ironically, her application to Air War College disappeared twice; it never reached the assistant adjutant general's office. Out of frustration, she mentioned her dilemma to Brig. Gen. George Demers while attending a NAGUS convention. This time her application went through all the channels.

"The AWC experience rekindled my active duty goal," said Epps. "What an experience! I graduated in '94 and looked for something else to do. After War College, returning to the same was not ideal, however the flexibility of assignments in the CTANG was not available to me."

Mentoring played an important role in Epps' success. She says no one individual can know all of the opportunities and avenues that are available and necessary to round out a career. Epps feels very strongly that mentoring is a key factor for success in any position.

"A number of people were mentors as we understand the term, today," she said. In Connecticut "Gen. Donald Joy was always a very good mentor. During our discussions, if he thought something should be done differently, he would explain why. For a person new to the command responsibilities, it was a significant plus to have this type of rapport with the wing commander."

She remembers when she was a captain, Col. George Arvanetaki made her go Tyndall with CE on a Red Horse exercise because he thought she should go. It would be good experience.

"As a leader, he had a vision that I did not have," said Epps. "That preparation helped with future assignments and responsibilities,especially ORI's . Thank you Col A.!"

As she progressed in rank and responsibility, Epps interacted with many other people who were significant mentors

Brig. Gen. Ron Szarlan was extremely

*See Epps Page 17*

## *Final words: Candid advice to her fellow airmen and soldiers*

BRIG. GEN. MARY ANN EPPS
COMMANDING GENERAL, CTANG

One of my mentors said, "Be prepared, you never know when an opportunity will come your way!" I thank Maj. Gen. William Cugno for the opportunity to become a General Officer.

It was Divine Guidance that paved the way for my return to Connecticut to become Assistant Adjutant General-Air.

Appreciate how unusual it is to progress from a nursing position, to a medical commander's position to an equal opportunity stat tour and then to an AAG position with out divine guidance and intervention. This was not part of normal career planning.

I Love the Guard. We as citizen soldiers and airmen have the best of both worlds. We serve our country and provide stable roots and influence to our communities at large.

As we work through the changes in the guard and the demographic changes in our society remember, the guard is always ready. Career planning, mentoring are tools for success for our citizen soldier in the 21st century.

Another significant key to our success in the 21st century is Diversity - the Diversity of thought, Diversity of experience and Diversity of people and talents.

My sincere thanks to all who have crossed my path and influenced my rewarding career in the Air National Guard.

TOGETHER WE CAN, TOGETHER WE MUST. DIVERSITY IS OUR STRENGTH.

# One year later: Remembering friends, 9/11

MASTER SGT. JACK.DUNCAN
192ND FIELD ARTILLERY

*(Editor's Note: Last October, Master Sgt. Duncan wrote about his experiences at Ground Zero. Duncan works for ConEd in New York and was called to the scene right after the first plane crashed into the World Trade Center towers. It soon became apparent that electrical work was the least of anyone's concerns, but because he is trained in close quarters rescue, Duncan stayed at the site using his training to try and find survivors. He spent months searching for any sign of hope. Duncan graciously agreed to discuss how his life has been affected in the past year. These are his words.)*

Since September 11, I have put in many, many hours with my civilian job with Consolidated Edison of NY.

I worked rescue and recovery at Ground Zero. I pulled numerous shifts of Airport

Security duty. I deployed to Utah as part of Joint Task Force Security for the Winter

Olympics. And I kept up my grades while attending night school at West Point.

I also did my best to spend time with my wife and children. While all this was both hard AND rewarding, the most difficult has been the funerals.

While I was working at Ground Zero, I knew that Sgt. Maj. Mike Curtain, US Marine Corps Reserve and member of NYPD Emergency Service Truck 2 was missing. Mike was one of the 23 NYPD officers killed that day. Mike's sense of duty and commitment to his country had also brought him to the terrorist-bombed federal building in Oklahoma City years ago.

What I did not know was that one of my closest friends at Con Edison was also missing.

Dick Morgan had retired as Vice President of Emergency Management, but was still on board as an Emergency Management Consultant, and reported to the burning WTC that morning to man his post with the NYC emergency command center.

At his age, he didn't have to, but his sense of DUTY would not prevent him from doing otherwise. His body was found surrounded by 18 New York City firefighters in a collapsed stairwell.

The Pipes. At both Mike and Dick's services, the bagpipes rendered honors and brought tears to hardened men.

The hardest service was Dick's. The Morgan family allowed me the privilege and honor of presenting our National colors to his widow. With the pipes playing Amazing

Grace, I rendered honors on behalf of the President and a grateful nation. See,

Dick was also a veteran, Army enlisted and former National Guardsman.

So when things got tough, or I felt cold and sorry for myself in Utah, I'd think of Mike Curtain, a Marine's Marine. And I think of Dick Morgan, a man who never forgot the lessons of Basic Training…Duty. Honor. Country.

Every time I put the uniform on I think of them, true heroes and patriots, and it steels my resolve of professionalism and duty, to do whatever it takes to live up to our oath to defend our country. Whatever future deployments (and they will come), whatever hardships - to do otherwise would dishonor my family and myself.

*Master Sgt. Jack Duncan (with helmet), 2nd Battalion, 192nd Field Artillery, and Lt. Col. Ron Welch, 85th Troop Command, at Ground Zero. Duncan worked at Ground Zero for weeks aiding in the search and rescue operations there. Welch went to visit Duncan and another member of the Connecticut Guard who was working at the site. (Photo courtesy of Lt. Col. Ron Welch, 85th Troop Command)*

# The Eagle Cried

*(The author's son is a member of the 1169th AVCRAD, CTARNG and his local fire department)*

As the light shown
Through that September dawn
No one thought their
Loved ones would be gone
But a tear was in
The Eagle's eye
For the innocent people
That had to die
At the hands of a fanatical few
Who took the controls from
A heroic crew
The Passengers knew that
The Towers were gone
That they would have
To carry on
To save the people in
Some other town
They had to bring the
Airplane down
Yes there was a tear
In the Eagle's eye
The day the innocent
Had to die
But we know that
The dead have found
True grace
In God's eternal resting
Place
That terrorism over the
World must cease
So all God's children
Can live in peace
For the young and the old
And the heroes so bold
All mankind will grieve
But peace will come to
Those who truly do believe
Remember that God is
Still reigning above
Still showering all of
His children with love
And through the windows
Of Heaven they'll watch
Over you
You'll forever be guarded
By your heroes so true
Yes the Eagle cried
A tear filled his eye
The day that the
Innocent had to die
But the heroes' deeds
Remembered will be
For the price they paid
For you and me
So the red, white, and blue
Of our flag could still wave
Or this land of the free
This home of the brave
And the Eagle cried

*Peggy Ryan*

# Grecian Firebolt brings together Air and Army to get the message out

CAPT. GEORGE WORRALL III
103RD FW PAO

Near an old baseball field on a part of Fort Devens, Mass. not converted to a technology park, two teams practiced sending signals.

Different from a pitcher and a catcher using hand signals, these teams used advanced satellite communications equipment.

Elements of Connecticut's 103rd Air Control Squadron, an Air National Guard unit based in Orange, Conn., and the Army Reserve's 280th Signal Battalion, of Westport, Conn., took over the field June 15-28 for Grecian Firebolt 2002, the world's largest communications exercise.

The exercise, designed to test the units' capability, also included Army, Army Reserve, Army National Guard and other Air National Guard units. While deployed, the 103rd ACS provided the satellite uplink needed for the 280th to provide its part of the picture.

"We are tying in to the 280th Signal here for data and voice, and transmitting it by satellite to Fort Meade," said Master Sgt. Paul T. Wiedenmann who was the NCOIC for the Fort Devens Link, 103rd Air Control Squadron. "They (more of the 103rd ACS at Fort Meade) are in a hub configuration with signals from Puerto Rico, here, Fort A.P. Hill, Fort Dix, Virgin Islands and more are all coming in to them. So we can pick up a field phone anywhere out here and talk to anybody at any of those locations."

The 11 guard members from the base in Orange operate a self-contained site under camouflage netting to blend in with the surroundings. The site is complete with its own communications, maintenance equipment and power.

"We would be useless without the power guys," said Wiedenmann. "They keep everything going."

The purpose of the exercise is to provide realistic training to prepare for missions the units may encounter when deployed.

"This is training ...doing the satellite communications and running the circuits gives us a chance to really learn the stuff for when we do go some place," said Staff Sgt. Jack A. Norris, satellite wideband communications specialist, 103rd Air Control Squadron. "This allows us to work with the Army, and trouble-shoot circuits in a real-world way that we never get at the base. This training is the same type of thing we did when we deployed for (Operation) Southern Watch and Deny Flight."

The ACS began planning months in advance, coordinating with the Army to identify the type of transmissions the site would need to support. Once the specific bandwidths and data types were identified, the satellite time was requested and the 12-hour shifts for 24-hour coverage were planned.

One airman noted the similarities to his civilian communications work.

"The fields are very similar, since the goal of the jobs is to keep communication up," said Senior Airman Brian M. Hadix, satellite wideband communications specialist, 103rd Air Control Squadron, who was on his first training deployment and maintains cell phone sites for Nextel. "The military training helped me to get the Nextel job."

The Air Control Squadron also participated last year in Grecian Firebolt 2001.

"This is our second mission doing it (Grecian Firebolt)," said Norris. "The things we learned from last year that did not work, made it work this year."

*The satellite communications site near a Fort Devens, Mass. baseball field during Grecian Firebolt 2002. (Photo by Capt. George Worrall III, 103rd FW PAO)*

*Staff Sgt. Jack A. Norris, satellite wideband communications specialist, fine tunes a TSC-94a tactical satellite terminal, which links the Fort Devens site to Fort Meade as part of Grecian Firebolt 2002. (Photo by Capt. George Worrall III, 103rd FW PAO)*

*Tech. Sgt. John A. Ramadei, aerospace ground equipment technician, 103rd Air Control Squadron, coils a pump hose after refueling a vehicle from the same 600 gallon fuel tanks used to power the equipment's generator. Ramadei was participating in a communications exercise known as Grecian Firebolt 2002 which brings together Army and Air assets to link communications between the two. (Photo by Capt. George Worrall III, 103rd FW PAO)*

*Staff Sgt. Jayme M. Pace, aerospace ground equipment specialist, checks a generator powering satellite communications equipment (Photo by Capt. George Worrall III, 103rd FW PAO)*

*Senior Airman Brian M. Hadix (left) and Tech. Sgt. John A. Ramadei (right) begin removing the camouflage netting from the communications equipment at Fort Devens, Mass. (Photo by Capt. George Worrall III, 103rd FW PAO)*

# Transportation Company hits roads this fall

SPEC. MARIAN ROSADO
65TH PRESS CAMP HQ

There is a new unit on its way in need of highly motivated soldiers who are looking for new opportunities and are interested in new challenges.

The 1048th Transportation Company will formally organize Sept. 1, 2002. Its mission is to provide transportation for the movement of both dry and refrigerated containerized cargo, general non-containerized cargo and bulk water and bulk petroleum products by motor transport. This medium truck company is currently in need of drivers, heavy and lightweight vehicle mechanics and food service cooks.

Capt. Thomas Dennis will assume command in October. The units will be located in two different offices throughout the state. The company headquarters and two truck platoons will be stationed in Stratford with an authorized strength of 106 and the company maintenance section and one truck platoon will be stationed in New London. Detachment 1, 1048th Transportation Company will have an authorized strength of 63.

The company will receive 61 Tractor Trailer Trucks in September and will later receive 120 trailers (two trailers per truck). These trucks are equipped to improve safety, comfort and fuel economy. Some features include collision warning system, air conditioning, push button operator and troubleshooting controls as well as six-way adjustable air seats.

Staff Sgt. Linda Patnoad, a company platoon sergeant, is looking forward to the challenges of a new unit.

"It's tough kicking off the ground with nothing to compare it with because you don't know what to expect from your soldier and what your soldiers expect from you," said Patnoad. "In this unit, you will need to be highly motivated and ready to accept the challenges."

Some benefits that the unit offers are the opportunities to travel in and out of state as well as a chance to earn a Commercial Drivers License. If you are interested or would like further information, contact Company Commander, Capt. Thomas Dennis at (860) 524-3624 or Staff Sgt. Linda Patnoad at (860) 524-4820, through your chain of command.

*Vehicles similar to these will soon be part of the Connecticut Army National Guard's inventory when the 1048th Transportation Company is stood up. These vehicles were being used at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif.*

# Munitions personnel show their stuff at Family Day

*Staff Sgt. Carolyn A. Aselton*
*103rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

The 103rd Maintenance Squadron's Munitions Storage Complex personnel arrived with their bombs, Munitions Assembly Conveyer, technical data and toolboxes and set up shop for a bomb-building demonstration during Governor's Day.

After the formation, the munitions personnel, or Ammo as they call themselves, built six MK82 high-drag bombs.

As sweat dripped from underneath their plastic safety glasses and black construction hats, the guardsmen lifted 500-pound bomb bodies with the aid of the Munitions Assembly Conveyor hoist, or MACs, and placed them on trolleys on a conveyer table. Airmen then surrounded the bombs and screwed in fuses and tailfins and clipped arming wire as the bomb traveled down the table.

The troops worked in an easy rhythm building and inspecting the bombs, which they downloaded at the opposite end of the table onto pallets. If they were to be taken to a flightline to be loaded onto aircraft they would be downloaded onto munitions trailers instead of pallets.

"I'm very proud of our younger troops," said Senior Master Sgt. Scott C. Pearsall, munitions element chief. "We've had a lot of success."

Tech. Sgt. Scott T. Robertson, conventional munitions maintenance NCOIC, crew-chiefed the demonstration. He inspected the finished product ensuring that arming wire configurations and fuse settings were correct. He also kept on eye on safety.

*Staff Sgt. Scott W. Beeman and Airman 1st Class Matthew M. Meyers wire MK82 bombs for an A-10 during the bomb-building demonstration during Family Day. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Karol Krahel, 103rd Maintenance Squadron)*

Robertson said his personnel are prepared and have a great attitude towards training.

