

Bluegrass Guard

Vol. 19, Issue 3 - May, 2016

Serving the men and women of Kentucky's Army and Air National Guard

Guardsman
becomes
Army's
1st female
fire support
specialist

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AROUND TH



JFHQ - Members of the 41st Civil Support Team monitored air quality as a safety precaution at Churchill Downs during Kentucky Derby weekend May 7.



63rd TAB - Bravo Company, 2/147th Aviation assisted with area operations for a multinational Special Forces competition in Ancon, Peru, May 1.



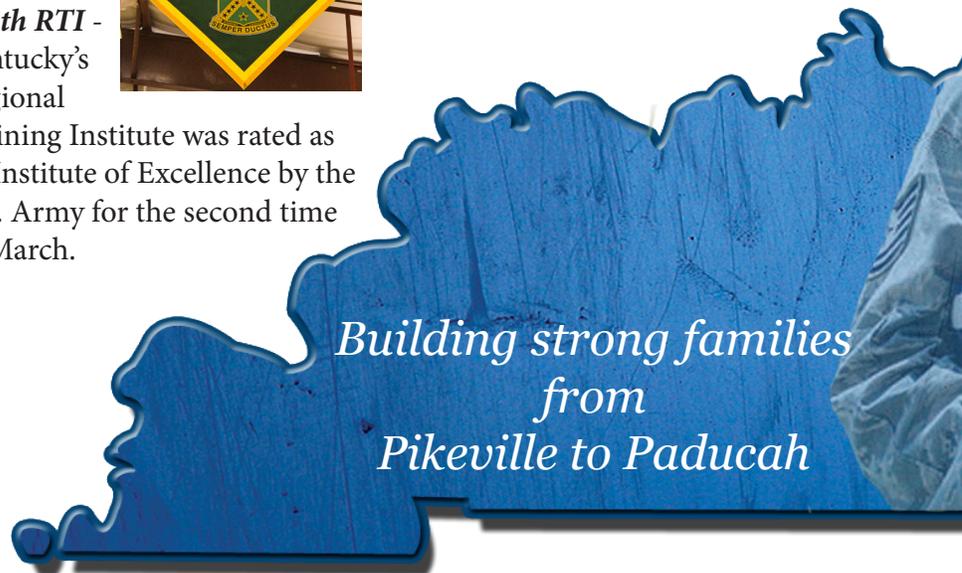
75th TC - Staff Sgt. Eric Burns is greeted by his daughter during a welcome home ceremony for the 1163rd Area Medical Support Battalion, March 3 following the unit's deployment to Afghanistan.



138th FAB - A M142 High Mobility Rocket Launcher (HIMARS) from the 1st Battalion, 623rd Field Artillery fires during a demonstration for family day at Fort Knox, May 13.



238th RTI - Kentucky's Regional Training Institute was rated as an Institute of Excellence by the U.S. Army for the second time in March.



On the Cover:

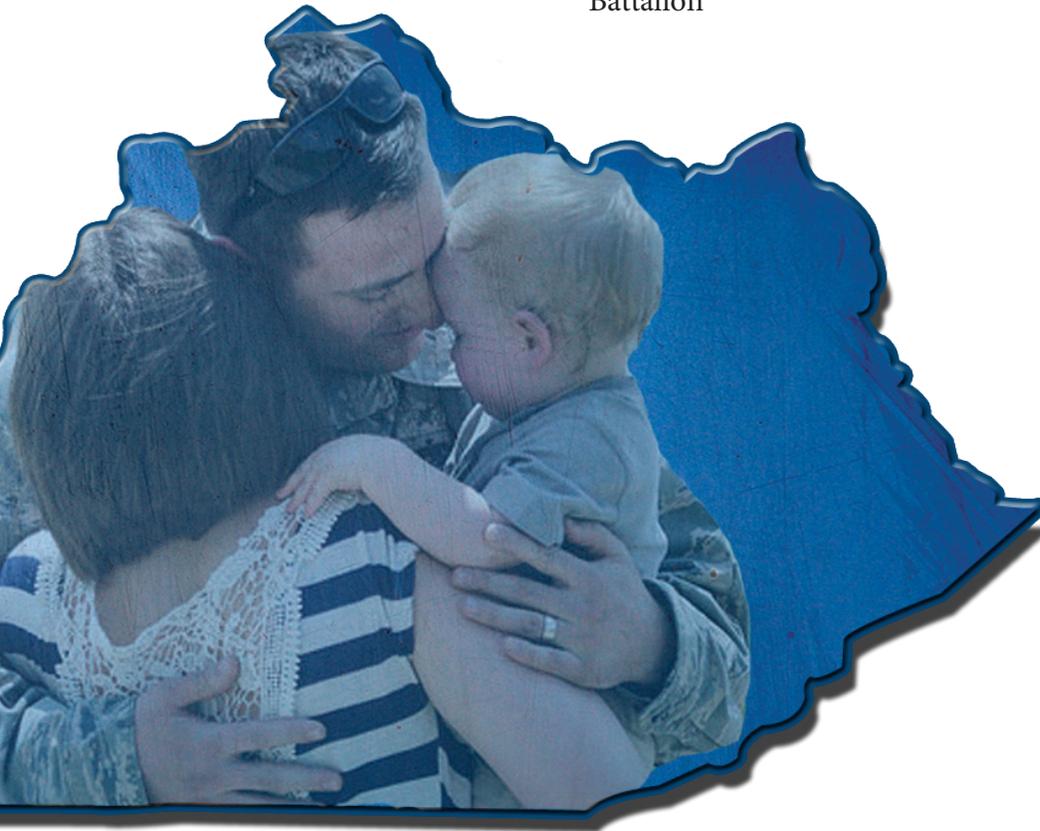
Staff Sgt. Billie Jacobs became the first female fire support specialist (13F) in the Army May 5 when she graduated from a 13F classification course at the 189th Regional Training Institute in Oklahoma City, Okla. Jacobs currently serves as a supply sergeant with the 63rd Theater Aviation Brigade. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Scott Raymond)

THE GUARD



123rd AW - The Kentucky Air Guard welcomed Capt. Jeffrey Nicolas as the newest Chaplain in the Wing in April. A love of the military brought the former Navy chaplain back into service after 18 years.

149th MEB - Chief Warrant Officer James Taylor was named Kentucky's Outstanding Warrant Officer of the Year for 2015. Taylor serves as the property book officer for the 201st as well as for the 103rd Chemical Battalion



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Family Focused

From Maj. Bryan Combs, Director of Family Programs



Nearly everyone has heard the age old saying, the backbone of the Army is the Non-Commissioned officer. Well, the backbone of every military member is their family.

The family support that a service member receives plays a critical role in training, readiness and mission success. There is an undeniable strength gained from wearing a uniform that projects an aura of invincibility.

In reality though, our Soldiers and Airmen are only as strong as their families.

Every mission is strengthened or potentially hampered by the level and quality of support received from a service members' home life.

After two decades of multiple deployments around the world, we have learned our lesson.

The ability of a service member to focus on the mission is critically dependent on how we support

and provide resources that foster the overall well-being of our military families throughout the entire lifecycle of service during deployments, training, and sustainment.

If you ask a Soldier or Airman their number one priority, it will be to make sure their family members are taken care of.

The Kentucky National Guard Family Program's center of gravity is simply the resilient family.

Providing resources and support at every level gives peace of mind to our military members and their families. Our team of professionals work tirelessly each and every day to respond to virtually any need a family member might have.

Our duty and responsibility is to provide 24/7 support to all military families, especially those families with deployed loved ones.

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Bluegrass Guard values opinions

To comment, keep remarks under 150 words, include your name, rank and address and send them to:

The Bluegrass Guard
KYNG Public Affairs
100 Minuteman Parkway
Frankfort, KY 40601

or: PAO@kentuckyguard.com

We reserve the right to edit letters for tone, length, clarity and factual accuracy.

Change of Address

Don't miss an issue

All change of address requests should be made by the unit clerk using RCAS for all current Army or Air National Guardsmen. The Bluegrass Guard is mailed out via alert roster addresses at the unit level.

Army Retiree address changes should be made through Sgt. Darrick Gilbert at the Kentucky National Guard Personnel Services Branch. He can be reached at 502-607-1497 or darrick.l.gilbert@mail.mil.

Air Retirees should request changes through retired Chief Master Sgt. James Turpin at jturpin1945@gmail.com.

Look for us on your favorite social outlets and follow us on:



History Minded



From Militia to Guardsman, our history runs deep. It's amazing how many ways people find to share, celebrate, and enjoy our proud past.

On Main Streets and town greens, in class rooms and on campuses, through parades, festivals, exhibits, and talks, we can always find new ways to make the stories that made us who and what we are come vividly alive.

Meanwhile, throughout the state, historians, educators, archivists, genealogists, and museums are continuously researching and rethinking our stories, to make sure the lessons of the past remain useful for today and tomorrow.

The Kentucky National Guard has played a unique, and uniquely important role in the creation of the United States' culture and way of life. As Kentucky grew and transformed from Fincastle County, a part of Virginia, her residents were proud to call this land home and it was more than obvious they were able to do whatever it took to protect the land and the people. The bravery and heroic stance many Kentuckians showed was renowned throughout the growing footprint of the United States.

Being one of the oldest military forces in the United States, Kentucky has played a part in every major conflict, assisted with natural disaster response and has been noted for bravery, valor and tenacity during the call of duty.

It is my ultimate goal as Command Historian to ensure not only those wearing the uniform know and have access to the Kentucky National Guard history but provide those in which we serve with the opportunity to dive into our unique and rich past.

I plan to provide support to each Major Support Command as it relates to collecting, preserving and displaying their rich history. It is my goal to work closely with Command Staffs ensuring these efforts are completed and followed through at every level.

As Kentucky's Command Historian, I am honored to play a part in keeping our stories alive, vital and flowing through the veins of this great organization.

I hope while we explore the rich history of the Kentucky National Guard it becomes evident to see the many ways our history ties into all the communities of our remarkably historic state.

I will need your help in telling the stories through pictures, essays, oral histories and historical documentation .

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any information you feel is worth the office of Command Historian knowing about and collecting.

I am here to serve you. I am here to help bring to life The Adjutant Generals belief that all Soldiers and Airmen should know the history of this great organization.

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Spc. Josh Knott and Spc. Trey Hopkins, assigned to the 223rd Military Police Company, and Louisville Metro Police patrol near KFC YUM! Center in support of Thunder Over Louisville, April, 23, 2016. (U.S. Army National Guard Photo by 1st. Lt. Michael Reinersman)

Partnering for Success

Kentucky MPs key part of safe, secure Derby festivities

Staff Report

Kentucky National Guard Public Affairs

LOUISVILLE, Ky. –Before the crowds arrived in Louisville for the numerous event of the Kentucky Derby Festival, Soldiers of the 223rd Military Police Company were making preparations for their tasks at hand.

Guardsmen of the Louisville-based 223rd conducted civil support operations in support of Louisville Metro Police Department at Thunder Over Louisville, April 23, and for the 142nd running of the Kentucky Derby, May 7.

A three-year veteran of Thunder Over Louisville, Spc. Josh Knott, said that the event was a great time to be able to collaborate with local law enforcement and learn all they can in order to assist and protect the commonwealth.

“We see a lot of smiling faces while getting the National Guard’s name out there and informing the public that we are here to assist them,” said Knott.

For fellow MP Spc. Trey Hopkins this was a way to value the partnership and opportunities to learn from the LMPD officers.

“It’s a great opportunity to demonstrate your job as military police while learning from the police officers in the commonwealth,” said Hopkins.

Each year, Thunder Over Louisville provides a valuable perspective of what Guardsmen will face at the upcoming Kentucky Derby.

“After Thunder Over Louisville, I look forward to serving at the Kentucky Derby,” said Hopkins. “Working Thunder gives us an idea of what crowd we may be dealing with at Derby due to the high volume of traffic and it reinforces how we should

carry ourselves as Soldiers.”

Nearly 200 Guardsmen took their usual stance in and around Churchill Downs in Louisville for the festive “Run for the Roses,” May 7. From working shoulder-to-shoulder with LMPD or serving as valuable security component for Churchill Downs, the Kentucky Guard’s presence remained a visible element of the 142nd Derby.

“The 223rd is grateful for the opportunity, our Soldiers were excited to take on the responsibility of maintaining security, heavy traffic points, and standing on trophy guard this year,” said 1st Lt. Hallie Freeman, Officer-in-Charge of security for the 223rd. “Everyone agreed that it was an honor and privilege to work the Kentucky Derby and represent the 198th Military Police Battalion and the Kentucky National Guard.”

A near record crowd of 167,000 spectators jammed the historic track for the race on Saturday, but the Guardsmen were in place, ready to go long before. The 223rd also provided the same support on Friday for the running of the Kentucky Oaks which set its own attendance record of 124,000.

“One of the best parts of this duty is us being out here in front of so many people,” said Spc. Brandon Borneman. “Being here gives us a lot of interaction with the civilian population to let them know that we’re here to serve and protect and facilitate their enjoyment at the track.”



Spc. Dustin Bielefeld with the 223rd Military Police Company places the Kentucky Derby Trophy in the winners’ circle at Churchill Downs, May 7. The six-person detail secured the Derby trophy throughout the Derby weekend, escorting it to its final position to be presented to the winner of the race. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Scott Raymond)

Wing receives new commander

By Tech. Sgt. Vicky Spesard

123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

With friends, family and hundreds of Airmen looking on, Col. David Mounkes assumed command of the 123rd Airlift Wing during a ceremony here April 16.

Presiding over the event was Brig. Gen. Warren Hurst, the Kentucky National Guard's assistant adjutant general–Air, who formally passed the unit guidon to Mounkes, signifying the colonel's new post as leader of one of the most decorated wings in Air Force history.

"We started with P-51s in 1947, then flew F-84s, F-86s, RB-57s, RF-101s, RF-4s and finally the C-130s in 1992," Hurst told the audience. "When we got these, we started doing a lot of different things around the world and, we've been doing them ever since. We have done an incredible amount of deployments and exercises where people have just continued to excel.

"So, Col. Mounkes, this is the legacy that you get to inherit as their new wing commander, and the responsibility to make sure they have the tools and opportunities to continue to excel and meet our state and national obligations," he continued. "You have my full confidence and the ability to take command of the 123rd Airlift Wing—the best airlift wing in the United States Air Force."

Mounkes most recently served as commander of the 123rd Contingency Response Group, which is responsible for rapidly deploying multi-skilled expeditionary teams to assess and open aerial ports of debarkation in semi-permissive or uncertain environments for federal and state missions.

He graduated from California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, and received his commission through Officer Training School in 1989. Mounkes is a graduate of Air War College.