"The guys know they have to be sharp for real-world contingencies because the ops tempo is so high," he said. "We know we have to watch each other's backs."

Pearsall said the purpose of having a bomb-building demonstration was to let people know "what our operation is as far as providing close air support all over the world."

Some of the same people working on the demonstration deployed with Pearsall to Kuwait last fall.

"Everybody had a hand in our success in the desert. I feel very strongly about that. It shouldn't be one person that is the focal-point—that's not what we're about," he said.

Pearsall talked with the different spectators watching and asking questions about the demonstration. He said the demonstration was well received and that both civilians and people in uniform told him to keep up the good work and to keep it safe.

The munitions element does not get a lot of exposure because its "bomb dump" is usually located some distance from the rest of base for safety reasons. Pearsall said Family Day enabled people to see how their tax dollars are being spent.

After the last bomb was off the table, Senior Airman Justin F. Trzasko, conventional munitions maintenance journeyman, walked away from the MAC, wiped his face with a towel and took a long drink of water.

"That's what we do in Ammo," he said.

*Staff Sgt. Matthew P. Scheidel and Airman 1st Class Davitt D. Keenan load a bomb body onto the Munitions Assembly Conveyer at Camp Rowland. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Karol Krahel, 103rd Maintenance Squadron)*

# Medal of Honor recipient emphasizes effective leadership

SGT. GREGORY HARRISON
65TH PCH

Family Day 2002, held at Camp Rowland on Saturday, August 17 was a chance to salute Connecticut soldiers and airmen who were deployed in defense of freedom throughout the past year.

Among those present who witnessed and participated in the festivities was a very special guest, Col. (Ret.) Robert B. Nett, who is the only living former member of the Connecticut Army National Guard to receive the Medal of Honor. Nett earned his Congressional Medal of Honor while serving in Company E, 305th Infantry, 77th Infantry Division on Leyte Island in the Philippines during WWII.

Nett was the guest speaker at the Family Day Picnic which saw more than 3,000 people gather together to celebrate the accomplishments of Honor Units from the Connecticut Air and Army National Guard.

Nett, in his speech to soldiers, airmen and families gathered at Family Day 2002 emphasized the importance of effective leadership within the military.

"Leadership is the constant thread that steels wills, motivates in the face of daunting challenges, cares compassionately for those in its charge, and above all accomplishes missions." The colonel also pointed out other qualities of good leadership:

"Inspiring leaders are excellent at handling upsetting situations, listening and showing great empathy…the very first step to becoming a good leader is to listen, and I mean really listen. Let other people speak their mind. Ask questions to make sure you understand their viewpoints and then, and only then, give them your own opinion."

Nett is also very much an advocate of education. After being in charge of training American, Korean and Vietnamese troops, and 15 years spent in the Columbus, Georgia school system, Nett has been tireless in his efforts to advocate education whenever he speaks publicly. He refers back to a quote attributed to Abraham Lincoln: "A country with no regard for its past will do little worth remembering in its future."

Nett believes strongly in the importance of the discipline that that accompanies learning and that it is the bedrock foundation of any civilized society.

Originally from New Haven, Nett began his military service in 1940, enlisting in Company C, 102nd Infantry, Connecticut National Guard. After service in the South Pacific, Sgt. Nett was ordered to OCS and was reassigned to the South Pacific after completing OCS, commando, and jungle warfare training in March 1944.

It was with this unit, Company E, 305th Infantry, 77th Infantry Division, that 1st Lt. Nett led a determined attack against a heavily entrenched Japanese battalion on Dec.14, 1944. The American advance had been held up for two days mainly due to the firmly entrenched Japanese position around a three-story concrete building.

Nett and his unit, with the assistance of an additional infantry company, attacked the enemy with demolitions, flame throwers, heavy small arms fire and hand-to-hand combat.

In the course of this assault, Nett took out seven enemy soldiers with rifle and bayonet, and was wounded three times before finally relinquishing command of his unit. For his exemplary leadership, determination and bravery on the battlefield, Nett was awarded the Medal of Honor.

*Col. (Ret.) Robert B. Nett , a Medal of Honor recipient for his actions during World War II, was the guest speaker at the The Connecticut National Guard's annual Family Day at Camp Rowland. A young boy listens attentively as Nett discusses his days in the military. Nett is the only living former member of the Connecticut Army National Guard to have received the Medal of Honor. (Photo by PV2 Jordan Werme, 65th PCH)*

Nett went on to other illustrious honors during and after his 33-year career in the Army. Among the honors were induction into the Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame in 1959, being appointed Honorary Colonel of the OCS Battalion, having a portion of U.S. Highway 27 through Fort Benning, Georgia named after him, and being named to the Ranger Hall of Fame.

Not contented with a stellar military career, Nett continued his public service by going on to teach for fifteen years in the Columbus, Georgia school system. Nett was selected as Teacher of the Year in 1985 thus further highlighting his commitment to excellence.

# *From Kosovo to America, with love and pride*

PV2 JORDAN E. WERME
65TH PCH

Zeqir "Ziggy" Berisha held his flag up for the whole crowd to see and snapped it side to side with the furious vigor of a sports fanatic routing for his team to win the championship game, and smiling like the poster child for freedom.

Berisha is "Proud to be part of this great nation," and wants everyone to know it.

The 59-year-old Albanian has been waving the U.S. flag on the streets of Waterbury for nearly a thousand days, and on August 17th he was waving Old Glory for the National Guard's annual Family Day at Camp Rowland.

"I very proud of U.S. soldiers," he says in his thick Slavic accent. "Without veterans I probably not be here. I owe them everything."

An Albanian born in Kosovo, Berisha was not privileged while growing up. In a communist society such as Yugoslavia, Albanians were treated poorly by the government and the general population. Albanian children were segregated from the others and taught only in Serbian classes.

In 1962, Berisha was drafted into the Yugoslavian army and immediately put to work carrying machine guns over miles of difficult terrain. According to Berisha, the Yugoslavian army "Made me spy on other Albanians and they spy on me." Berisha served two years in the military, reaching special forces.

"They teach against American politics. Everyone communist, but I speak out against communists," he said.

For nearly five years Berisha moved between Yugoslavia and Austria, where he had hoped to find, and was granted, asylum. However, an altercation with his cousin found him in an Austrian jail for several months.

Disappointed with his experiences in Austria, Berisha made for Italy hoping to find a route to the U.S. After several hard months, Berisha was given the news that he was going to America.

He arrived in 1969 at JFK airport and spent the next three months in New York. Eventually he found transport to Connecticut and has been living in Waterbury ever since.

Berisha wanted very badly to be reunited with his family and made many attempts to have his father brought over from Yugoslavia, but all of his requests were denied. After several failed attempts, he finally turned to then Congressman John Rowland and in 1987, Nuha Berisha visited the United States for the first time.

Having been in Waterbury for more than 30 years, Berisha feels as American as anyone and is now known affectionately as "Ziggy" by all he meets. When the United States began its effort to aid Albanians in Kosovo in the late 90's Ziggy did what he could to show his support.

"I wave flag to show I love America," he said. According to Ziggy's count, August 17th marked the 950th consecutive day he has waved the red, white and blue in downtown Waterbury, and he has no plans to stop. He does it to show his love for the country that has given him the freedom to do so.

But Ziggy knows how fragile that freedom is.

**See Ziggy Page 18**

*Ziggy waves the flag he has been waving for 1,000 days at Family Day (Photo by Spec. Marian Rosado, 65th PCH)*

# Connecticut Guard honors Army & Air 'Families of the Year'

SPEC. MARIAN ROSADO
65TH PRESS CAMP HQ

Sometimes all it takes is just a few hours a week, a month, a year. Sometimes all it takes is your willingness to help and make a difference. Whether it is a helping hand or someone to listen, volunteering makes a difference.

Some of the reasons the Connecticut National Guard is successful in all its missions is the strong family support and family programs in the Connecticut Guard. Many families volunteer for educational and social programs throughout the year such as the Youth Camp, Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Family Day.

In recognition of the families who volunteer their time to support our missions, two Connecticut Guard families received the Family of the Year awards during the awards ceremony on Family Day. Families are nominated through a formal procedure consisting of nominations and recommendations that made it competitive this year due to increased activities after the terrorists' attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

The Army National Guard Family of the Year Award was presented to Master Sgt. Todd Wilcox and his wife, Kris from the 143rd Forward Support Battalion of Waterbury. The 143rd deployed to Bosnia last September and Master Sgt. Wilcox and his wife led the Family Program in planning and organizing all the events before, during and after their deployment. The Wilcox's created information packets and assisted in all family concerns. Kris and her two daughters, Nicole and Jennifer, were instrumental in sending out banners to the troops as well as organizing a Disney World trip for the soldiers and their families after deployment.

Wilcox and his wife reside in Wallingford with their four children Nicole, Jennifer, Alan and Robert.

The Air National Guard Family of the Year Award was presented to Senior Master Sgt. Charles Soloman and his wife Jane from the 103rd Air Control Squadron in Orange. They have planned and organized the squadron's retirement parties for the past ten years and supported families and employers during and after deployment.

The Solomons have been successful in easing family tensions for members deploying to Italy, Southwest Asia and most recently for those activated to monitor the skies in the Northeast corridor from New York to Boston.

Jane has been a volunteer for years; she has served in the State Advisory Council for the Family Program and has genuinely committed her time to support the squadron.

According to Kim Hoffman, state Family Program Manager, both families have been loyal to their units' missions and families. They have been dependable and have shown selfless values of service before self. They have involved their children and consider members of their unit as family members and lasting friends.

*The Air Guard Family of the Year, the Solomons, with Maj. Gen William A. Cugno and Lt. Gov. M. Jodi Rell. (Photo by Spec. Jeff Austin, 65th PCH)*

*The Army Guard Family of the Year, the Wilcox', with Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno and Lt. Gov. M. Jodi Rell. (Photo by Spec. Jeff Austin, 65th PCH)*

# *Serving up patriotism and hot dogs at Family Day*

STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI
65TH PCH

The Connecticut National Guard's Family Day was conceived to pay tribute to the soldiers and airmen who left their homes, jobs and families to serve the country in various parts of the world.

Some of them served close to home. Most were on the other side of the world. No matter where they went, it stands to reason that they missed their families, their homes, their friends and other reminders of life in the states.

*Kennedy High School Principal "Butch" Azzara (left), a volunteer, and Frank Caiazzo, Jr., an owner of Frankie's Restuarants, prepare hot dogs for Guard members and their families at Connecticut National Guard Family Day in Niantic. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski, 65th PCH)*

Members of the 143rd Forward Support Battalion often said they missed something else from Waterbury, where the unit is based – a bit of Americana. Frankie's Hot Dogs have been a fixture in the Brass City longer than any member of the 143rd FSB has been alive.

The restaurant chain celebrated its 65th anniversary by deploying to Camp Rowland, with a busload of workers and a convoy of trucks carrying supplies. The most precious commodity in the cargo compartments of the trucks were the hot dogs, exactly the kind that members of the 143rd said they missed when they were in Bosnia. Frankie's brought a ton of the precious frankfurters to Family Day.

Sending Frankie's franks to Bosnia was not feasible, despite efforts by unit members working back at the Waterbury Armory. So, the owners of the chain sought a way to serve up some hot dogs after the troops returned home. They began consulting with State Adjutant General Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, a Waterbury native, on how they could say "Thank you!" to the troops for serving the country.

Frankie's is a family owned business, and no family day would be complete without hot dogs. So, the match fit as well as a frankfurter fits in a bun, and Frankie's began planning the logistics of the operation in the winter, according to Paul Martelli, one of the owners.

"We put about six months of planning into this. It's been great working with the Guard," Martelli said. One of Martelli's uncles said that as soon as the family heard that members of the Waterbury-based unit couldn't forget about Frankie's hot dogs, even while serving in the rough conditions of Bosnia, they wanted to do something for the troops.

"That's what started the whole thing. When we heard that, we wanted to do something – especially for the people from Waterbury," said Joe Caiazzo. "This is just a way of saying 'Thank You!' We're really proud of the Guard members from Connecticut. How many times do they get patted on the back?"

By serving at Family Day, all Connecticut Guard members and their families had an opportunity to find out why the members of the 143rd FSB enjoy the hot dogs.

Frankie's frequently gets involved in various local events in and around Waterbury, often showing gratitude to the community in the form of frankfurter philanthropy. While the family and its workers have served thousands of people at single events in Waterbury's Municipal Stadium, Family Day at Camp Rowland offered special challenges. The workers had to prepare for thousands of hungry Guard members and their families going to chow at approximately the same time.

Four canopy-style tents were set up for the serving tables and soft drink distribution. Guard members also set up a queuing area, in case the lines for the famous franks became too long. But, the efficiency of the operation ensured that Guard members, their spouses and children went through the line without the classic "hurry up, and wait" stigma that military people have encountered on other occasions.

The crew for this operation was so large, that Frankie's chartered a bus to transport most of the work force. Some rode in one of the four cargo trucks rented for the occasion. Others came in personal vehicles. A total of 72 people set up tables and grills, prepared condiments, cooked and served hot dogs to Guard members and their families. Among them were Department of Motor Vehicles Deputy Commissioner Willie Ramirez and Kennedy High School Principal "Butch" Azzara, both of whom volunteered for the special event.

"Most of them are regular employees. We pulled a few out of the restaurants, and asked if they wanted to bring some friends along," said Jerry Caiazzo, one of the owners. The workers wore green T-shirts, with "Frankie's supports our troops" across the backs, in yellow lettering. The Frankie's logo was on the front, and the U.S. flag was embroidered on the sleeves – in full red, white & blue.

***See Frankie's Page 16***

*Frankie's brought 72 volunteers with them to serve hot dogs, chips and soft drinks to Connecticut National Guard soldiers, airmen and their families during Family Day 2002. (Photo Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski, 65th PCH)*

# Connecticut Military Department News

## 'A thorough soldier' – Gen. Frederick E. Camp

PFC. HOWARD MILLER
TROOP HISTORIAN
FIRST COMPANY GOVERNOR'S HORSE GUARD

*(This is the seventh in a series of biographical sketches of the Adjutants-General of Connecticut)*

Frederick E. Camp was born in Durham, Connecticut, on July 1, 1832, the son of John Spencer and Parnel Camp.

After receiving a common school education, Frederick moved to Middletown and was employed as a clerk in a dry goods store.

Upon the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted in Company F, 24th Connecticut Volunteers, and was mustered into service on Nov. 18, 1862. He attained the rank of second lieutenant and was made first lieutenant on April 16, 1863.

He was wounded in battle at Port Hudson, Louisiana, on June 14, 1863, and carried a musket ball in his body for the rest of his life. He was mustered out of the service on Sept. 30, of that year.

On Jan. 26, 1864, he was appointed captain of Company D, 29th Connecticut Volunteers, a regiment of African-Americans. The unit participated in action in Virginia and saw service in the Petersburg campaign.

Camp was promoted to the rank of major on Nov. 24, 1864. Six weeks later he was again promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel of the 29th United States Colored Troops, with whom he served until the end of the war.

In 1866, Camp received a lieutenant's commission in the regular army and served with both the Fourteenth Regiment United States Infantry and the Thirty-second Infantry. From 1869 to 1871 he was assigned to recruiting duty in New York City.

*Gen. Frederick E. Camp*

Promoted to the rank of captain he was next assigned to the Second United States Infantry and served with that regiment in Arizona and Alabama. He resigned from the United States Army on July 20, 1871, and moved back to Middletown, Connecticut.

Shortly after his return to this state, Camp worked in the office of the Boston & New York Air Line Railroad Company in New Haven. Subsequently, he became secretary and treasurer of the Middletown Gas Light Company.

Keenly interested in military affairs, Camp was elected captain of Company H, Second Regiment, Connecticut National Guard, in 1876. He became regimental adjutant in 1880, but resigned his commission to accept the office of Paymaster-General on the staff of Governor Bigelow on Jan. 5, 1881. He held this position for two years.

He was appointed Adjutant General by Gov. Phineas C. Lounsbury on Jan. 6, 1887, and served until 1889. During that period, the construction of state armories in Norwalk and New Britain was completed. The strength of the National Guard stood at 2,550 officers and men.

Among his recommendations to the governor, was the consolidation of the four state militia units, horse and foot, based in Hartford.

A staunch republican, Gen. Camp was a member of the state central committee from 1884 to 1888. He was also a city clerk and treasurer of Middletown from 1877 to 1881.

For many years, Camp was chairman of the military board for the examination of officers of the Connecticut National Guard. At the time of his death on Oct. 8, 1891, Camp was secretary of the State Board of Pardons and a member of the Mansfield Post, G.A.R.

Camp's funeral was held at his residencet in Middletown. Numerous state officials and military figures attended. He was buried in Durham.

A published profile described him as being "noted for the his care and kindness towards his men, by whom, though a strict disciplinarian, he was greatly admired and liked. He was fond of social gatherings and greatly enjoyed evenings passed in the company of friends, among whom, with his handsome figure and never failing cheerfulness, he was a great favorite."

## *Campers "Say Nay" to drugs with help from Horse Guard*

PFC. HOWARD MILLER
1ST COMPANY, GOVERNOR'S HORSE GUARD

In July, thirteen youngsters attended a four-day "Say Nay to Drugs" camp at the First Company Governor's Horse Guard facility in Avon.

Combining horseback riding instruction with an anti-drug message, the camp is an outgrowth of the national D.A.R.E. Program. The Horse Guards' Say Nay Program is coordinated by Pfc. Mark Bernier, a Bristol police officer who also visits area schools conducting classes in the dangers of substance abuse, smoking and alcohol.

This year's participants were Troy Alvin, Danielle Bernier, Emily Daniels, Shannon Gienty, Sara Haupt, Ted Luciano, Ciara Martin, Lynsey Michaud, Taylor Monico, Tayler Nadolny-Sipes, Emily Perkins, and Scott Zakszewski.

They were each assigned a horse and received instructional lessons in equine anatomy, riding, horse-care, tacking, and other equestrian topics. In addition, they participated in classes on leadership, decision-making and keeping journals.

Volunteer instructors were current Horse Guard troopers, Horse Guard staff, National Guard specialists and local police officers.

The last night of the camp, the students slept over and had a cook-out. On Sunday, parents, family and friends came to witness a riding demonstration and graduation ceremony.

This year each camper received a graduation plaque and certificate presented by Maj. Richard Belliveau, Commandant of the 1st Co. Governor's Horse Guards and CTARNG Chief of Staff Col. Thomas Stefanko.

The camp curriculum included a number of activities both recreational and instructional. Trooper Steve Ardussi talked to the campers about leadership, good decision making and peer pressure.

The program included a visit by Officer Robert Calvello and K9 Barry of the Bristol Police Department and a presentation on decision making by Officer Carol Zezette of the New Britain Police Department.

Capt. Ann-Marie Garcia of the Connecticut National Guard gave a presentation on the dangers of tobacco, alcohol and marijuana. Horse Guard troopers and staff helped the campers learn the cavalry way to groom, tack and ride their horses.

Comments from the campers and their families suggest that such programs have a significant impact on the youngsters, will enable them to make good life decisions and avoid the problems of substance abuse and addiction.

*Students and staff of 'Say Nay to Drugs. (Photo courtesy 1st Co., Gov. Horse Guard)*

## Taylor receives advanced horse training in England

2ND LT. ROBERT L. DAHM
2ND COMPANY GOVERNOR'S HORSE GUARD, PAO

Pfc. Jennifer R. Taylor of Brookfield, Conn. Recently completed a semester of advanced Horsemanship at the prestigious Yorkshire Riding Center in Yorkshire, England.

Taylor, who is also a full time student at Teikyo Post University, is currently enrolled in the Equine Management Degree Program and took part in the optional 16-week overseas course. Completion of the program earned Taylor her Riding Instructor Certificate from the British Horse Society.

Taylor, originally from England, said the course included classroom instruction, practical and riding sessions as well as jumping, which she said she liked the best. As far as a career with horses, Taylor said she would like to show and teach as well.

## Feyk attends Royal Canadian Mounted Police training seminar

2ND LT. ROBERT L. DAHM
2ND COMPANY GOVERNOR'S HORSE GUARD PAO

Cpl. Charles D. Feyk of Trumbull, Conn. Completed a two week Mounted Riding Seminar sponsored by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Ottawa, Canada.

As a current member of the 2nd Company Governor's Horse Guard, Feyk has also been a Bridgeport Police Officer for more than 17 years, four of which have been as a Mounted Patrol Officer, patrolling the downtown area of the city. Feyk also patrols city parks, does crowd control for special events and even issues both parking tickets and moving violations while on the back of a horse.

As part of his training as a Mounted Officer for the Bridgeport Police Department, Feyk received the specialized training this past spring. The training coincides with his duties at the 2nd Horse as well. The RCMP course included control of the horse, military drill, mounted/dismounted exercises and jumping.

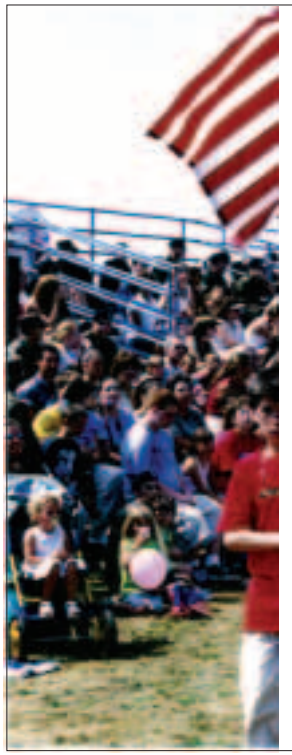
Feyk said his horsemanship skills improved greatly benefiting 2GHG and BPD as well.

Members of the Connecticut Army and Air National Guard who deployed around the world during the past year, march through the new Main Gate at Camp Rowland during ceremonies honoring them on Family Day. (Photo by Sgt. Gregory Harrison, 65th PCH)

A future Connecticut Air National Guardsman tries his hand at the rope bridge during Family Day. (Photo by Spec. Elvis Braga, 65th PCH)

The 1st Company Givernors Horse Guard Color Guard. (Photo by Spec. Marian Rosado, 65th PCH)

The 2nd Company Governor's Foot Guard stands in formation at Family Day. (Photo by Spec. Marian Rosado, 65th PCH)



This young Waterbury boy was only forth in front of the bleachers proudl all to see. (Photo by Spec. MArian R

# Saluting the troops a

SPEC. JOSEPH WALLER
65TH PCH

"Good morning military members, family and friends...welcome to Family Day 2002; a salute to all soldiers and airmen who were deployed in defense of freedom."

These words, echoing across Camp Rowland at 10:30am on Saturday, August 17th began Family Day 2002.

Family day was created to honor and recognize the importance of families and the significant role they have in the Connecticut National Guard. Distinguished guests for the celebration included Connecticut's Lt. Governor M. Jodi Rell who was the day's reviewing officer, and Col. (Ret.) Robert Nett , Medal of Honor recipient and guest speaker for the event.

Units gathered, looking over the parade field across from the bleachers, shaking hands and laughing. Mixed in with the milling crowds of Connecticut's soldiers, airmen and militiamen dressed in uniforms, were family members, smiling and enjoying the many displays of military machinery, which children were crawling over under the watchful eyes of both parents and soldiers. The children were excited, anticipating the day's many military displays, a DJ, games and the promise of cannon fire; the nineteen-gun salute (administered by howitzers) to the lieutenant governor.

Onlooker Pat Pelter, sitting at the inner edge of the parade field, a civilian who has been engaged for two months to her fiancé, a Field Artillery Battalion, has annual Family day celebration fiancé's unit had taken part of t 2002 providing security.

Taking shade under her picn respite from the sun, she said, all year, it's very relaxing and I of the soldiers. They have do this year; this is especially tru 11th."

With most people seeking s the bleachers, and old friends servicemen honored units on t had deployed around the wo had stayed behind in their u day-to-day operations while th serving elsewhere.

Then to the delight of the parade began with applause f were announced and passed t

After the presentation of ho ceremony was held and the Trophy was awarded to t Governor's Horse Guard of A

The Army Guard Family of given to Master Sgt. Todd Wi and their four children. The Ai Senior Master Sgt. Charles So Jane.

After the formal portion of t Pfc. Roderick Carrier, an a mechanic with Company D,

# Family Day 2002

y was only too happy to run back and
ers proudly waving the American flag for
MArian Rosado, 65th PCH)

*Maj. Richard Belliveau, 1st Company, Governor's Horse Guard, receives the Adjutant General's Trophy from Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General, and Lt. Gov. M. Jodi Rell. The trophy is presented to one of the State Militia units each year and is given for such things as training, strength maintenance, attendance and esprit d'corps. The trophy was presented during the Connecticut Military Department's annual Family Day. (Photo by Spec. Jeffrey Austin, 65th PCH)*

## ps and their families

r fiancé, a member of the 192nd
alion, has been attending the
elebration for three years. Her
en part of the Winter Olympics
rity.

er her picnic umbrella to gain
, she said, "I look forward to it
xing and I am very proud of all
y have done a wonderful job
pecially true since September

seeking shade, good seats in
ld friends, the spectators and
d units on the parade field who
nd the world and those that
in their units to monitor the
ns while their colleagues where

ht of the crowd, the military
applause for each unit as they
d passed the bleachers.

tion of honors, a brief awards
d and the Adjutant General's
rded to the 1st Company
Guard of Avon.

Family of the Year award was
t. Todd Wilcox, his wife Kris,
en. The Air Guard winner was
Charles Solomon and his wife,

portion of the day, Guardsmen
rier, an aircraft powerplant
mpany D, 2nd Battalion, 126th
Aviation Regiment, who seemed to by enjoying himself, took a break from the festivities to talk about the celebration.

"I brought my girlfriend, I have a lot of fun here every year. This is my third year...My favorite thing about family day is the ability to hang out with my buddies. We don't really get that chance. We are usually working."

The guests were then invited to eat Frankies' hot-dogs. Frankies' brought 3,000 hot dogs, bags of chips and sodas, served by no less than 72 of his workers and volunteers. This picnic-style meal earned the appreciation of all soldiers, airmen, militiamen and their families. The guests were than treated to a reception, compliments of the Department of Corrections, and the host of the day, Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, state Adjutant General.

During the course of the day, before the reception, children could be seen everywhere. Two such children, each happily eating slushies, Patric and Conner Breen, from Colchester, both said that their father was a "very cool" drum major in the National Guard.

Conner claimed that the games were the best part of family day saying "I like the balloon things, the slides mostly."

His brother, Pat said, "I like the whole thing, I really don't have a favorite." Saying that, they headed over to a sniper and camouflage display.

Eleven-year-old Luke F. Curadi, said "I'm with my dad, he brought me here. I'm glad he did, its fun. I think it's a great day for kids and their families to see what is in the military."

*Tristan Colafati, son of Cpl. David Colafati of Headquarters Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry. shows his patriotism and a hint of his future profession during ceremonies honoring Connecticut Army and Air National Guard units who deployed around the country and world during the past year. The ceremonies were part of the annual Family Day held at Camp Rowland in Niantic. (Photo by Spec. Marian Rosado, 65th PCH)*

# Turning a 6-year commitment into a career

SPEC. JOSEPH WALLER
65TH PCH

Fully intending to finish his original military commitment and move on, Sgt. Maj. Toby Cormier said that "one thing lead to another," culminating in his graduation from the United States Army Sergeants' Major Academy.

After four-hundred hours of correspondence coursework, three intensive research papers, two speeches and two weeks of demanding training, Cormier fast-tracked his way through USASMA in Fort Bliss, Texas. Graduating early due to his hard work and dedication, Cormier said he wanted to finish early because, "I was proud to be selected for the position. I wanted do the position justice."

Despite Cormier's quick finish, he said the course was challenging.