As a navigator, he has flown C-130 combat, combat-support and humanitarian-relief operations worldwide while serving for the active-duty Air Force and the Air National Guard. His deployment experience includes Operations Provide Promise, Restore Hope, Provide Relief and Joint Forge.

While on active duty, Mounkes served at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, where he spent three years with the 50th Airlift Squadron flying operational missions all over the world. He was then selected as a tactical airlift instructor and served three years with the 62nd Airlift Squadron, instructing and evaluating both initial tactical airlift students and tactical airlift instructor candidates.

Mounkes transferred to the Kentucky Air National Guard in August of 1997 and was mobilized from 2002 through 2003 in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. During his tenure here, he has served as 123rd Operations

Group standards and evaluations navigator, 165th Airlift Squadron director of operations, was dual-hatted as both the 123rd Global Mobility Squadron commander and the 123rd Contingency Response Group deputy commander, and finally, in his most recent assignment, as the commander of the 123rd CRG.



Photo by Senior Airman Joshua Horton / 123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Mounkes (right) accepts the wing guidon from Brig. Gen. Warren Hurst, Kentucky's assistant adjutant general for Air, during an assumption-of-command ceremony at the Kentucky Air National Guard Base in Louisville, Ky., on April 16, 2016.

SHATTERING

Glass Ceilings

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Gina Vaile-Nelson

133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Guardsman becomes first female 13F Army-wide

Tucked away in a supply office at Armory 1 in Frankfort, Staff Sgt. Billie Jacobs, a supply sergeant for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 63rd Theater Aviation Brigade tries to stay under the radar.

She'll lend a hand to anyone who asks, but would rather not bring any attention to herself. That's probably why you didn't even know that recently, Jacobs graduated as the first female 13F fire-support specialist in the U.S. Army.

"I never cared to be the first in anything, but being a grunt and leading troops has been where my heart was from the beginning," Jacobs said.

When she reported to the Oklahoma National Guard's 189th Regional Training Institute in Norman, Oklahoma,

Jacobs said it was as routine as checking in to any duty station. Running through her mind was the "same thing that has been there as the only female since I was 13.

"I wrestled on an all-male team, infantry certainly didn't appreciate females being around

and my last re-class was all men," she said. "It's no biggie.

"If you go in there and prove yourself as a Soldier, the actions will speak louder for yourself than words; and their words meant nothing in the big scheme of things," she said.

A transition into any new Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) is difficult. But for Jacobs, the tough academic schedule and physical demands weren't the issue.

"There were a lot of opinionated males who thought females literally shouldn't be allowed to even vote," she said.

"Ninety percent [of my classmates] were supportive, but I had two that I'll never forget because of their complete rebellion to the changes the Army is undergoing," she said. "They'll get used to it or they won't, but that boat has already left the shore."

The "boat," Jacobs referred to is the January 2016 implementation of Defense Secretary Ash Carter's plan that lifted all gender-based restrictions on military service. The decision opened more than 200,000 jobs across the military – roughly 10 percent of the force – to women. The 13F MOS was the only field artillery job that hadn't been opened to women.

Other support roles, such as 92Y supply sergeant allowed women to serve alongside infantry or other male-dominated fields. This is where Jacobs spent her first years in the Kentucky Guard. She also volunteered for Joint Support Operations, Kentucky's Counterdrug mission where she egressed from hollers and fields via static line attached to a UH-60. You could almost say she is as fearless as any other male counterpart.

The rigorous training schedule at 13F-school required hours of memorizing new military jargon used by field artillery and special operations. She had to become proficient in



Staff Sgt. Billie Jacobs graduates from the 189th Regional Training Institute as the first female Fire Support Specialist in the Army, May 5, in Oklahoma City, Okla. (Oklahoma National Guard photo by 1st Lt. Leanna Litsch)

identifying weapons systems necessary to eliminate a threat and methods for remaining concealed. Students became experts in map reading and land navigation and understood that any mistake made on a map overlay could cause serious collateral damage. Ruck marches and field exercises would be enough for some to ring the bell and quit. Even the hardest of Soldiers.



A binocular view of a round Jacobs called in hitting its target during a live-fire exercise at Fort Sill, Okla.

But Jacobs said her mental capacity to never give up and not let down the people who believe in her is what kept her going then, through the 13F course and now.

“Mind over matter is real and having heart can push you through things your body swears it can’t,” she said.

Jacobs said she didn’t do anything extra to prepare for 13F-school. As a body builder, wrestling coach and all around “PT-stud,” Jacobs was already in prime shape.

“You should always be prepared for anything,” she said. “Were there moments where I knew I would have to shatter ceilings? Every opportunity I tried to, because I didn’t want to be looked at as weak or incapable.

“I tried to shatter ceilings in some aspect, everywhere I’ve been and with all the challenging things in life I’ve experienced,” Jacobs said.

Those life lessons and motivations not only impact her subordinates and leaders, but also her community. As a coach for the Anderson County Youth Club wrestling team, Jacobs helped coach a team of 48 young boys and



Jacobs and her 13F classmates at the 189th Regional Training Institute in Oklahoma City, Okla.

girls. The team placed 13th out of 60 teams in the State Wrestling Finals for 2016.

“Billie is the type of person who you want as a role model,” said 1st Lt. Jonathan Strayer, training officer for the 751st Troop Command. Strayer asked Jacobs to assist with coaching the team this year.

“At work, if you task Billie with something, she does it without needing direction or guidance,” he said. “On the mats with the kids, she brings that same dedication and determination but easily tailors her lessons to individual kids’ abilities.

Even though Jacobs doesn’t have any children, Strayer said her interactions with them was natural, proving that her leadership qualities and dedication to building a successful team come from within.

“Her sportsmanship and professional nature taught the team that a female can do anything,” he said. “Just by doing something she loves (wrestling), she was able to teach these young men, and especially the young girls that women are equal and in many regards can even outwrestle us.”

Jacobs admits that sometimes it’s hard for men to be outdone by women – especially for her young wrestling students.

“Men who are out there to be Soldiers could care less (about a female in their ranks), because they know their capabilities and a woman being around won’t change those,” she said. “I think the men who struggle are extremely intimidated because no one – not even myself – likes to be shown up in any area by a female.

“But I’m just a person doing exactly the things I love,” she said. “I love wrestling and coaching, passing on my knowledge to a strong youth for the next generation. These are the same principles I use in the military.”

Now that she can hang a 13F diploma on her wall, Jacobs knows that being the first female to have the title is an honor, and she hopes other women will follow suit.

“Don’t be afraid,” she said to women who are considering joining combat roles. “Words can’t kill you but they sure can help motivate you.

“Get in there and just do it if you want to, but don’t go home a quitter,” she said. “Go home broken and bruised but not a quitter. It’s OK to cry at night, to curse the ones who intentionally try to make your life tough, but in front of them, act as if you are made of iron and be resilient.

“Push through. You literally can do anything you put your mind to, beating yourself is the first step.”

RECRUITING

MYTH VS FACT

MYTH: THE GUARD'S COLLEGE TUITION ASSISTANCE IS DIFFERENT THAN THE ARMY RESERVES AND ALWAYS RUNS OUT OF MONEY.

FACT: THE GUARD HAS ACCESS TO THE EXACT SAME EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS AS THE ARMY RESERVES (\$4,000 A YEAR). THE KY GUARD ALSO HAS STATE EDUCATION BENEFITS IN ADDITION TO, THAT ONLY KY GUARD SOLDIERS CAN USE (UP TO 100% TO PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES).