"It definitely encourages you to tap into all the training you received in PLDC and ANCOC. His said the most challenging portion for him was the Army writing styles, which was difficult because it is not the way one would normally communicate.

*Sgt. Maj. Toby Cormier*

The rank of sergeant major began to seem a possibility to Cormier about ten years into his career.

"About the 10-year mark, I realized that I may have the potential." He had originally joined with a six-year contract and a signing bonus and wanted to contribute to the United States through military service. He has five military operation specialties in Field Artillery, Cavalry, Aviation and Signal and has served in nine organizations with more than twenty years in service. He began looking to put that experience to use. He chose USASMA "because it gives me the opportunity to share the 20-odd years of experience with the younger soldiers," explained Cormier.

Cormier partially attributes his success to the NOCOPS program.

"It was beneficial to me because essentially it gave me a roadmap." Cormier is now serving as operations sergeant major for the 85th Troop Command, and plans on staying there until he is needed somewhere else.

Cormier advises soldiers who want to further their careers "to learn by doing, to take on any challenges that come your way, get as much experience as you can, and do not be timid in taking leadership positions out of your MOS."

# *'It may be tedious, but don't quit'*

SPEC. MARIAN ROSADO
65TH PCH

"This was more of a team building experience that I ever got in any other military course I have taken. We just bonded so quickly. I definitely learned the true meaning of camaraderie."

Sgt. Maj. Laura Danao, STARC Officer Personnel Manager, graduated with Class 27 from the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA) on June 21. Danao, who was originally enrolled with Class 28, finished her correspondence course in one year and was able to fast-track into the two-week course in Fort Bliss, Texas.

USASMA has a residential course developed to support the reserve components of the Army. The course includes 19 months of Independent Study through correspondence course with a two-week resident phase that takes place in the spring.

Some of the subject areas include transition of the new command sergeant major as the senior enlisted advisor to the commander, interpersonal relationships with the command and staff, assigning and utilizing soldiers and caring for soldiers and their families.

Much of the course is realized through mutual sharing of ideas and experiences among students of different military occupational specialties as well as students of both the active and reserve components.

The first goal Danao set to prepare for the Academy was to get a medical clearance in order to take the Physical Training Test.

"It was a personal goal of mine to get through my military career without a profile," said Danao. She said the conditions for the PT test at Fort Bliss were tough due to the elevation and the heat. Fatalities are common if one does not take proper precautions such as keeping the body hydrated.

After successfully completing the fitness test, the students work in groups of about 16 people and work on team building, instruction type scenarios, oral presentations, briefings and papers on foreign policy.

"I loved the professionalism everyone had at the academy, they all had a great attitude and a willingness to learn. At first I didn't know what to expect but I enjoyed just about everything – even pulling a full day's work. It was definitely an upbeat environment full of people who came from all walks of life, " said Danao.

For those who are take the correspondence course, Danao offers this advice, "Don't quit, do the work and get through your correspondence course because it is worth going through those two weeks of the Academy. It may be tedious, but don't quit."

As for the enlisted service members who are just starting their military career, Danao

*Sgt. Maj. Laura Danao*

says to "set a goal, voice what you want and get the training. Do all the things you can control such as doing as many correspondence courses as possible, getting your college education and maxing your PT test. Be motivated to get things done, the rest will take care of itself."

Visit the
**Connecticut Guardian**
on-line at www.ct.ngb.army.mil

## Frankie's serves up hot dogs and patriotism

*From Page 12*

"I felt a lot of satisfaction working on that day," said Joanna Ramirez, an account representative for the Hartford Insurance Group, who volunteered to help the Frankie's staff. "The National Guard members have done so much for us, I'm glad we were able to do something for them, even if it was just for a short time.

"I was surprised to see a lot of young people who are very enthusiastic about serving our country. To see all of those people in uniform, I was just in awe," said Ramirez, a Waterbury resident. "It was good to see a lot of people from our home town. And a lot of people told us they were very happy to see Frankie's there."

The supplies included 12,000 hot dogs, weighing a collective ton. And, among the big prizes, in a smaller package, was the famous Frankie's relish. The crew brought 240 pounds of the spicy but sweet condiment, along with mustard. Oh, and there was ketchup – for people who actually put ketchup on hot dogs. There were 336 cases of soda, or 7,500 cans.

The Frankie's restaurant chain traces its origin to downtown Waterbury. Frank Caiazzo, Sr. and his brother Paul started with a hot dog stand on South Main St., in 1937. The family-owned chain now has four restaurants in Waterbury, and single restaurants in West Haven, Bristol and Madison.

Connecticut National Guard Family Day was a fitting tribute to welcome home the soldiers and airmen who deployed, according to Frank Caiazzo, Jr., who left his family's business in the 1960's to serve with the Army in Vietnam.

"I wish we came home to this," said Frankie, Jr., who added that he came home at a time before the anti-war sentiment was prevalent in this country. "When I came home, it wasn't too bad, yet. I felt bad for people who came back in later years, when it was worse."

*Joe Caiazzo, one of the owners of Frankie's Restaurants, cooks hot dogs for Guard members, along with two of his employess, Scott Well, and Candice Server. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski, 65th PCH)*

# History of National POW/MIA Day

SPEC. JOSEPH WALLER
65TH PCH

Since 1986, every third Friday in September, this year September 20, Americans honor those who were prisoners of war (POW), missing in action (MIA), and those who are still unaccounted for. This day is known as the National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

The first National POW/MIA Recognition day was held on July 18, 1979, scheduled to coincide with the meetings of The National League of Families, a non-profit organization dedicated to the return of all prisoners of war and the full accounting of all missing soldiers.

**National POW/MIA Day is September 20**

Held in the National Cathedral, Washington D.C, the first recognition day was declared through resolutions proposed in Congress, and until 1995 when similar legislation was introduced. Since then, each year the President of the United States has drafted and signed a proclamation declaring the commemorative day.

The first change in the date of the recognition day occurred in 1984. The ceremony was scheduled for every April 9, a date picked by ex-POWs because it was the that same day in World War II when the United States had the largest number of soldiers captured in battle.

The following year, April 9, 1985, the recognition day had to be cancelled due to inclement weather. In response, the League decided to change the date to the third Friday in September, an all-inclusive date that falls on the anniversary of no major conflict so that all are equally honored.

The ceremony has since been moved to the Pentagon, and includes ceremonial components from all military services and involves former POWs and their families in celebrating the sacrifices that some servicemen have made to their country.

During the course of each recognition day, a Missing Man formation is flown.

Now, every year, with candlelight vigils, flag raisings and dinners by schools, churches, families, veteran and civic organizations, police and firefighters throughout the country together honor National POW/MIA Recognition Day as both an expression of their gratitude for the sacrifices of so many and their steadfast commitment to never forget our nation's commitment to bring them all home.

# *A Symbol that will not let us forget*

SPEC. JOSEPH WALLER
65TH PCH

When I was much younger I used to wonder what the flag with the sad looking man was flying in the center of my hometown. I asked my uncle, a retired Naval officer, and he told me that it was a "reminder of those who haven't made it home, yet."

The wife of a soldier who was MIA, Mrs. Michael Hoff, first explored the concept of a Prisoner of War and Missing in Action (POW/MIA) flag in 1971. Motivated by a news article that she had read, Hoff asked Annin & Company, a flag manufacturer for help in its creation. In searching for a design, Annin Company and one of its advertising agencies found a proposal from retired pilot Newt Heisley.

The proposal was a black and white sketch with the silhouette of Heisley's oldest son as the foreground. His son had just arrived from his unsuccessful attempt to join the United States Marine Corps.

Heisley looked at his son's condition and it made him think of those who were captured in combat; they may have looked much like his son did then.

Using his son's silhouette as the foreground, Heisley began sketching a piece of barbed wire and a watchtower. He submitted the design as a black and white proof, fully intending to add color if it were chosen. His piece was quickly accepted and produced in its original form, without color, and with the words "You are not forgotten" underneath the haunting figure.

Since its creation, the POW/MIA flag is the only other flag to fly over the White House.

It has been displayed at every National POW/MIA day since 1982, and with the passage of 1998 Defense Authorization Act it will be flown on six different occasions: Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, and Veterans Day.

# *Epps looks back at a successful and historic career*

*From Page 7*

helpful to her when he was in the Mass ANG and when he transferred to the Conn. Guard. Demers was a significant mentor and he, like Joy, would discuss why certain things should be done. She remembers sharing her desire to attend War College and the frustration of her senior service school application disappearing twice.

Demers help to facilitate that process and made suggestions on how to proceed and what to expect.

Out of state Epps has also had several mentors. "Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Irene Trowell Harris, Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Verna Fairchild, Maj. Gen. Archie

Berberian, Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Rosetta Burke, Brig. Gen. Ravindra F. Shah and Brig. Gen. Ruth Wong are only a few of the great men and women I have had a chance to refer to as mentors," said Epps. "My enlisted mentors are actually too many to name. My message to the readers of this article is mentoring is now a recognized, welcomed and integral tool for success in any job to include the position I am about to vacate as AAG."

One of Epps' early goals was to learn more about equal opportunity. The social actions chief identified what a great school it was but she could not attend the school, legally. She could not cross over to a line position from a professional one. During a causal conversation, Epps learned of an active duty position opening at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute.

She immediately applied for the position. She felt this would provide an opportunity to go on active duty and achieve a long-range goal of working in the equal opportunity career field. This time, the only person who knew about her application was the AAG who had to sign the paperwork.

*Chief Master Sgt. Doreen J. Bassingthwaite, Brig. Gen. Mary Ann Epps, Capt. Michelle D. Moeller(Bruno), Lt. Col. Margaret M. Withington while they were deployed for medical readiness training in 1990 at the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center, which was within several months of Brig. Gen. Mary Ann Epps first taking over command of the 103rd Medical Squadron. (Photo courtesy of the 103rd Medical Squadron)*

"My tour at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) was a complete out 'career path' experience and one of the highlights of my military career," said Epps.

"This was the culmination of my career! A good way to retire. It was a great job but certainly had its significant challenges. It was a cultural experience! The active duty culture, the joint environment culture and the lack of knowledge and interest regarding the reserve component culture was a significant impact to my understanding of how the military functioned.

"The DEOMI experience helped me understand the basic concepts of the thinking and behaviors of people regarding equal opportunity," said Epps. "A significant emotional event during my tour was to understand that we all are prejudiced. The key is learning how to manage your individual feeling and treat your fellow man or woman with the dignity and respect they deserve as a co-worker or peer. My three years at DEOMI provided perfect training for my current job as AAG.

The road to the top air officer position took the general through command and staff positions in and out of Connecticut. Working her way up, she earned many firsts, most notably Connecticut's first female and African American colonel, brigadier general and commander.

Epps balanced her military service with a civilian career in Perioperative Nursing at major medical centers in Connecticut. She was one of the first nurses in Connecticut to become certified in her specialty and has maintained her certification for more than 20 years.

After first enlisting, Epps received a commission as a first lieutenant in 1977. During her Air Guard career, she has been assigned as the Officer in Charge of Immunizations, Clinic Training Officer, Chief Nurse and Clinic Commander, 103rd Fighter Wing.

She left Connecticut for a three-year assignment as the Air National Guard Advisor to the Commandant of the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute, Patrick AFB, Fla. She returned to Connecticut and took command of the CTANG in April 2000.

Since April 2002 General Epps has worked on a Connecticut Military Department Joint Staff project scheduled to be implemented this fall.

*(Editor's Note: Capt. George Worrall, 103rd FW PAO also contributed to this article.)*

# Military Matters

## *DoD pays employees' FEHB premiums for some Guard, Reserve members called up*

GERRY J. GILMORE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Some DoD civilian employees in the reserve components who are called to active duty will see Uncle Sam pick up their Federal Employee Health Benefits Program premiums.

The new personnel policy, recently authorized by Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, applies to call-ups for contingency operations under Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

"This is a really good benefit for our civilian employees in the Guard and Reserve who are deployed in support of contingency operations," said Nancy J. Wilson, chief of the Employee Benefits and Records Management Division, Human Resource Services Center, Washington Headquarters Services, in the Pentagon.

Depending on their health care plan, Wilson pointed out, participants can save up to $50 a week.

Eligible DoD civilians also may obtain retroactive reimbursement of their FEHBP premium payments if they were called to active duty for certain crises on or after Dec. 8, 1995, according to a June 3 DoD personnel document listing the change. Filing procedures for these payments are still being developed and will be announced when available.

Reserve component members affected by the retroactivity policy change include those called to active duty in support of operations in:

Bosnia, by Executive Order 12982, effective date Dec. 8, 1995.

Iraqi Crisis, by Executive Order 13076, effective date, Feb. 24, 1998.

Kosovo, by Executive Order 13120, effective date, April 27, 1999.

Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on America, Executive Order 13223, with effective date Sept. 14, 2001.

The personnel document noted that to be eligible for retroactive reimbursements, the DoD civilian employee must have been: enrolled in the FEHBP at the time of call-up and elected to continue coverage while on active duty; a member of the reserve components of the armed forces; ordered to active duty voluntarily or involuntarily in support of a contingency operation as defined in Section 101(a)(13), of Title 10, U.S. Code; and placed on civilian leave without pay or separated from service to perform active duty.

The maximum period of eligibility for each period of active duty is 18 months.

DoD civilian employees who are guardsmen are ineligible for reimbursements for periods they are or were ordered to duty under Title 32 of the U.S. Code or any provisions of state, territorial or District of Columbia codes.

Current eligible participants must provide their personnel administration offices with an official written copy of orders stating they are being assigned to active duty in support of a contingency operation under the Title 10 authority.

Upon receipt of valid military assignment orders, the service member's personnel office will prepare and forward the required paperwork.

It's important that individuals notify their benefits specialist as soon as possible, Wilson said. The specialist will work with the employee to make sure that all applicable benefits process smoothly, including the new provisions for payment of FEHB premiums, she noted.

## Education Essentials: *Thomas Edison State College*

1ST LT. PAUL L. DRAPER
EDUCATION SERVICES OFFICER

Thirty years ago, Thomas Edison State College was created by the State of New Jersey to develop high-quality, accessible educational opportunities for adults.

The College originated from the idea that mature adults needed high quality educational opportunities designed especially for their needs.

Today, Thomas Edison State College offers 14 Associate, Baccalaureate, and Master's degrees to students in every state in the U.S. and 86 countries around the world. Students earn degrees through a variety of rigorous academic methods, including a variety of distance education methods such as documenting college-level knowledge they may already have and by completing independent study courses.

Whether you're stationed in Texas, on an aircraft carrier at sea, or in the Middle East, Thomas Edison State College has a program that will allow you to complete a high quality college degree at your own pace.

Thomas Edison State College, a regionally accredited college with a unique mission and philosophy, enables eligible military personnel to complete quality degrees at a distance wherever they are stationed, today or tomorrow.

Throughout its history, Thomas Edison State College has served military personnel worldwide. The College is a long-standing member of the Servicemembers' Opportunities College (SOC) and is a SOC Network member institution. The College holds a Memorandum of Understanding with Defense Activity for Nontraditional Educational Support (DANTES) as an external degree provider.

Because of your affiliation with the military, you've received intensive training and educational instruction unmatched by many others in our society. Yet you are undoubtedly aware that in society's broader view, a completed college degree is regarded as the primary indicator of educational achievement. Whether you plan to make the military your career or follow a civilian career, earning a college degree should be one of your most important goals.

Chartered in 1972 and accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, the College is one of New Jersey's 12 senior public institutions of higher learning. It offers educationally valid alternatives to college classroom study appropriate to the varied needs and learning styles of adults, especially those in the military.

The College is unique in that it has no residency requirements, which means a high-quality, baccalaureate and master's-level education may be completed through Thomas Edison State College entirely at a distance.

To support students earning degrees in this unique manner, Thomas Edison State College provides a complete network of resources to serve today's adult learner. Thomas Edison serves students via innovative course and credit earning options, distance delivery formats, and academic advising methods.

Students complete degrees at Thomas Edison State College through a variety of methods, including: transfer of credits from other regionally accredited academic institutions; development of portfolios assessed for course credit; credit by examination; and courses delivered through such distance-education methods as guided independent study, contract learning and online computer-delivered instruction.

This variety of methods allows students to achieve their academic goals, regardless of geographical location, work and family responsibilities, time restrictions or personal learning style.

The College's nationally recognized staff assists students throughout their education via telephone or in-person appointments and by correspondence, including e-mail, fax, and internet (http://www.tesc.edu).

## Closing the Back Door:

### *A successful strength maintenance year*

LT. COL. MIKE VASILE
RRC, CTARNG

As we begin to close in on another successful CTARNG Strength Maintenance Year, I would like to extend my personal thanks to the unit leadership for their efforts in the areas of unit retention and attrition management.

The CTARNG has been the only state in the northeast to maintain an overall excellent report on the strength readiness planning guide maintained by the National Guard Bureau this year.

Despite the OPTEMPO of this past year, unit retention remains at the same level overall as last year. In addition, the CTARNG has earned the distinction of having one of the highest overall Initial Entry Training Attendance records in the nation.

Our success is built on the philosophy that every one of our soldiers is important and that their individual contribution counts.

As we look forward to next year it is important to keep this momentum going. There are two areas that will require attention.

First and most important is IDT attendance for those soldiers in their initial term of service. Concentration of effort in this area has a significant impact on unit Non-Val pay levels.

Second is reenlistment for those soldiers who have completed their first term of service. For most units, first term soldiers reenlisting for a three-year term will be eligible for a $2,500.00 reenlistment bonus.

Again, congratulations on an outstanding year and together let's make next year an even better one.

## *Ziggy the Flag Man*

*From Page 11*

"We need more unity," he says. "American people need to know that the world is more dangerous now. The enemy is here, with us." Since the events of September 11th, Berisha has become more vocal in his patriotism and has fallen more in love with his adoptive home.

Zeqir Berisha waves his flag in support of the United States, and in warning to those who would try to destroy her. He says we must "work hard and fight to keep freedom."

Holding the flag of his adoptive country high, Ziggy shows his pride in America and her people to all that will look, and says, "I not stop 'til I die."

# Enlisted Update

## *Tribute to our people*

CHIEF MASTER SGT. WANDA WAWRUCK

This September marks the first anniversary terrorism hit home and changed our lives forever. It also marks the anniversary that 30,000 Air National Guardsmen and Air Force Reservists were called to duty with approximately 13,000 remaining mobilized in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle.

We have learned much about the war on terrorism and the mobilization of our people. In the midst of it all, our national level leadership changed; both the Director of the Air National Guard and the Deputy has changed.

However, our training has taught us to adjust, adapt, and overcome—and we did!

We began mobilizing career fields needed to fight the war on terrorism and ensured our people and their families were taken care of as they reported to many locations around the world.

A year later, we continue to forge ahead in sustaining a new steady state.

By the time you read this, a Fighter Wing security forces team will return from "the desert," and the Air Control Squadron will have completed demobilization. In addition, the Fighter Wing fire fighter team will prepare for their return to Connecticut, completing nine months at Nellis AFB and three months supporting Southern Watch.

Although the initial arrival and shock of these events were frustrating, all of our mobilized members and augmentees took great pride in defending our country and proved their talents and professionalism were second to none.

Some of our members deployed and others worked Operation Noble Eagle within the state. But all have endured a common hardship called stress. We hear a lot about stressed career fields, but we must pay attention to stressed people.

People are our greatest resource and we must take care of that resource by helping our members and their families deal with the stresses of the unknown.

One specific unknown is; how long will I remain on active duty? We don't have an answer to that question, but I can assure you…your leadership is attacking this issue hard to get answers.

Along with this stress of the unknown is the expectation of our civilian employers. They want to know when our mobilized members will return to their civilian jobs.

Just as before, we don't have all the answers but there is a way to recognize these employers.

Air Force Secretary Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff General Jumper appreciate our contributions and would like to express it directly to your employers. But they need your support to accomplish this endeavor. Take a few minutes and log onto the website http://www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com/thanks/.

In return your civilian employer will receive a letter and an Air Force employer recognition lapel pin modeled after the "E" flags of World War II.

Whether mobilized or not, we encourage you to take the time to recognize your employer.

## *An open invitation to CT Guardsmen & women*

There are exceptional times in our history when there is an event that truly defines a people. September 11, 2001 was one of those times.

With the anniversary of September 11th approaching, the community is invited to a series of services entitled "Remember…Tragedy to Triumph!"

Every Sunday from Sept. 8 through the 29, Valley Brook Community Church in Granby will take time to remember, ask hard questions, and look for Hope! This series will culminate on Sept. 29 with a special service to "Honor Our Heroes."

On that Sunday, a special thanks will be given to our local heroes who have, and who do, put their lives on the line for the community and the country.

A special invitation is given to those in the military (active & retired), public safety and law enforcement and their families. These special honorees are invited to attend in their uniforms.

The special guest speaker on Sept. 29 will be FDNY Firefighter and Ground Zero Rescue Worker, Frank Costa, who will share his story of Sept. 11, 2001 and the days that followed. For more details on the services in September, you can access the Valley Brook website at www.valleybrookcommunity.org, and click on the "Remember" icon.

Please note that Valley Brook Community Church worships in the auditorium of Granby Memorial High School, 315 Salmon Brook St. (Route 10/202) Granby, CT. The service begins each Sunday at 9:30 am.

# Guard Voices

## *Much done since Sept. 11*

SGT. DON DEES
300TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

BAGRAM, Afghanistan (Army News Service, Aug. 29, 2002) — In every generation there is a decisive moment, an instant in time, against which all other events are measured.

Your parents can tell you exactly where they were when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. Your grandparents likely can describe in detail what they felt upon learning of victory in Europe and the final days of World War II.

For those of us who wear the uniforms of the Armed Forces of the United States, our decisive moment is Sept. 11, 2001.

As the one-year anniversary of our decisive moment approaches, we can look back at a number of accomplishments.

The wounds of Sept. 11 are healing. Workers toil valiantly to repair the site where American Airlines Flight 77 was flown into the Pentagon, claiming the lives of scores of innocents. By the anniversary, Pentagon workers will occupy renovated offices at the site of impact.

**For those of us who wear the uniforms of the Armed Forces of the United States, our decisive moment is Sept. 11, 2001.**

In the country where these terrorists plotted to take the lives of American citizens, Al Qaeda and the Taliban are reduced to scattered pockets of evil. The Afghan people are free from warped religious tyranny. A National Army is forming at the Kabul Military Training Center to provide stability and security to the developing Afghan government.

However, much remains to be done.

Some in the international community decry America's continuing presence in Afghanistan, claiming our job is finished and we should go.

Leaving Afghanistan now would be akin to inviting Al Qaeda, the Taliban or similar organizations to take over. American soldiers are providing security to Afghan President Hamid Karzai in the face of what Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld called, "credible threats." The International Security and Assistance Forces are on the job protecting Afghanistan's seat of government in Kabul. We must not abandon the Afghan people until they can provide for their own security.

There are those who accuse the United States of human rights violations in Afghanistan, and claim that our continued presence will result in further loss of life.

A report in the July 29 "London Times" quoted preliminary findings by a United Nations investigating team claiming the U.S. attacked innocent civilians on July 1 and then tried to cover up the mistake.

U.S. forces are investigating the so-called wedding party incident at Kakarak and remain committed to preventing civilian casualties. Our forces are highly trained and disciplined. They will react swiftly and with extreme lethality against enemy threats, but will never intentionally attack unarmed people.

Some claim that Al Qaeda and the Taliban are finished. But reports continue to pour in of former fighters returning to Afghanistan to take up arms against the foreign presence. Reports surfaced July 30 that a man with more than a thousand pounds of explosives hidden in his car was headed for a target in Kabul. One account said the man was in a traffic accident and authorities discovered him before the plot could be carried out. This would-be bomber illustrates that our work is not finished.

Our commander in chief addressed a grieving nation just nine days after the terrorist attacks that set the War on Terrorism into motion. President George W. Bush called on each and every citizen to uphold American values and the American way of life. He called on our Armed Forces to wage war on violence against our people.

He inspired us to action saying, "we will not tire, we will not falter, and we will not fail."

We must remain strong. We must remain steady. We must be committed.

There are, no doubt, to be other fronts in the war on terrorism. Our forces will fight to deny safe havens for evil. We will win those fights in due time.

In doing so, we must not forget what President Bush said to the soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y., July 19, "This is a decisive moment in the history of freedom. As your commander in chief, I leave you this message: Be proud, be strong and be ready."

# Homefront

## In defense of Connecticut's children:
### *M.A.D.D. Power Camp was a smash!*

SPEC. JOHN CUSTY
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION SPECIALIST

I participated in a weeklong Mothers Against Drunk Driving (M.A.D.D.) Power Camp that was co-sponsored by the Department of Transportation, Office of Policy Management, and the Connecticut Coalition to Stop Underage Drinking, held at Sacred Heart University.

The main focus of the camp was for each participating town group to fashion a project that creates awareness and will ultimately help prevent underage drinking, as well as drunk driving.

The group that I helped facilitate was made up of students from Madison High School, Daniel Hand High School and The Grove School. Collectively, they formed a group called S.M.A.S.H. (Students of Madison Alliance for Saving Hearts).

From the first day of project planning, the S.M.A.S.H. goal was apparent - to create a greater awareness of the problem of underage drinking. Throughout the week, they thought of a variety of ideas ranging from having various fundraisers to handing out brochures.

One of the projects that they elected to implement was called, "SMASH On Your Dash." This undertaking consist of placing pamphlets explaining the dangers with underage drinking and drinking and driving on the dashboards of new, used and rental cars with the cooperation of car dealerships and rental agencies.

Another initiative S.M.A.S.H. elected was a mock drunk driving crash to be held in the Fall during Homecoming dances. Emphasis of the mock crash is placed on underage drinking and drunk driving. Additionally, various other mini projects were discussed and scheduled for further work and planning.

Never lacking energy or enthusiasm, the S.M.A.S.H. group fine tuned their public service announcement, and will be putting it in movie theaters around the shoreline area. In yet another project, they updated their website (www.geocities.com/madisonsmash) by creating more links to various other Internet sites.

Lastly, (and I was exhausted by this point!) the kids decided to boost their "In Your Homes" project created at the M.A.D.D. Power Camp last year.

The "In Your Homes" project incorporates students from the S.M.A.S.H. organization going to a specified home where interested parents discuss the dangers associated with underage drinking. The students and parents focus on real world topics including, parties that have alcohol, minors purchasing alcohol, and drunk driving.

The Power Camp was a huge success! The kids did a fantastic job all week and the staff got an education and specific awareness that underage drinking is a bigger problem than ever. The feel good message from the students was simple: There are innovative ways of preventing underage drinking and this bunch of Connecticut students won't stop until they try them all.

For information concerning the Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program contact Capt. Anne-Marie Garcia or Master Sgt. Melisa Lata at 860-493-2724.

## TGIF – The Guard Is Family

KIM HOFFMAN
FAMILY PROGRAM MANAGER

**National Guard Kid's Club**

The Family Program Office is looking for National Guard children who are interested in joining the new National Guard Kid's Club! There are no membership fees and the only requirement is that you are a dependent child of an Army or Air National Guard member between the ages of 5 and 17!

With the increased number of deployments and other operations, the National Guard Bureau has provided funding to the states to begin Youth Development Programs. For the past eight years, Connecticut has offered a Summer Youth Camp, but we are hoping to expand our involvement with children and begin a Kid's Club.

Some of the events and activities we are planning are a monthly newsletter to each member, social activities and educational opportunities too! Our ultimate goal is to have the kids meet other National Guard kids who are experiencing the same challenges (and joys) that military life brings.

If you are interested in signing up your child, just give us a call at 1-800-858-2677! We'd also love to hear from you if you are interested in being a chaperone at one of our social activities or if you would like to be part of our education sessions with the club members!