MYTH: IT'S EASY TO JOIN THE GUARD.

FACT: ONLY ABOUT 29% OF YOUNG ADULTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 17-24 MEET THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO JOIN THE NATIONAL GUARD. OUR SOLDIERS ARE BRIGHT AND CAPABLE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WITH A FUTURE AND DESIRE TO EXCEL IN LIFE. ONLY ABOUT 1% ARE ELIGIBLE AND READY TO TAKE ON THE CHALLENGE. (SOURCE: [HTTP://TIME.COM/2938158/YOUTH-FAIL-TO-QUALIFY-MILITARY-SERVICE/](http://time.com/2938158/youth-fail-to-qualify-military-service/))

MYTH: THE GUARD DOESN'T HAVE THE SIZE, CAPABILITY, OR FUNDING THAT THE RESERVES HAVE.

FACT: THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD IS NEARLY TWICE THE SIZE OF THE ARMY RESERVES, AND IS THE ONLY ARMY RESERVE COMPONENT WITH COMBAT ARMS JOBS LIKE INFANTRY, ARTILLERY, AND ARMOR.

MYTH: THE GUARD ISN'T PART OF THE ARMY.

FACT: THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD IS A COMPONENT OF THE U.S. ARMY. SOLDIERS GO TO THE SAME EXACT TRAINING AND COMPLETE THE SAME TASKS AS THE ARMY. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THE NATIONAL GUARD TRAINS ON A PART TIME BASIS.

MYTH: THE NATIONAL GUARD DOESN'T DEPLOY OVERSEAS, THEY JUST HELP DURING NATURAL DISASTERS IN THE U.S.

FACT: THE NATIONAL GUARD HAS A DUAL MISSION TO SUPPORT STATES DURING EMERGENCIES AND TO DEPLOY OVERSEAS FOR PEACEKEEPING OR WAR-TIME OPERATIONS. WHILE DEPLOYED OVERSEAS, THE NATIONAL GUARD WORKS ALONGSIDE OUR ACTIVE-DUTY COUNTERPARTS.

MYTH: I HAVE TO BE 18 YEARS-OLD AND OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL TO JOIN THE GUARD.

FACT: WITH YOUR PARENT'S CONSENT, YOU CAN JOIN THE GUARD AS A 17 YEAR-OLD HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR. YOU WILL BE ISSUED A FULL MILITARY UNIFORM, RECEIVE TRAINING ON HOW TO WEAR IT, GET A MONTHLY PAYCHECK, AND GET INSTRUCTION ONE WEEKEND A MONTH TO PREPARE YOU FOR BASIC TRAINING. THE NATIONAL GUARD PAYS YOU EVERY MONTH WHILE YOU WAIT TO GO TO BASIC TRAINING.

Have you heard other stories?

TEXT KYGUARD to 95577

for the facts

“The Minuteman Scholarship changed my life”

By Cadet Barry Mullins

1163rd Area Support Medical Company



If you have ever considered becoming an officer, then you are aware of the many different opportunities and paths towards commissioning. The newest option in Kentucky is through the **Minuteman Scholarship**. It is designed to recruit enlisted Soldiers and then develop them into National Guard officers. I'd like to share why the Minuteman Scholarship was the best choice for me and what has made the added responsibility a tremendous asset toward my future as a Soldier. Below is my journey, and why it works for me.

I graduated from Advanced Individual Training in April of 2015, and I was extremely proud of all I had accomplished; I was now a Health-Care Specialist. I had accomplished a difficult task, but because I was in the Kentucky National Guard, my next step in life was my decision. I could get a job using the training and certifications I had just received, or I could go to college. I chose to go to college because the tuition assistance was a major reason for me joining the Guard. My life's ambition is to become a Nurse. I applied and was accepted into the University of Kentucky's "Med-Vet to BSN" program.

While I was in class on my first day at UK, I received a call from my recruiter, and he informed me about the Minuteman Scholarship. He told me that it was a **four-year scholarship that would allow me to keep my tuition assistance**, and I would also receive **stipends for books, living expenses, E-5 pay at drill, and a monthly ROTC allowance**.

After our conversation, I was excited to speak with the ROTC Recruiting Officer and after a brief interview, I was given a checklist to complete in order to be eligible for the scholarship. I worked diligently and seven days later, I received a letter congratulating me on having been awarded the Minuteman Scholarship. Words can't express how thankful I was to have received this opportunity because I knew it meant that **I was one step closer to making my dream a reality**.

There are many options for individuals interested in a career as an officer but what specific factors pulled me in the direction of the Minuteman Scholarship?

1. I wanted to stay in the National Guard, and I wanted to receive a four-year scholarship. The Guard covers the cost of tuition, but the cost of room and board still needed to be taken care of.

2. The Minuteman is a Dedicated National Guard Scholarship, and so a requirement is that I serve in the Guard after my commission; this is different than other ROTC scholarships which may allow you to compete for active duty.

3. This offered me a full ride in college to pursue my dream of becoming a nurse while still allowing me to serve my state and country. Upon my graduation, I will get my commission and work as a civilian nurse.

These are the things that I have always envisioned for my career, and the Minuteman makes that possible.

I know the Minuteman is worth the added workload because **my education is completely paid for**. The Minuteman allows me to focus 100% on school which is a rare thing for many college students. Naturally, there are certain obligations I must fulfill. I must attend Physical Training during the week, along with taking a ROTC class and lab as a part of my development as a future officer. Additionally, for cadets who seek to go above and beyond, you can participate in dozens of opportunities that allow you to build camaraderie and learn skills that will help you not only as a leader in the military, but to be successful in life as well.

For me, the Minuteman Scholarship has been a life-changing decision that I am extremely happy I pursued. It has provided me opportunities I could not imagine and continues to be the stepping stones of success as I continue my journey towards becoming an Army nurse. If staying in the National Guard and receiving a four-year scholarship to become an officer is something you're interested in then talk to a recruiter near you and find out how it can change your life too.



2016

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

April 9 - Military Children Appreciation Day hosted by the American Legion Post 244 and Athena's Sisters at the Jeffersontown Veterans' Memorial Park offered free activities and food to all military and first responders and their families.



April 15 - Purple Up! -"Hailey is wearing her purple today for military kids everywhere," said Calin Johnson, mother of Hailey. "Luckily, she will never have to face the trials and tribulations of Daddy being gone. But her oldest brother was born during a deployment and knows Daddy was gone a lot."

Each April, the military shines a spotlight on the children of Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen. We honor them for their sacrifice and contributions, regardless of age, in support of their parents in uniform through deployments and moves.

This year's celebration ignited local communities across the state to host Military Child Appreciation Days. Community leaders in **Bowling Green, Lawrenceburg, Jeffersontown, and Lexington** brought together hundreds of kids just to show them how special they really are.

"We wanted to honor all the military kids for what they do because we feel that they serve just as much as the military members," said Cindy Culver, Lead Child and Youth Programs Coordinator for the Kentucky National Guard. "This is their day to come out and have a good time."

To stay posted on all Kentucky National Guard Child and Youth programs, check out their Facebook page or contact Cindy Culver at Cynthia.r.culver.ctr@mail.mil.

April 16 - This year's event in Lawrenceburg was hosted by the American Legion and Auxiliary. American Legion Auxiliary Unit 34 President, Pam Brough, led the charge in gathering everything from pizza to ponies for the kids. "This is our mission and purpose of the American Legion and Auxiliary. It's to support our veterans, our military, and their families," she said.