**We forgot to mention…**

In the July edition of *The Guardian*, we inadvertently omitted the name of Sherry Wozniak-Davis, a member of HHD STARC and a long-time volunteer with the Family Program's Summer Youth Camp. In addition to giving numerous hours to our Program, Sherry was also responsible for the patriotic carousel top design in the main dining hall at Camp.

We're sorry Sherry – we appreciate your efforts very much and hope that you'll join us again for the 9th Annual Summer Youth Camp!

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

## 9/11 Anniversary:
### *Where do we go from here?*

CHAP. (LT. COL.) DAVID A. FEYRER

This month marks the first anniversary of a date that has profoundly affected life in the United States and more specifically has affected the lives of all of us who serve in its armed forces.

No longer are we simply weekend warriors, no longer are we only called to active duty for two weeks in the summer, we are part of the ongoing 24/7 war on terrorism and all that that entails.

This new level of responsibility and activity will impact every area of our lives. Our jobs, our free time and most importantly our family lives.

Thus it is important for each National Guard soldier to think responsibly about the care of one's family in the case of an extended call up which almost surely will occur.

In a real sense, "family care training", i.e. the preparation of our families for potential deployments, is an absolutely essential component of unit readiness.

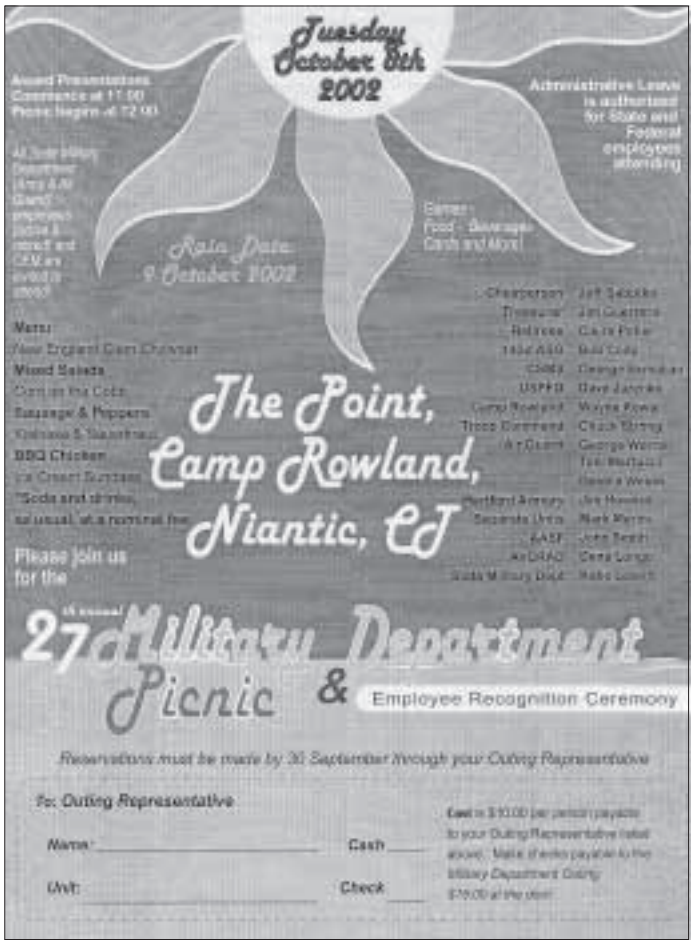
The Connecticut National Guard Family Program has a myriad of materials to help soldiers and their families in any preparation effort.

Likewise, your unit Chaplains are also an important resource in this effort. Please call on them!

Finally, although 9/11 has brought difficult new challenges in our lives, it has also opened up new spiritual possibilities for us.

In the absolute tragedy of this event there was so much heroism, there were so many miracles (thousands of people got out of the trade center alive, including my son-in-law).

My prayer is that each one of us discover a spiritual center that allows us to see beyond the horror of terrorism and destruction, and capture a vision of a world where the values of caring and respect for ones neighbors prevails.



# ACE Camp shows students benefits of being drug free

SENIOR AIRMAN RYAN WINIARSKI
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION

From July 8 thru July12 the Connecticut Army and Air National Guard, in conjunction with the FAA and the Groton City and Town Police Departments, combined efforts to host an Aviation Career Education (ACE) Camp for the youth of Groton.

Students from the ages of 11 thru 15 spent the week learning about the various opportunities that are available to them if they lead a drug free lifestyle.

The week began at Groton City Hall where the students were introduced to the concept and history of flight as well as how weather effects aircraft.

Tuesday the students traveled to the 103rd Fighter Wing, at Bradley Airport were they learned how to plan a flight. They also got a tour of the base and talked to pilots, crew chiefs, firefighters, police officers and other guard personnel.

Wednesday was spent at the 103rd where the students built model rockets and got a tour of the Army Aviation Support Facility and Bradley International Airport. During the tour they were taken directly onto the runway and shown the operations of the airport.

On Thursday the entire day was spent in the air. With the assistance of a pilot, the students got hands-on flight time in a Cessna flown out of Groton-New London Airport.

The week was capped off with the firing of the rockets that were built on Wednesday and a small graduation ceremony where a $200 scholarship was given out to the student who displayed the best discipline, leadership and enthusiasm during the week.

This year the scholarship was presented to Jennifer Aspinwall, of Groton, Conn.

The Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program conducts several Drug Free Leadership Events and Camps throughout the school year and summer months.

All of the programs are conducted in partnership with educational institutions and community organizations.

Find out if your school or group would like to get involved and contact Capt. Anne-Marie Garcia or Master Sgt. MelisaLata at 860-493-2724.

*Students participatig in the ACE Camp had the opportunity to learn about flying, first in a flight simulator, then in a Cessna alongside a licensed pilot. ACE is one of many programs offered by the Connecticut Guard to help students learn the importance of self-esteem and staying away from drugs and other harmful behaviors. (Photo courtesy of the Drug Demand Reduction Office, CTNG)*

## THE DINING-IN

The formal military reception known as "Dining-in" is the gathering of officers for an evening of fine food, fellowship, and honoring the feats of individuals and organizations.

The tradition has been traced as far back as the Saxon Nobles of 1Oth Century England. Down through the centuries, the protocol of the event became formalized in the Queen's Regulations of the British Army. General George Washington, while usually disdaining anything suggesting "Redcoat," maintained the occasion of Dining-in for his Continental soldiers to promote pride of service, morale and loyalty.

In the days prior to World War I, the Officers Mess flourished at small posts across the U.S., giving rise to local ritual for the Dining-in. The British influence was reintroduced with the close association of the Allies during World War II. Contemporary Dining-in customs thus reflect the legacy of many eras, traditions and nations.

In some services the evening is referred to as "Mess Night," "Regiment Dinner" or "Band Night." The general pattern, however, does not differ greatly. The primary elements are a formal setting, the comradeship of the officers of the command, a fine dinner, traditional toasts to the President and military services, martial music, and attendance of honored guests.

The Dining-in remains a definitive part of the social program of the Officers Corps.

WARNING ORDER

Connecticut Military Department
Officer Dining-In

*All Connecticut active and retired Guard and Militia officers invited.*

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Thursday November 7, 2002
Aqua Turf, Southington
Hosted by the 143rd Area Support Group

A Guest Speaker from the Office of the Secretary of Defense.
Don't miss this opportunity to share in a time-honored tradition and an evening with a ranking member of the Defense Department. Mark your calendar now and watch for more information to follow.

# Guarding Your Rights

## Legal Affairs: *Expedited naturalization executive order*

*Capt. Timothy Tomcho*
*JAG Office*

President George W. Bush signed an executive order on July 3, 2002, authorizing expedited naturalization of aliens and noncitizen nationals serving in an active-duty status during the war on terrorism.

An executive order is an order or regulation issued by the president for the purpose of interpreting, implementing or giving administrative effect to a provision of law or treaty. To be effective, the executive order must be printed in the Federal Register.

President Bush, by the executive order, implemented a provision of the law (8 U.S.C. 1440(a)), which allows the president to expedite naturalization by executive order designating a period in which Armed Forces of the United States are or were engaged in military operations involving armed conflict with a hostile foreign force. President Bush designated the period as beginning on September 11, 2001, until such date designated by future executive order.

The effect of the new executive order is that noncitizen nationals or aliens honorably serving in an active-duty status in the Armed Forces of the United States may quicken the process of naturalization (becoming a United States citizen).

The naturalization process typically requires at least five years of permanent residency before a person becomes eligible to apply for naturalization. Naturalization law also typically requires continuous residency, physical presence in the United States, time in a district or state, good moral character, English and civics knowledge and attachment to the Constitution.

The executive order waives the first four requirements and permits eligible service members to naturalize by meeting only the requirements of good moral character, English and civics knowledge and attachment to the Constitution.

Under the executive order, eligible persons (active-duty service members honorably serving during the designated period) desiring U.S. citizenship need only file three forms (N-400, "Application for Naturalization;" N-426, "Request for Certification of Military or Naval Service" and a G-325B, "Biographic Information"), a fingerprint card and personal documents (e.g., photograph, marriage certificate, divorce decree) with the servicing Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). There is a filing fee of $260.

The INS, within thirty days of receiving your application packet, should send a receipt. Within five months, the INS should send a notice of the date, time and place of the applicant's INS interview.

Upon completion of the interview, the application for citizenship is granted, continued or denied. If granted, swearing in as a United States citizen will commence on the next day or within two weeks, depending upon the INS ceremony schedule.

The key to naturalization success is accuracy, completeness, communication and honesty. Lack of any may lead to delay or denial of the application. Noncitizen or alien soldiers may not reenlist for service beyond eight years. Such soldiers, however, may extend current enlistment if (1) otherwise qualified for reenlistment and (2) can show documentary evidence (e.g. a receipt from the INS) of a pending application for citizenship.

Naturalization information and forms may be obtained from the INS website at www.ins.usdoj.gov.

## ESGR: Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

### *US Navy gives Connecticut employers the ride of their lives*

LT. COL. (RET.) HARRY RITSON
ESGR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In a multi-service endeavor, twenty Connecticut employers had the opportunity to have an eight-hour cruise on the USS Miami, a nuclear attack submarine assigned to the New London Submarine Base.

Currently operating out of Canaveral, Florida, the Miami hosted this "BossLift" sponsored by the Connecticut ESGR Committee during the last week of August. The cruise varied from surface operations to ocean depths approaching 600 feet, and included lunch served aboard while submerged.

All agreed it was a unique opportunity to see the complexities of the equipment and the skill and training required to maintain this nation's defense.

Flown to Florida in a KC-130 by members of the US Marine Corps Reserve from Newburgh, NY, the participants were welcomed and billeted at Patrick Air Force Base, next to Canaveral. The afternoon of the first day was spent touring the John F. Kennedy Space Center and then back to Patrick AFB for dinner at the Officer's Club.

The Navy buses arrived at 0730 the next morning to transport the employers to the USS Miami. After a dockside continental breakfast and an operational briefing, the submarine took to the sea. An underway tour of the boat with briefings in each major area was conducted until it reached its operating area.

The "dive" was, of course, the most exciting and memorable part of the journey. A unique experience for anyone, but certainly one for the majority of employers who had never served in the military and had little knowledge of its levels of technology, missions, nor the caliber of the individuals who make up our Armed Forces.

Immediately after the cruise, it was back on the KC-130 for the ride back to Hartford.

This was a fully packed, two day Bosslift that gave most of the participants their first exposure to the military, and drove home the increasing necessity of having manned and trained Reserve and National Guard resources to augment the Active Forces.

Did it work? Apparently! One of the participants marveled at "being at 600 feet below the surface and then at 18,000 feet in the air within hours" and "being flown by Reserve pilots, and seeing other reservists on duty throughout their tour, was an eye-opener in regard to their need and their capabilities".

Many of the employers who are invited on these "BossLifts" become candidates because they were nominated by their Reservist/National Guard employees through ESGR's "My Boss Is A Patriot" Award Program. If you think your employer would be interested or you would like them to be exposed to the military, consider submitting their nomination through the Award Program. Information is available through your unit administrator or ESGR's "Mission One" representative to your unit.

## NGACT:

### *Nation's first Homeland Defense commander to address National Guard officers*

The leader of the first combatant command to include U.S. soil is among the speakers scheduled to address more than 1,800 National Guard officers from across the county at the 124th NGAUS General Conference, Sept. 7 to 9, in Long Beach, Calif.

Air Force Gen. Ralph Eberhart, the recently confirmed U.S. Northern Command commander, will speak during the first business session of the conference, Sept. 7. All business sessions and the conference's industry exhibition will take place at the Long Beach Convention Center.

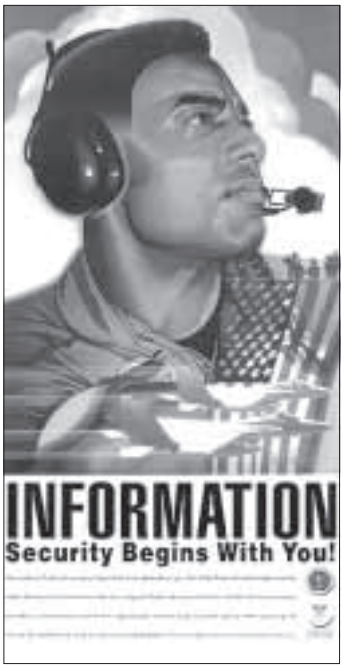
Eberhart received Senate confirmation in June to command The U.S. Northern Command headquartered at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. He will lead the execution of the Defense Department role in homeland security and coordinate military operations with Canada and Mexico. He will take over Oct. 1 when the new command, announced in April, begins operation. Eberhart is also commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Space Command.

The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks forced the Pentagon to organize a command responsible for the defense of U.S. territory - spanning both coasts and extending 500 miles off shore into the oceans. This was done in an effort to streamline authority. Responsibility for the U.S. homeland had been shared by several different commands.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Richard Myers have said the National Guard will "play a major role" and maintain a "very close relationship" with Northern Command.

Other conference speakers include: Army Secretary Tom White, Sept. 8; U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta, Sept. 8; the Honorable David Chu, under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness, during the third business session Sept. 9; Gen. Larry R. Ellis, Army Forces Command commanding general, during the Army separate session, Sept. 9; and Lt. Gen. Duncan J. McNabb, deputy chief of staff for Air Force plans and programs, Sept. 9 during the Air separate session.

Mineta plans to thank the Guard for its service in the nation's airports providing security during the months following the attacks. He will present the NGAUS with the first of a series of plaques specially designed to thank the Guard for its work.He plans to send the plaques to each state in appreciation.




Fuel Your Future
Air National Guard

Contact a Recruiter by email at
recruiter@ctbrad.ang.af.mil

# CSM Lever to speak at Senior NCO Dining-In

Command Sgt. Maj. A. Frank Lever III, 53, was selected by Maj. Gen. Roger Schultz, the Army Guard's director, to succeed Command Sgt. Maj. John Leonard Jr. as the chief advocate for the Army Guard's more than 300,000 enlisted people.

The National Guard's senior enlisted person will be the guest speaker for the annual Senior NCO Dining to be held on Oct. 10, 2002.

The 21st Annual Dining-In will be held at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington beginning at 6:30 p.m. Cost is $40 with a choice of prime rib or fish for the evening meal.

Lever was most recently in Connecticut to address the Basic and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course graduations in April.

"I wanted to be an enlisted soldier," said Lever, who joined the South Carolina Army Guard in 1969. That was the same year he graduated from The Citadel, South Carolina's state military college, with a degree in political science. He was the state command sergeant major in South Carolina for nearly two years.

"I believe I have helped more South Carolina Army Guard soldiers as a sergeant major than I ever could have as an officer," explained Lever, whose father was a lawyer and state family court judge. "I've never regretted my decision. I've never looked back."

*Command Sgt. Maj. A. Frank Lever*

Only about 30 percent of the Citadel's graduates actually earn commissions through the state college's ROTC program, explained a spokesperson.

"My background is in the community-based Guard that is ready and relevant," explained Lever, who has been a sergeant major for 13 years. "I want to continue helping our citizen-soldiers with quality of life issues so they will want to stay in the Guard."

Lever has a master's degree in management from Webster University in St. Louis, Mo. He served for three years as deputy commissioner for South Carolina's Department of Youth Services.

He also owned a company that collected and securely disposed of confidential documents for industrial, government and financial agencies before going to work full-time for the South Carolina Guard 17 years ago.

"He has always worked hard to raise the standards of our noncommissioned officer corps, and he's instilled the importance of the NCO educational system to our junior NCOs," said Sgt. Maj. Larry Rikard, a long-time colleague. "He's a team player and he knows how to get a consensus for the best solution to any situation."

"When I became a sergeant major I started looking toward the day when I could become the command sergeant major for the entire Army National Guard," Lever explained. "I wanted to be all that I could be and serve as an example to others about what they can accomplish if they work hard."

Lever and his wife Ellen reside in Arcadia Lakes, S.C. They have two grown sons.

**Twenty First Annual**
**SENIOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER**
**FORMAL DINING-IN**

| | |
|---|---|
| DATE: | 10 October 2002 (Thursday Evening) |
| TIME: | 1830 Hours |
| PLACE: | Aqua-Turf Club, Southington, Connecticut |
| COST: | **FORTY DOLLARS ($40.00)** |
| ELIGIBILITY: | Noncommissioned Officers and Chief Petty Officers, E-7 and above. All eligible ARNG and ANG NCOs are expected to attend. CPOs are invited to attend. Retirees are most welcome. |
| UNIFORM: | Army Dress Blues with Bow Tie or Army Greens with white shirt and black bow tie. Appropriate attire for other services. Retirees may wear the uniform or a business suit as meets their desires. |
| HOST: | State Command Sergeant Major, Connecticut Army National Guard SGM Raymond P. Zastueny, Jr. |
| GUEST SPEAKER: | CSM Frank A. Lever – CSM ARNG-NGB |

APPLICATION DUE DATE: Military Protocol requires prompt response (within 72 hours of receipt of flyer).

*No responses accepted after 25 September 2002*

The formal military dinner ceremony known as the "Dining-In" is an old and traditional military affair believed to have its origins in medieval England. The Dining-In is now recognized as an occasion to foster ceremony, tradition, and camaraderie within an organization and to emphasize their importance in the life of a service member. It is an excellent occasion to bid farewell to service members who have departed, to welcome new ones, and to recognize the achievements of military service and individual members. Please note the guest speaker!

The cost of the affair includes a full course dinner (main entree: Roast Prime Ribs of Beef, or a fish entree upon special request) and refreshments before and during dinner. A cash bar will be available after dinner. On receipt of your application, you will receive a mailing that will include specific uniform and protocol information.

The Aqua-Turf Club is located on Mulberry Street in Southington, Connecticut. It is a short distance from Routes 84, 691, 10, and 322. **SEE ATTACHED STRIP MAP FOR DETAILS!**

Your support of the only Senior Noncommissioned Officer activity, the Dining-In, has been superb. It is requested that you continue to support this, your Dining-In, and continue the great tradition. Submit your application to attend as soon as possible after receipt of this notice. Early response enables the committee to better plan the Dining-In and make it a more enjoyable evening for all.

**NOTE: Seating will be arranged with unit integrity or upon a specific request for tables of ten.** Appropriate fines will be imposed for violations of the Mess. Cost of fines will range from $1.00 to whatever is deemed appropriate by the President or Mister Vice.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**DETACH AND MAIL PORTION BETWEEN DOUBLE LINES**

I will attend the Senior NCO Dining-In on 10 October 2002.

My check in the amount of $40.00 is attached.

NAME: _____ RANK: _____

Home address: _____

_____ Zip Code: _____

UNIT: _____

Indicate your preference for Fish in lieu of Roast Beef: _____

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "2002 Senior NCO Dining-In"**

Mail return to: Command Sergeant Major
Connecticut Army National Guard
National Guard Armory
360 Broad St.
Hartford, CT 06103-3795

**PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD CONCERNING THE DINING-IN!**

**Let other E7s and above NCOs and CPOs, who have never attended, know about this grand affair. NCOs and CPOs make it happen!**

# Health & Fitness

## Your Health Matters: *Diet and Oral Health*

CAPT. DAVID L. FRIED, DMD, FAGD

You are what you eat.

Dental disease can be either cavities or gum disease, and diet plays an important role in helping us keep our teeth for a lifetime.

Poor nutrition affects the entire immune system, thereby increasing susceptibility to many disorders. People with lowered immune systems have been shown to be at higher risk for periodontal disease.

Additionally, today's research shows a link between oral health and systemic conditions, such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. So eating a variety of foods as part of a well-balanced diet may not only improve your dental health, but increasing fiber and vitamin intake may reduce the risk of other diseases.

Coffee and doughnuts on your way to drill may make a nice fast meal. Picking up a dozen doughnuts to share with you buddies is a nice treat for your unit; however, the sugar in doughnuts has been linked to cavities and gum inflammation. The amount of sugar and milk in your coffee can also have a detrimental effect on your oral health.

Bacteria, called strep mutans, cause dental caries (cavities) by digesting sugars and secreting lactic acid. The lactic acid eats through the surface of the tooth and causes decay. After eating, the bacteria consume the sugars for approximately twenty minutes before the mouth returns to normal.

Unfortunately, many people tend to graze or snack instead of eating a meal and waiting until their next meal. Think about eating a doughnut, waiting a half an hour and eating another one. Add a cup of coffee or two that has been nursed throughout a morning of work and there is an optimum situation for a dental disaster. Limiting the exposure time that sugars are in your mouth can decrease the number and size of cavities.

You may be able to prevent two of the most common diseases of modern civilization, tooth decay (caries) and periodontal disease, simply by improving your diet. Periodontal disease affects the supporting tissues of the teeth and is the leading cause of tooth loss in adults.

Decay results when the hard tissues are destroyed by acid products from oral bacteria. Certain foods and food combinations are linked to higher levels of cavity-causing bacteria.

Although poor nutrition does not directly cause periodontal disease, many researchers believe that the disease progresses faster and is more severe in patients whose diet does not supply the necessary nutrients.

The British Navy understood this by always carrying limes and other citrus fruits aboard their ships to prevent "scurvy". Not only did the British seamen stay healthier, but also they became known as "Limeys".

Poor nutrition affects the entire immune system, thereby increasing susceptibility to many disorders. People with lowered immune systems have been shown to be at higher risk for periodontal disease.

Additionally, today's research shows a link between oral health and systemic conditions, such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. So eating a variety of foods as part of a well-balanced diet may not only improve your dental health, but increasing fiber and vitamin intake may reduce the risk of other diseases.

Eat a well-balanced diet characterized by moderation and variety. Develop eating habits that follow the recommendations from reputable health organizations such as The American Dietetic Association and The National Institutes of Health.

Choose foods from the four basic food groups: fruits and vegetables, breads and cereals, milk and dairy products, meat, chicken, fish or beans. Avoid fad diets that limit or eliminate entire food groups that usually result in vitamin or mineral deficiencies.

Always keep your mouth moist by drinking lots of water. Saliva protects both hard and soft oral tissues. If you have a dry mouth, supplement your diet with sugarless candy or gum to stimulate saliva.

Foods that cling to your teeth promote tooth decay. So when you snack, avoid soft, sweet, sticky foods, such as cakes, candy and dried fruits. Instead, choose dentally healthy foods such as nuts, raw vegetables, plain yogurt, cheese and sugarless gum or candy.

When you eat fermentable carbohydrates, such as crackers, cookies and chips, eat them as part of your meal, instead of by themselves. Combinations of foods neutralize acids in the mouth and inhibit tooth decay.

For example, enjoy cheese with your crackers. Your snack will be just as satisfying and better for your dental health.

One caution: malnutrition (bad nutrition) can result from too much nourishment as easily as too little. Each time you eat, you create an environment for oral bacteria to develop.

Additionally, studies are showing that dental disease is just as related to overeating as heart disease, obesity, diabetes and hypertension. So making a habit of eating too much of just about anything, too frequently, should be avoided.

Always ask your dentist if you're not sure how your nutrition (diet) may affect your oral health. Conditions such as tooth loss, pain, or joint dysfunction can impair chewing and are often found in elderly people, those on restrictive diets and those who are undergoing medical treatment.

People experiencing these problems may be too isolated or weakened to eat nutritionally balanced meals at a time when it is particularly critical.

Talk to your dental health professional about what you can do for yourself or someone you know in these circumstances.

For more information and links, visit www.agd.org or www.ada.org/.

*(Editor's Note: The information in this article was developed through the internet from the Academy of General Dentistry and from the American Dental Association.)*

## Fit for Life: *Fitness Rooms and Facilities*

CHAP. (MAJ.) JAMES FINN

Armories are open during duty hours and drill weekends. Fulltime personnel have access to their fitness rooms and can open them for you. Most are equipped with treadmill, cycling, and various weight machines with an assortment of free-weights.

Other nearby facilities available for military personnel or dependents with ID cards are Groton Sub Base, Coast Guard Academy, Fort Devens, Mass. Military Reservation, Otis Air Force Base and West Point.

Each base operates their gyms and athletic programs on their own schedule. The academies have gyms assigned to cadets so call first to confirm when and which facilities (pools, gyms, weight rooms, athletic fields, and tracks) are available. Save yourself hundreds of dollars in club fees and support your local armory.

Most high schools in Connecticut have switched to 400 meter tracks (spongey orange surfaces). To run two miles (on the inside lane), you must run eight laps plus 60 feet. On the track, it's about the distance from one of the blue wedges to the lane number. If you want to run exactly eight laps run in lane # 3 then you can start and stop in the same place. Colt Park in Hartford is still a one-quarter mile track.

Running on a track will help you finish your APFT run as strong as you start. Begin your first lap slow and run all laps at the same pace. Divide you goal two-mile time by 8 and run all laps in the same time.

For example: a 16:00 two-mile equals eight laps at two minutes each.

To improve your speed, run laps five to ten seconds faster (such as 1:55 or 1:50) then walk between laps (rest for the same amount of time) to get your breathing back to "normal" (so you're not "sucking wind").

For all fitness running, start easier, especially on hot days, hydrate well, and wear good running shoes.

### For More Fitness and News Information Visit the Following Military Websites:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Fort Benning Fitness School:** | http://www.benning.army.mil |
| **Female Athletes:** | http://www.ngb.dtic.mil |
| **Cycling:** | http://hometown.aol.com/ArmyCycling |
| | http://www.af.mil/news |
| **Runners News:** | http://www.defenselink.mil/ |
| **Swimmers:** | http://goarmysports.ocsn.com |
| **Triathletes News:** | http://www.afmc.wpafb.af.mil |
| **Weight Training:** | http://carlisle-www.army.mil |
| **Resources:** | http://www.nhrc.navy.mil |
| **NG Marathon Team:** | http://www.ngb.dtic.mil |
| **Air Force Marathon:** | http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil |
| **Army Marathon:** | http://www.mwrhuachuca.com |
| **Blue Angel (Navy) Marathon:** | http://www.mwr-pcola.navy.mil |
| **Marine Corps Marathon:** | http://www.marinemarathon.com |

# Sports

## Football fans to get glimpse of military sacrifices

JIM GARAMONE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Throughout the upcoming season, American football fans will get a glimpse of the sacrifices the men and women of the armed forces make.

The National Football League is sponsoring "American Postcards," a series of profiles to be broadcast during regular and post-season games.

"About 120 million people watch an NFL game each weekend," said Allison

Barber, a Pentagon spokeswoman. "Our goal is to allow men and women across America to be able to feel a connection to our military members."

Barber said NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue came up with the idea in early August.

"What they had in mind was just regular stories of military folks who had written letters home, or who have e-mailed or who have found unique ways to communicate with their families," she said.

NFL Films chose stories from suggestions from the Defense Department and the services — including two stories featured on www.DefendAmerica.gov. The spots are scheduled to begin airing on Sept. 5 during the New York Giants vs. the San Francisco 49ers game on ESPN. The spots will also run during NFL games broadcast on CBS, Fox and ABC.