April 24 – Military Day at the Races – All activity duty, reserve, veteran, and military families received free general admission to the Keeneland races. The Marathon's Military Family Zone offered free food, live music and special activities throughout the day in honor of MOMC.

April 30 – Kuddos to our Kids – Military and first responders and their families were honored in Bowling Green, Ky.



Athlete Soldier

A High School Athlete's Path to College

Story by Maj. Carla Raisler

133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



Young women are drawn to the military for many of the same reasons they are drawn to sports. They are both physically and mentally challenging and provide the opportunity to be a part of a team. High School athletes who enlist into the National Guard can both fund their education and are more likely to graduate.

How much more likely? 41% more says Kelly Troutman from Brigham Young University. Troutman's findings were published in June 2007 in *Youth & Society*, a multidisciplinary peer-reviewed journal that focuses on issues related to the 10-24 year old population.

While female participation in high school sports continues to rise, only about 7% of high school athletes go on to play college sports, and of them only 2% receive an athletic scholarship. That can be a harsh reality to an athlete who has invested years of her youth in a sport or two. It can be especially difficult for the parents when they realize that the average cost of tuition and fees for an in-state public college is currently \$9,410 a year.

That's why, for some college bound teenagers like Kentucky National Guardsmen Spc. Samantha Jacobs, she turned to service in the National Guard as a way to fund her education without having to rely on student loans.

"I realized when I switched from basketball to volleyball my sophomore year that I was giving up any chance I might have had to play college sports," said Jacobs. "Towards the end of my senior year I decided that I didn't want my parents to pay for all of my college, so I decided to follow in my mother's footsteps and join the National Guard."

Most parents of high school athletes remember the years of games, road trips, practices, and fundraising. Parents support their daughters through those years because they know the important skills that being a part of a team will teach their children. For some it also increases their scholastic achievements. Having a coach as part of the parenting team gives the student another authority figure to be accountable to. Samantha always knew she had to have the grades to be allowed to play, and often times that was more motivating than her parents' potential restrictions.

Jacobs says there are many similarities between being on a sports team and being in the military.

"The discipline it takes to be places on time, the leadership, and fitness; and both have the same work ethic," said Jacobs. "You also learn to work with people that you might not like."

These are skills she learned while on the courts of both varsity basketball and volleyball teams at Western Hills High School in Frankfort and Owen County High School. When she went through Army Basic training in 2013 those same skills were prevalent throughout her training. Now those skills are keeping her focused on her academics.

"I know I've earned this college tuition, and I don't want to waste it," said Jacobs.

Jacobs continues to play sports at Eastern Kentucky University. There are various intramural sports to choose from. During her sophomore year she played her favorite sport, volleyball, on the club team.

Club sports allow students to participate in a competitive sport against other intercollegiate teams. It also provides the opportunity to develop management and leadership skills as many of the teams are run exclusively by the athletes.

"Club is like junior varsity at the college level," said Jacobs. "You have to try out, and you travel and play against other colleges, but it's completely run by students."

Jacobs enjoys the variety of sports available at EKU, and has met most of the friends in her peer group through those teams. This has helped keep her focused on her education and health.

"I like having a group of friends who would rather grab a ball and head out to the sand volleyball courts than go to a party," said Jacobs. "That and going to the gym, which is a good thing since I have to stay in shape to pass my [Army Physical Fitness Test]."

As an education major, Jacobs hopes to go on to coach her own students in athletics, and also hopes her family's military tradition continues.

"I love what I do, both in and out of the military, and I hope one day when my kids are in college they do too," said Jacobs.



Operation **READY**

Plugging in to Family Readiness, from Garrison to Deployment

FRSA is KVG/FRG

- Build service member and family cohesion and morale
- Prepare service members and families for separation during deployments and, later, for the stresses of reunion
- Reduce service member and family stress
- Reduce the commander's and other leaders' workloads
- Help families become more self-sufficient
- Provide an avenue for sharing timely, accurate information
- Refer families to community resources

Family Action Center (FAC) FAC Essential Services

- Information and Referral
- Outreach and Referral
- ID Cards and DEERS Enrollment
- TRICARE
- Financial and Legal Services
- Crisis Intervention and Referral
- Monthly Outreach Calls to Deployed Families
- Works directly with family

Get Started Here

FRSA Performance Requirements

- 1) Works in support of the Commander to assist with execution of the command's family readiness responsibilities.
- 2) Serve as the conduit for command information and coordination pertaining to Family Readiness throughout the command.
- 3) Provide training, hands-assistance, and information to subordinate unit commanders and unit Family Readiness Groups.

To join FRG: Contact the State Family Programs Office at 1-800-372-7601, option 1.

To join KVG: Contact Amy Quimby, Program Manager Air National Guard Family Program at 502-413-4241.

**JULY
24-29**



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**Join us for a week of:
swimming, shooting, climbing,
archery, canoeing, crafts,
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Kentucky National Guard Youth Camp is intended for legal dependents and extended family members of the Kentucky National Guard. Campers ages 9-14 are eligible to attend at no cost to the family.

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CYNTHIA.R.CULVER.CTR@MAIL.MIL
(502) 607-1751

POC: LINDA JONES
LINDA.S.JONES36.CTR@MAIL.MIL
(502) 607-1593



ARMY BRAT

MY NAME IS KRYSTABELLE COOLEY, I AM 13 YEARS OLD AND HAVE BEEN AN ARMY BRAT FOR LONGER THAN I CAN REMEMBER. I HAVE A LARGE LOVING FAMILY CONSISTING OF 5 BROTHERS AND 2 SISTERS. MY DAD HAS SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES FOR ALMOST 20 YEARS. HE TELLS ME HE STARTED OUT IN THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS AS A HOSPITAL CORPSMAN, BUT THAT WAS BEFORE MY TIME.

HAVING A DAD IN THE MILITARY HAS ALLOWED ME SOME UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES. I'VE BEEN TO CHRISTMAS PARTIES AND FAMILY DAYS OVER THE YEARS, MORE TIMES THAN I CAN COUNT. I HAVE BEEN TO MILITARY EVENTS THAT WERE ALL ABOUT KIDS WHERE I GOT MY FACE PAINTED, AND DID ARTS AND CRAFTS, AND EVEN RODE PONIES. MY FAVORITE EVENT HAS BEEN THE NATIONAL GUARD CAMP.

CAMP IS COOL! I HAVE BEEN 3 TIMES OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS. MY FAVORITE PART OF CAMP IS ALL OF IT. AT CAMP WE LEARN ABOUT ARCHERY AND GUN SAFETY. WE GET TO ROCK CLIMB, AND ZIP LINE, AND SWIM. WE FISH, MARCH, LEARN TO SING CADENCES AND WE'RE TAUGHT HOW TO BE LEADERS. ONE YEAR I EVEN GOT THE PLATOON LEADER AWARD. I DEFINITELY PLAN ON ATTENDING AGAIN.

THE MILITARY HAS LOTS OF COOL STUFF. LAST TIME I WAS AT MY DAD'S FAMILY DAY, I GOT UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH A BLACKHAWK HELICOPTER. IT WAS NEAT SITTING IN THE COCKPIT AND PLAYING WITH THE INSTRUMENTS. DAD TOLD ME I LOOKED LIKE A PILOT. HE SAID IF I WANT TO I CAN BE ONE IN THE KENTUCKY NATIONAL GUARD. I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT ONE, I'M TOO BUSY JUST BEING AN ARMY BRAT FOR NOW.