NFL Films traveled to Afghanistan to speak with service members and to stateside hometowns to speak with family members and friends.

One spot features Airman Amy Ting. On Sept. 11 last year, she was a civilian and in the Marriott Hotel across the street from the World Trade Center. She enlisted the week following the attack. The NFL crew filmed Ting on duty at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

There are other spots featuring members of the Army and Marines.

Plans are for future spots to feature service members based in the Persian Gulf, aboard ship and across the United States.

"In the midst of a football game, we want people to pause and recognize that every minute of every day, someone is defending our country," Barber said.

She said a secondary DOD goal is for people to become excited about the military. "It's not a recruiting campaign in any way," she said. "But it is an education campaign."

Barber said the NFL is just the latest in a long list of organizations that have contacted the Defense Department looking for ways to support the men and women of the military.

Visit the
**Connecticut Guardian**
on-line at www.ct.ngb.army.mil

## *Air Force women sweep Armed Forces softball tourney*

NAVY PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS MIKE JONES
NAVAL AIR STATION JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NAVAL AIR STATION JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AFPN) — The overcast skies and occasional sprinkles couldn't dampen the spirits of the military women's softball teams when they met here Aug. 7-9 for the 2002 Armed Forces Women's Softball Championship.

The Air Force team dominated the field, sweeping the series 9-0 and taking first place from the defending champion Army squad.

Led by head coach Master Sgt. William Hardy of Keesler Air Force Base,

Miss., and his assistant, Master Sgt. Mark Asbury, Eglin AFB, Fla., the team snared the lead in a 26-13 win over Navy in Game 1. Thanks to a coordinated outfield, and several homers by Senior Airman Monica Everett, Moody AFB,

Ga., the group remained undefeated in the tournament.

The Army team, led by head coach Gerald Corcoran, York, Pa., took second place overall at 4-5. The Marine Corps team, coached by Master Gunnery Sgt.Dave Heald of Camp Lejeune, N.C., went 3-6 and Navy, behind Master Chief Petty Officer Jim Butters, Afloat Training Group, Naval Station Mayport, Miss., rounded out the field at 2-7.

"Our hitting has kept us in the game. It's made the difference," said Air Force Tech. Sgt. Rhonda Hayes, Tyndall AFB, Fla. "We played well as a team. We have excellent talent."

The chance to compete against members of the other services made the event worthwhile, said Marine Lance Cpl. Miranda Hamby of Camp Geiger, N.C. "No matter what the outcome, we've worked really hard. We get along really well. It was a great experience."

"We played awesome," remarked Navy Petty Officer 2nd class Ashley Camp, USS Ronald Reagan. "We'll all keep in touch."

Chosen for the all-tournament team in each position were pitcher, Air Force Staff Sgt. Laurie Doughty, Fort Bragg, N.C.; catcher, Army Sgt. 1st Class Lucy Geidner, Alexandria, Va.; first base, Tschache; second base, Air Force Airman 1st Class Autumn Brown, Kirtland AFB, N.M.; third base, Carr; and shortstop, Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Cheryl Trapnell, Hurlburt Field,Fla.

Outfielders chosen were Watkins; Air Force Staff Sgt. Karrie Warren, Tyndall AFB; Everett; and Air Force Senior Airman Toni Owens, McChord AFB, Wash. Air Force Capt. Marcy May of MacDill AFB, Fla. was named as an extra hitter.

Service representatives picked 15 of the players to an armed forces team that will compete Aug. 15 to 18 at the National Women's Championships in Tifton, Ga.

Members of the armed forces softball team are Doughty, Geidner, Brown, Carr, Trapnell, Owens, Watkins, Bomer and May; Army Sgt. Michelle Saunders, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Air Force Airman 1st Class Virginia Gowin, Hurlburt Field; Army 2nd Lt. Kendra Allen, Camp Carroll, South Korea; Army Sgt. Michelle Murga, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Army Staff Sgt. Charisa Jordan, Kaiserslautern, Germany; and Army 1st Lt. Angie Diebal, Fort Hood, Texas.

Corcoran was named head coach and Asbury, the assistant coach.

## COMMISSARY & EXCHANGE DIRECTORY

**Here is a current directory of area commissaries and exchanges along with their phone numbers. Always call ahead to verify hours as they may change without notice. A valid i.d. card is necessary to use these facilities. Contact your unit administrator if you or your dependants need a card. If you have trouble, contact the State Family Program Office at 1-800-858-2677.**

**AIR NATIONAL GUARD**
East Granby
TUESDAY – FRIDAY:
10:00 – 5:00
SATURDAY: 10:00 – 4:00
SUNDAY & MONDAY: Closed
UTAs: Open Saturday & Sunday: 10:00 – 5:00
Phone: (860) 653-6994

**COAST GUARD ACADEMY**
New London
MONDAY – FRIDAY:
9:00 – 5:00
SATURDAY: 9:00 – 3:00
SUNDAY: Closed
Phone: (860) 444-8488

**CAMP ROWLAND POST EXCHANGE**
MONDAY: Closed
TUESDAY – SATURDAY:
10:00 – 5:00
SUNDAY: 10:00 – 4:00
Phone: (860) 739-9672

**COAST GUARD STATION**
120 Woodward Avenue
New Haven, CT
MONDAY – FRIDAY:
9:00 – 4:30
SATURDAY: 9:00 – 2:00
SUNDAY: Closed
Phone: (203) 468-2712

**WEST POINT, NEW YORK**
**Exchange** Hours:
SATURDAY – WEDNESDAY:
10:00 – 6:00
THURSDAY & FRIDAY:
10:00 – 7:00
Phone: (914) 446-5406
**Commissary** Hours:
MONDAY: Closed
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY:
10:00 – 6:00
THURSDAY: 10:00 – 7:00
FRIDAY: 10:00 – 6:00
SATURDAY: 9:00 – 5:00
SUNDAY: 11:00 – 5:00
Phone: (914) 446-5406

**SUB BASE, NEW LONDON**
**Exchange** Hours:
MON., TUES., WED.,
FRI.: 9:00 – 6:00
THURSDAY: 9:00 – 7:00
SATURDAY & SUNDAY:
9:00 – 5:00
HOLIDAYS: 9:00 – 4:00
Phone: (860) 694-3811
**Commissary** Hours:
MONDAY: Closed
TUE., WED. & FRI.: 9:00 – 6:00
THURSDAY: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
SATURDAY: 8:00 – 5:00
SUNDAY: 10:00 – 5:00
Phone: (860) 694-2244

**WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE**
Chicopee, Mass.
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 10:00 – 5:00
SATURDAY: 10:00- 5:00
SUNDAY: 11:00 – 5:00
Phone: (413) 593-5583

**ARMY RESERVE CENTER**
700 South Quaker Lane
West Hartford, CT
MONDAY – FRIDAY:
10:00 – 1:00
MONDAY – FRIDAY:
1:45 – 4:00
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: Closed
Phone: (860) 236-3393

# Retirees' Voice:

## *Sunbelt Chapter holds annual reunion*

The Sunbelt Chapter of the 43rd Infantry Division will be conducting its 24th Annual Reunion Jan. 23 to Jan. 26, 2003 at the Holiday Inn of AltamonteSprings, Florida.

This is to be a fun-filled reunion with a night at the Arabian Nights Dinner Theater, a day cruise on the Sterling Line Casino Ship (Florida's finest and largest) with free luncheon buffet continuously served, a big Bingo night with great prizes, a Memorial Service with Color Guard, Rifle Squad with salute and bugler for Taps, followed by a super BBQ at poolside with a Barber Shop Quartet as entertainment.

Last year's reunion had members coming from 29 states, including California and Washington. There were 120 at the Annual Banquet.

For more information, contact Murray A. Schwolosky, Commander at 210 Holderness Drive, Longwood, FL 32779-5727. Telephone: (407) 774-8994 or (321) 578-0126 (cell) or e-mail: LTCMurry@aol.com

# *Do you know these guys?*

*These Connecticut Army National Guardsmen took time out in 1951 to pose for this picture at Camp Picket, Virginia. All were members of Company L, 102nd Infantry, 43rd Division. From right to left: Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.), the Cpl. Aksel Hansen, Cpl. Russ Hettrick, Cpl. Jules Awdziewitz, Pfc. Calvin O. Crousse, and in the front, Cpl. Chris Tsonerides. (Photo courtesy of Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Aksel Hansen.)*

*If you have a picture of historical nature to share with our readers, email if possible to debbi.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil or mail to Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, Public Affairs Office, National Guard Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3795. All photos will be returned.*

# Federal Help Wanted

**Transportation Security Screeners**
SV-0019-D
Salary Range: $23,600 to $35,400 plus locality pay
Bradley International Airport, Windsor Locks
Preference given to veterans
For information and application, go to www.tsa.dot.gov

**Supervisory Transportation Security Screeners**
SV-0019-G
Salary Range: $36,400 to $56,400 plus locality pay
Bradley International Airport, Windsor Locks
Preference given to veterans
For information and application, go to www.tsa.dot.gov

**Lead Transportation Security Screeners**
SV-0019-F
Salary Range: $31,100 to $46,700 with locality pay
Bradley International Airport, Windsor Locks
Preference given to veterans
For information and application go to www.tsa.dot.gov

**PHARMACY TECHNICIAN**
USAJOBS Control No. IC4618 FO
Salary Range: $23,417 - $26,200 Annual
Series and Grade: GS-0661-04/05
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Administration, West Haven

**CLINICAL NURSE**
USAJOBS Control No. BY4769 FC
Salary Range: $
Series and Grade: GS-0610-09/09
Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons/ Federal Prison System, Various locations in the Northeast US
Announcement No. 01-NER-CN09 (Must be on application) For information, contact Marcy Sandum, HRS at (215) 521-7364

**CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR**
USAJOBS Control No. XA0561 FO
Salary Range: $33,254 - $52,305 Annual
Series and Grade: GS-1102-09/11
Department of Defense, Defense Contract Management Agency, East Hartford, Conn., Windsor Locks, Conn., Stratford, Conn.
Announcement No. DCMDE-01-1102SR (Must be on application) For information, contact DLA DEU TEAM at (614) 692-0200

**PROCUREMENT TECHNICIAN (OFFICE AUTOMATION)**
USAJOBS Control No. XA0583
Salary Range: $21,947 - $31,798 Annual
Series and Grade: GS-1106-05/06
Department of Defense, Defense Contract management Agency, Stratford, Conn., Indianapolis, Ind., Fort Wayne, Ind.
Announcement No. DCMDE-01-118492-006 (Must be on application) For information, contact DLA DEU TEAM at (614) 692-0200

# *Connecticut National Guard Fulltime Employment Opportunities*

The following are Connecticut Army and Air Guard Technician openings. For a copy of the Technician vacancy Announcement, see your technician/military supervisor or call Master Sgt. Kevin Salsbury at (860) 878-6739

Note: Outdated Closing dates indicate that applications are currently under consideration. Individuals interested in applying for the position are encouraged to do so and may receive an interview, if qualified, and no one else has been previously selected. Several additional job postings are available on the Connecticut National Guard Website.

## Army National Guard Technician Vacancies

| Position Title | Unit | Pay Grade | Closing Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| Heavy Mobile Equipment Mechanic Sprv | CSMS | WS-15 | Sept. 28, 2002 |
| Budget Assistant | USPFO | GS-07 | Aug. 10, 2002 |
| Personnel Assistant | HRO | GS-07/06/05 | Aug. 20, 2002 |

## Air National Guard Technician Vacancies

| Position Title | Unit | Pay Grade | Closing date |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sheet Metal Mechanic | 103rd FW, LOG | WG-10/08/05 | Aug. 19, 2002 |
| Personnel Assistant | HRO | GS-07/06/05 | Aug. 20, 2002 |

Listed below are current openings in the Connecticut National Guard AGR program. For a copy of the Military Tour Vacancy Announcement, see your supervisor or call Sgt. 1st Class Jacqueline Thomas at (860) 878-6729.

Note: Several additional job postings are available on the Connecticut National Guard Website.

## Army National Guard AGR Vacancies

| Position Title | Unit | Rank | Area of Consideration |
|---|---|---|---|

There are no current vacancies listed

## Air National Guard AGR Vacancies

| Position Title | Unit | Rank | Area of Consideration |
|---|---|---|---|

There are no current vacancies listed

The complete listing of both Technician and AGR vacancies and job descriptions can also be accessed by going to the Connecticut National Guard website at www.ct.ngb.army.mil

**WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM?**

**CALL**

**1-800-716-3530**

**Connecticut's Army National Guard**

# Coming Events

## September

**September 6**
NGACT Golf Tournament

**September 6 - 10**
NGAUS Conference, Long Beach, CA

**September 11**
Anniversary of 9/11

**September 12**
NGACT Executive Council Meeting
1730 hours, Hartford Armory

**September 13**
Salute to America at the Big E

**September 14**
Brig. Gen. Mary Ann Epps Retirement

**September 18**
Connecticut Day at the Big E

**September 30**
Strength Maintenance Awards Ceremony

## October

**October 8**
Technician Picnic
State/Federal Employees Awards Ceremony
Camp Rowland

**October 10**
Senior NCO Dining-In

# In the Next CG

Maj. Gen. Blum discusses role of National Guard in NorthCom

J5 Stands up

Fallon Desert training

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month previous to publication.

# Annual Retirees' Picnic
## Camp Rowland, Niantic
### August 21, 2002

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Stanley Scraba and Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Fred MacDonald discuss old times. Both worked at the former Connecticut Military Academy for years. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)

More than 300 Army and Air Guard retirees attended this year's picnic at 'The Point' at Camp Rowland. Many came from places as far away as Florida. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)

Friends discussed old times, the current war on terrorism and shared photos from their younger days. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Ed Madigan (with hat on) spent time with old buddies sharing memories and catching up on each others' current events. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)

Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General shares a laugh with Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Aksel Hansen. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) James Throwe once again served as the Master of Ceremonies for the formal portion of the day. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Hartford, CT
Permit No. 603