BY KRYSTABELLE COOLEY - 13 YEARS OLD
DAUGHTER OF CAPTAIN ROB COOLEY



Heather Dollar, Patty Winger, and Pam Feltner, Family Group Leaders in the Kentucky National Guard are honored in the winners circle at Keeneland with Brig. Gen. Stephen R. Hogan (right) during Military Appreciation Day at the race track in Lexington, Ky., April 24, 2016.



Celebrating the year of the volunteer

By Maj. Carla Raisler

133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Every spring Keeneland honors military Service members and their families. This year The Kentucky National Guard declared it the year of the volunteer to shine a spotlight on those out of uniform who have tirelessly supported the Soldiers and Airmen of the commonwealth.

The Kentucky Guard honored three Family Readiness Group volunteers for their outstanding service to the Kentucky National Guard during Keeneland's Military Appreciation Day April 24, 2016.

With a combined service of 54 years, Heather Dollar, Patty Winger, and Pam Feltner have dedicated themselves to supporting not only their families but the families of their National Guard units. Each volunteer had her own story, but together they told a powerful account of duty, honor, and family.

Dollar started as a volunteer in 1993, and in 1997 became the FRG Leader for Alpha Battery, 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery Brigade in Carrollton. She is currently the FRG Leader for the 41st Civil Support Team in Louisville, which will be her last unit before her husband retires in September.

When her husband first deployed in support of Desert Storm she did not have the support she needed. Dollar decided that she would get involved and make sure that other families did have the assistance they needed when their Soldiers deployed.

"My husband deployed to Desert Storm with a separate unit," said Dollar. "I had no family support group, so I wanted to participate so I could help people, and I stuck with it."

That was 23 years ago, and she is still going strong. Dollar knows she's not ready for retirement.

"He wants me to retire," she said. "I'm gonna try, but that's going to be hard, it is something I love, and it is something that is very dear to me, and the people are my family."

Winger is another career volunteer that knows how hard

it is to say goodbye to a unit. She has been volunteering with the FRG program for 19 years. Like Dollar, she also leads the Alpha Battery Family Readiness Group. Winger works full time as a parole officer. It's this civilian experience that has provided her with the skills needed to support family members through difficult times.

In 2007, Winger's unit experienced a combat related death. She had to use her skills as a parole officer to support the family members of the fallen Soldier and calm the other families within the unit.

"After the death of a Soldier the families got scared," said Winger. "Parents were scared, wives were scared, that was a long year."

But Winger rose up to the challenge and lead the FRG.

"That was the biggest moment in my life," said Winger. "I didn't take sides, I just stood up, and just talked to people. People would yell at me and I would just say ok, I'm sorry you feel that way. This is what I've been told from my leaders, this is what we have to do."

When Feltner's husband retired, she remained the FRG leader for her unit, but that's because her son is also a member of the 207th Horizontal Engineer Construction Company. She's been with the unit since 2004 and is assisted by her daughter, Courtney, who is the secretary.

"It's an experience, you learn to love what you are doing, and it makes you feel good about what you are doing," said Feltner.

This is what it means to be a part of the "Guard Family," and their dedication truly exemplifies the Army Value of Selfless Service. Feltner, Winger, and Dollar represent the hundreds of men and women who serve as Family Readiness Group volunteers across the commonwealth. They love what they do, and they love the families they serve.

The Decision to Adopt Just Got Easier

Story by Walter J. Leumont
Kentucky National Guard Public Affairs

There are many reasons why people choose to adopt a child. The most basic reason is a **desire to build or expand a family**. Most people who adopt plan and try for years since the process can be time consuming and expensive.

Maj. Stephanie Fields, Kentucky Army National Guard Deputy State Surgeon, knows firsthand the difficulties of adopting a child. Last July her niece Krista came to live with her temporarily. Shortly after that the decision was made to make the living situation permanent and she started the adoption procedure.

Initially, this was not a planned event so Stephanie was in for a major transition.

“Before July, I was a single Soldier with a very flexible schedule and lots of extra spending money who immediately went to sleepless nights, buying diapers, milk, and paying for childcare and trading my sports car for an SUV that was car seat friendly,” said Fields.

The Kentucky General Assembly House established a program under Bill 224 in 2012 that is administered by the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs, and allows actively serving **members of the Kentucky National Guard to be reimbursed for a portion of the direct costs incurred in the adoption process.**

According to the program director, Brig. Gen. Steve Bullard, the program provides up to \$5,000 per family for direct costs related to the adoption of a child with special needs, and up to \$3,000 for any other child adoption. The money is provided by existing funds from the Kentucky Military Family Assistance Trust Fund.

“The program is a great benefit, it has now paid over \$61,000 in adoption benefit grants to 19 Kentucky National Guard families,” said Bullard, who is also a member of the Kentucky Air National Guard.

To apply for the Kentucky National Guard Adoption Benefit Program, one must submit an application to the Director, Administrative Services Division, Kentucky Department of Military Affairs. The form must be submitted along with the following:

- Finalization of the adoption;
- Certification by the Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services that the adopted child is a child with special needs, if reimbursement for special needs adoption

is sought;

- A copy of an Affidavit of Expenses related to the adoption filed and approved by the court at the time of finalization of the adoption; and
- A completed Adoption Reimbursement Request cover letter.



“For the military it was one of the easiest things I have ever done. The application process itself was so user friendly, no Common Access Card or electronic signatures were required and Brig. Gen. Bullard was always so friendly and approachable when I had questions,” said Fields.

“To have a system like the Adoption Program that helps to reimburse the cost of adoption when you’re already going through such a significant life changing event is an awesome benefit for Soldiers,” she said.

Stephanie officially became Krista’s mother on Feb. 9, 2016.

“As a nurse and a mother I thought I knew about compassion and love but becoming a parent in February through adoption showed me an unbelievable capacity for love, I’ll thank God and Krista’s biological mother every day for choosing me to be the one to she calls Mommy.”

TRUE BROTHERS-IN-ARMS

Story by Sgt. Lerone Simmons
133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



Chief Warrant Officer Timothy Smith (right) swears in his brother, Warrant Officer Jonathan Smith at the Kentucky National Guard Armory in Morehead, Ky., Dec. 15, 2015. The Smith brothers are two of only three chemical specialty warrant officers in the Kentucky Guard. (Courtesy photo)

Always Ready, Always there.

This phrase exemplifies the true essence of the Kentucky National Guard as it speaks to the camaraderie, loyalty, and dependability of Soldiers to the commonwealth.

For both Jonathan and Timothy Smith, this phrase represents their relationship long before and while serving in the Kentucky Guard. They are blood brothers.

But wait, there's more.

Jonathan and Timothy are two of only three chemical warrant officers in the entire state of Kentucky.

On Dec. 15, 2015, former Sgt. 1st Class Jonathan Smith was appointed as a new Chemical Biological Nuclear and Ra-

diological Technician Warrant Officer assigned to the 103rd Chemical Battalion. He was sworn in by his younger brother, Chief Warrant Officer Timothy Smith, a CBRN officer assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery Battalion.

"I didn't hesitate to pin my brother, as he promoted me when I became a sergeant first class," said Timothy. "I also told him that now he owed me lunch."

For Jonathan, this marked another step in his career.

"I've always wanted to serve, whenever and wherever, there is no greater feeling," said Jonathan.

Wherever became Iraq for both brothers as they had the opportunity to deploy to Iraq together, and be roommates.

"I remember being at the Embassy Post Exchange and buying a bumper sticker that said 'My Brother is in the Army,' and placed it on our door," said Timothy.

Jonathan's pinning continues a Smith military family legacy which includes his father, retired Army Sgt. Edward Smith, his brothers, Special Forces Army Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Smith, former Marine Gunnery Sgt. Joseph Smith, and Kentucky Guardsman Spc. Jeremy Smith.

For the two, keeping each other going is their source of strength.

"We are always picking each other's brain for advice," said Jonathan.

"He's always been a go-getter, and seeing him take this step is what I'd consider his best decision to date," said Timothy.

The Smith Brothers are grateful for their opportunity to serve and hold Kentucky's Warrant Officer Corps to the highest standard.

"Over the last seven years, we've been a part of an outstanding organization that has sent us to specific warrant officer career field training, and having your brother be a part of that is a good feeling," said Jonathan.

For now, Jonathan still owes Timothy lunch, which for them could possibly end up being shared on a similar mission during their remaining time in the Kentucky National Guard.



Warrant Officer Jonathan Smith (left), and his brother Chief Warrant Officer Timothy Smith share a moment with their mother, Donna Lewis at the Kentucky National Guard Armory in Morehead, Ky., Dec. 15, 2015. The Smith brothers are two of only three chemical specialty warrant officers in the Kentucky Guard. (Courtesy photo)

UK graduates largest ROTC Class, includes 5 Guardsmen

By Cadet Zachary Dooley
133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The Kentucky National Guard gained five new commissioned officers May 6, as the new second lieutenants took the Oath of Office following a graduation ceremony at Memorial Hall on the Lexington campus. The class of 2016 was the largest commissioning class at the university, with 41 new officers earning gold bars from the Army and Air Force ROTC programs.

2nd Lt. Drew Myers of LaGrange, Kentucky, a Distinguished Military Graduate, earned the distinction of placement in the top 10 percent of cadets nationwide. Meyers said he chose the Kentucky National Guard over a career in active duty.

“I relate to the mission of the Guard more than other components. Homeland security, humanitarian missions and natural disasters missions are all things that I want to be a part of. I want to accomplish civilian goals as well as military goals, and I don’t think that would be possible if I were to go active,” said Myers.

After leaving Kentucky to study elsewhere for the first two years of college, Myers said there is no place else he would rather be.

“I just love Kentucky and I am very happy to be here at this point in my life,” said Myers.

Three of the newly commissioned officers who graduated served as Si-

multaneous Membership Program (SMP) cadets with the Kentucky National Guard. The program allows cadets to join the Guard for additional school benefits and as a means to practically apply the lessons learned in Military Science classes to a real-time setting with a military unit on drill weekends and exercises.

“The SMP provided me with real world application in being a leader. I learn the technical aspects of being an Army officer while in ROTC, but going to drill as a cadet I see the military decision making process in action as I shadowed other officers,” said 2nd Lt. Matthew Peterson of Georgetown, Kentucky.



(L-R) Drew Myers, Justin Presley, Anthony Elder, and Matthew Peterson, all newly commissioned second lieutenants gather on the University of Kentucky campus after becoming four of the Kentucky National Guard’s newest officers on May 6.



Guardisman awarded for innovation



By Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

Acting Secretary of the Army Patrick Murphy spoke during an event in the Pentagon courtyard, March 31, to kick off Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, which was observed throughout April.

Murphy and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey presented awards to Soldiers for their work to bring awareness to sexual assault prevention programs in the Army.

Sgt. Joshua Kemp with Kentucky's Recruiting and Retention Command was awarded the National Guard's Innovation Award for Sexual Assault Prevention.

Kemp put together a design that has been placed on a number of Kentucky Guard vehicles to advertise the sexual assault safe help line. The design depicts three Soldiers, the website and the

help line phone number. The design has been transferred onto a "vinyl wrap" that can be "shrink-wrapped" onto the side of vehicles, he said.

"This was a collaborative effort with the Sexual Assault Response Center, this award is for all who helped with this project," said Kemp.

According to John Harvey, the state's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Officer, Kemp has played an integral role in raising awareness of sexual assault since arriving at Joint Force Headquarters in 2009. Not to be deterred by rank restrictions inhibiting his ability to serve as a Victim Advocate, Kemp has found creative ways to make an impact in other areas by leveraging his passion, talent, and dedication for sexual assault prevention.

Wing marks historic milestone in support of war effort

By Maj. Dale Greer
123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 123rd Airlift Wing observed a historic milestone March 24 when Staff Sgt. Patrick Murray returned from a deployment to Southwest Asia, where he was supporting Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve, the counter-terrorism mission in Afghanistan and the campaign against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.

Murray's return marks the first time since October 2001 that the wing has had no personnel deployed to the U.S. Central Command Area of Responsibility, which includes the Middle East and Northern Africa.

During the past 14 years, the wing has deployed its Airmen to more than 45 countries in support of CENTCOM and homeland security operations, totaling more than 393,000 days of active-duty service.

"I am extremely proud of the dedication of our Airmen to answer the nation's call any time they're needed, anywhere in the world," said Col. Ken Dale, commander of the 123rd Maintenance Group, the Kentucky Air National Guard's primary operations unit. "No unit in the United States Air Force has been more engaged in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the homeland security mission than the 123rd Airlift Wing."

Dale emphasized that the new milestone represents more of a temporary pause in deployments than an indication that they will stop completely.

"We anticipate further deployments to the U.S. Central Command area in the future, especially from the members of our Special Tactics Squadron, who maintain a constant state of readiness for short-notice contingencies of all kinds," he said.



SCSM HONOR ROLL

NCOES HONOR GRAD OR COMMANDANT'S LIST

SFC	Emily Cooper	149th MEB	SFC	Jacqueline Ragsdale	75th TRP CMD
SFC	James Dean	149th MEB	SSG	Joseph Sims	75th TRP CMD
PFC	Savannah Gomez	75th TRP CMD	SSG	Joseph Yan	149th MEB
SGT	Benjamin Stewart	75th TRP CMD	SSG	George O'Rourke	75th TRP CMD
PFC	Emily Baker	75th TRP CMD	1LT	Eric Fisher	63rd TAB
SPC	Savannah McMullin	75th TRP CMD			

40/40 M4 QUALIFICATION

SFC	Kristopher Gibson	KYNG Trng Site	SGT	Phillip Sexton	149th MEB
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COLLEGE GRADUATES

SSG	Jason Turner	138th FA BDE	SGT	Victoria Butler	75th TRP CMD
SGT	Matthew McGuire	75th TRP CMD			

RETIREMENTS

SSG	Kenneth Johnson	138th FA BDE	CPT	Sabrina Fields	75th TRP CMD
MSG	Michael Hayes	138th FA BDE	COL	John Isaacs	75th TRP CMD
SGT	Brent Majors	75th TRP CMD	SSG	Randy Charles	Trng Site
SFC	Chad Rowlett	75th TRP CMD	SFC	Steven Montgomery	
SGT	Peter Hernandez	75th TRP CMD			

300+ APFT

SGT	BACK, BRANDON ALEXANDER	JFHQ	PFC	VONLINTEL, KILEY GRACE	149th MEB
SGT	BELLAMY, MELISSA MARY	JFHQ	SFC	WILLIAMS, SCOTTY ALLEN	149th MEB
SGT	BURR, SAMANTHA JAYE	JFHQ	CPT	RILEY, TRAVIS EARL	149th MEB
SGT	CALDWELL, JOSHUA ANDREW	JFHQ	SGM	TRUEX, DANIEL HARRELL	149th MEB
1LT	GRANDERSON, GREGORY C	JFHQ	SGT	BOOTH, AVERY WAYNE	149th MEB
SFC	MOREY, ADRIANE MARIE	JFHQ	PV2	COCHRANE, DANIEL LEE	149th MEB
MSG	MOUILLESEUX, PAUL C.	JFHQ	SSG	MAYFIELD, DATITO CORTEZ	149th MEB
SGT	PREWITT, DAVID THOMAS	JFHQ	1SG	OCHS, MICHAEL JEFFREY F.	149th MEB
MAJ	SIMPSON, EDDIE DEWAYNE	JFHQ	PFC	RAMMAL, ALI CHADI	149th MEB
SGT	WILLIAMSON, STEPHEN G.	JFHQ	SPC	RAMOS, ANGEL	149th MEB
SGT	WITZLEB, MADISON K.	JFHQ	PFC	DIAZ, MOISES ALEXANDER	149th MEB
MSG	GARCIA, EDWIN ARNOLDO	JFHQ	SPC	DUFF, JAQUANN KIMBEL	149th MEB
SSG	STOPPELWERTH, ADAM C.	JFHQ	SFC	PEPPI, RONALD DAVID II	149th MEB
SSG	MCCOY, PATRICK ALAN	JFHQ	2LT	POWELL, SHAW MULLINS	149th MEB
MAJ	RICE, MICHAEL KENNETH	JFHQ	SPC	SHAFFER, CHARLES DAVID	149th MEB
SFC	HANDY, DAVID WAYNE	75th TRP CMD	SGT	AVILA, JESUS	149th MEB
SGT	HILERIO, MATTHEW DAVID	75th TRP CMD	SGT	COBLER, TOSHA LYNN	149th MEB
SGT	SERMSAI, DANIEL JENG	75th TRP CMD	PFC	POWERS, TRE ANTHONEE	149th MEB
1SG	PATTERSON, RYAN PATRICK	75th TRP CMD	2LT	WECKERLING, ANTHONY C.	149th MEB
MAJ	ANDERSEN, ROBERT RALPH III	75th TRP CMD	CPT	MCGHEE, CHRISTOPHER J.	149th MEB
MAJ	MENDEZ, JASON WILLIAM	75th TRP CMD	CPT	STRACK, STEPHEN THEODORE	149th MEB
PFC	VELEZ, VALENTINO DICARLO	75th TRP CMD	SGT	RENDER, JORDAN SCOTT	149th MEB
SPC	CATES, CHRISTOPHER CHASE	75th TRP CMD	SPC	LAW, KYLER JAMES	149th MEB
PFC	WRIGHT, DEVIN SHAYNE	75th TRP CMD	SPC	DAY, JARED MICHAEL	149th MEB
SPC	MCDANIEL, DAVID LEE LOUIS	75th TRP CMD	PFC	HOLDAWAY, HILARY CLAIRE	149th MEB
SPC	THIEMANN, GREGORY A.	75th TRP CMD	SPC	HOOD, HUNTER HARRISON	149th MEB
SSG	ALVAREZESTRADA, MANUEL	75th TRP CMD	2LT	CONNER JACOB EDWARD	63RD TAB
CPT	HUBBS, RYAN WESLEY	75th TRP CMD	MAJ	MARTIN, STEPHEN DAVID	63RD TAB
SGT	HEAD, SEAN FRANKLIN	75th TRP CMD	SPC	WILLIAMS, SUZANNE ALVEY	63RD TAB
SPC	ELAM, ANDREW ROSS	75th TRP CMD	MAJ	KEARNEY, JEREMY ADAM	63RD TAB
SGT	HAUBNER, CHRISTOPHER D.	75th TRP CMD	LTC	LEWIS, GARY WALTER D.	63RD TAB
1LT	LOPEZ, AUNDREAS SAULEESE	149th MEB	SFC	EMBURY, MICHAEL C.	63RD TAB
SPC	BORG, ADAM DUDLEY	149th MEB	SPC	REVEAL, LOGAN ANDREW	63RD TAB
MAJ	ENSMINGER, VARINKA T. B.	149th MEB	CW2	KAND, WALLACE MATTHEW	238th REGT
MAJ	STEVENS, MICHAEL JOHN	149th MEB	SSG	JOHNSON, DAVID C.	138th FA BDE
CPT	WATSON, JENNIFER SYBIL	149th MEB	SSG	CONKLIN, RICHARD ALLEN JR	138th FA BDE
PFC	JOHNSON, MICAH JOSEPH	149th MEB	CPT	LAVELL, JOHN ROBERT	138th FA BDE
SPC	PROSSER, KASANDRA CAITLIN	149th MEB	SGT	TAYLOR, KYLE TRAVIS	138th FA BDE
SFC	PARKER, AMY JO	149th MEB	1LT	BLAND, PAUL WESLEY	138th FA BDE
SGT	PHELPS, ADAM DALE	149th MEB	PFC	HERRMANN, JONATHAN P.	138th FA BDE
CPT	O'BRYAN, SAMUEL ERNEST	149th MEB	SPC	LOGSDON, JONATHAN DEREK	138th FA BDE
MSG	O'BRYAN, CHRISTOPHER T.	149th MEB	SPC	VILLEGAS, ARTURO C.	138th FA BDE
SPC	RECKNER, TYLER JOHN	149th MEB	CPT	PRICE, SHANNON MELISSA	138th FA BDE
1SG	SEIVERS, JEFFREY ALAN	149th MEB	CPT	WATTS, JUSTIN WARD	138th FA BDE
CPT	GENSLEY, JONATHAN DALE	149th MEB	MAJ	MAYES, BOBBIE JO	238th REGT
1LT	FUGAL, SAMUEL LINCOLN	149th MEB	CPT	BAKER, BRIAN SCOTT	238th REGT
PFC	NETHERLY, TYLER JAMES	149th MEB			
SPC	DOOLIN, DAKOTA AUSTIN	149th MEB			



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"It was a great stress free weekend for the entire family and we learned great habits to take back to implement in our home."

"Strong bonds, as you conducted it completely impressed us. So far, it has been the premier experience of our Guard career. You guys did a great job. The family is the most important organization in society and the Guard and I got the impression that you understand the gravity of your responsibility to that."

"In addition to other support we are now using, the techniques and principles we picked up this weekend already have and will continue to enrich our relationship as long as we are willing to employ them."

**For more information or to register for an event, email Chaplain (CPT) Philip Majcher
philip.v.majcher.mil@mail.mil**

Program Dates

Sept. 16-18 - Married Couples - Lake Cumberland State Park
Aug. 26-28 - Families - Camp for Courageous Kids, Scottsville, KY

Tentative Dates for FY17

Dec. 9-11 - Married Couples - Embassy Suites, Lexington, KY
Jan. 20-23 - Married Couples - Embassy Suites, Covington, KY
Feb. 10-12 - Singles - The Main Event, Louisville, KY
Mar. 10-12 - Married Couples - Cumberland Falls State Park
Apr. 7-9 - Married Couples - Lake Barkley Resort Park
Aug. 18-20 - Families - Camp For Courageous Kids, Scottsville, KY
Sept. 1-3 - Capital Plaza, Frankfort, KY