

# THE WOLVERINE GUARD

Women's History Month

Passing of the aircraft keys

Michigan Honor Guard honored





Photo by Staff Sgt. Gabriel Morse  
Maj. Gen. Thomas Cutler and Col. James Anderson sit with 63rd Brigade Commander, Col. Phillip Owens (far left), 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry Commander Lt. Col. Gregory Durkac and 125th Command Sgt. Maj. Dale Clarmont (far right) on Dec. 19, 2007 in the TAG's conference room as they sign the first ever TAG certification stating that the 125th has successfully completed all pre-mobilization requirements.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Helen Miller  
The United States Property and Fiscal Office in Lansing, Mich., annually adopts one to four families for the Christmas holiday. All employees get involved by either visiting families, shopping for gifts, wrapping gifts, buying groceries for Christmas dinner or delivering gifts and food to families on Christmas day. In 2007, three families with a total of nine family members were adopted.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Gabriel Morse  
Maj. Gen. Cutler, Congressman Dave Camp, Maj. Gen. Jerry Cannon and Col. Anderson cut the ribbon officially opening the doors on Dec. 4, 2007 to the Corunna, Mich., armory, the new home of the 144th Military Police Company.

★ ★ *From the desk of*  
*The Adjutant General* ★ ★  
TAG  
TALK

The holiday season is behind us and once again we are off and running, full speed ahead. During the first week of January we mobilized more than 900 Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry and the 1st Battalion, 126th Armor; the largest single mobilization we have had since World War II. Over the course of four days, we conducted 11 separate deployment ceremonies at individual armories across the state. I had the privilege of attending several of those ceremonies and I was again extremely impressed to see the tremendous support our Soldiers receive from their families and their communities. The pride in serving our country was evident in every person I spoke to at each of these events! Since then, we have mobilized several smaller units and individuals with that same pride evident each time.

Preparing for this round of deployments has been particularly challenging. We are now doing much of the required training right here in Michigan before our Soldiers deploy. That has been a huge challenge, but I am proud to tell you we did it right. The reports coming back from the mobilization station have confirmed the fact that we have now become the new standard of excellence for training and preparing Soldiers to deploy. I want to thank the entire team for their hard work in accomplishing this and I want to thank their families for supporting it.

As our Army Guard continues to mobilize, our Air Guard is now entering a period of unprecedented change. We were all sad to see the last C-130 depart Selfridge, but were excited to recently accept our first KC-135. Our airlifters are now busy attending all of the necessary KC-135 schooling and I know they will soon be setting new standards of excellence in this new mission. I have appreciated their can-do spirit and their willingness to take on this new challenge. Speaking of challenges, I want to thank the members of the 110th Fighter Wing for the outstanding support of their recent deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. They trained for months to deploy to Iraq, deployed, and then promptly tasked to deploy to Afghanistan soon after returning home. Without skipping a beat, they repacked, deployed to Bagram Air Base and flew close air support sorties 36 hours after they landed at Bagram. Now back at home again, the 110th will soon begin transitioning to their new missions, as will the 127th Wing. This will be a big challenge for everyone involved, but we will do it as one team, committed to setting the very highest standards.

In closing, I want to thank each of you for the remarkable sacrifices you are making to serve our country. I had the privilege of visiting several hundred Michigan Soldiers at Fort Hood and was very impressed by every Soldier I met. As I talked with Soldiers, I asked them to share the reason they had chose to serve. Repeatedly, I essentially heard the same thing, "Sir, I joined because I want to serve my country and I want to invest in freedom for my family." We have some of America's finest young men and women serving in the Michigan National Guard. What an honor it is to serve with them!

Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler

# ATAG From the desk of The Assistant Adjutant General-Air TALK

As I reflect back over the last two years as the Assistant Adjutant General for Air, it has certainly been an exciting time. In the Joint Force Headquarters I have had the honor of serving with Army Guard members and have gained a deep respect for what you do for our state and country. From my view point what I see is not a group of individuals but instead a strong team dedicated to getting the mission done.

On the Air Guard side, I am pleased and excited about the accomplishments that have been made in the aftermath of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). Early in 2006 a plan and strategy was developed to bring in new missions to Battle Creek. The plan was successful and they are well suited for the future with a Component Numbered Air Force mission as well as a new flying mission.

Selfridge is going through two aircraft mission changes and is in position to form an active associate unit which will add growth to Selfridge. Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center (CRTC) has upgraded facilities and training capability and will be the premier training location for the nation. Bottom line is, the Michigan Air Guard is equipped with new missions that will ensure our future growth and added value to the Air Force.

As some of you know, I am retiring after 33 years of service therefore, this will be my last *Wolverine Guard* article. It has been an honor and privilege to be a member of the Guard family and while I look forward to retirement, I certainly will miss putting on the uniform and serving with the finest Americans in our nation.

As I leave I wish each of you – our Soldiers, Airmen, civilian employees and your families – the very best. This is a very honorable organization to be a part of and I hope each of you have the same pride, loyalty and feeling of ownership that I have had during my career.

Thank you for always being the first to respond when our state and nation need you. Take care of each other and God Bless.



Brig. Gen. Richard G. Elliot



Photo by Master Sgt. Denice Rankin  
Brig. Gen. Richard Elliott presents Col. Curtis Whitaker with a National Guard minuteman during Whitaker's retirement ceremony on Sept. 18, 2007. Whitaker officially retired Nov. 1 after more than 32 years of Air Force service.

Commissioned in 1974, General Richard G. Elliott served on active duty with the U.S. Air Force and as a traditional Guardsman in the New York Air National Guard while pursuing a management career with General Motors. In 1994, he joined the Michigan National Guard and has served as a command navigator of the C-130E, the 127th Airlift Group commander, 127th vice commander and as the 127th Wing commander. In January 2006, Elliott began in the position of assistant adjutant general for Air and as the commander of the Michigan National Guard. He retires after 33 years of service.



Photo by Master Sgt. Denice Rankin  
During the Michigan Air National Guard breakout session of the senior non-commissioned officer conference Jan. 13, 2008, in East Lansing, Mich., Brig. Gen. Elliott announces his retirement to attendees.



Design by Spc. LaKeshia Tryon  
Cover: March commemorates Women's History month. Nov. 8, 1967 marks the beginning of women's 40-year history in the National Guard. Read more on page six of this issue.

**Commander in Chief**

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm

**Adjutant General**

Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler

**Assistant Adjutant General, Army**

Col. James R. Anderson

**Assistant Adjutant General, Air**

Brig. Gen. Richard G. Elliott

**Assistant Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs**

Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone

**Assistant Adjutant General for Homeland Security**

Col. Michael McDaniel

**State Senior Enlisted Advisor**

Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth L. Slee

**State Public Affairs Officer**

Maj. Dawn Dancer

**Editor *The Wolverine Guard***

Spc. LaKeshia Tryon

*The Wolverine Guard* is an unofficial publication authorized under the provision of AR 360-1. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the Department of the Air Force. It is published quarterly by the Michigan National Guard Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs Office with a press run of 17,500.

Readers are encouraged to submit comments, articles, and information for publication to:

The Wolverine Guard  
3411 N. Martin Luther King Blvd.  
Lansing, Michigan 48906

E-mail us at  
WolverineGuard@Michigan.gov

# Bullets

## 2nd Annual Tips-up for Troops

The Brain Injury Association of Michigan announces the second annual "Tips-up for the Troops" Charity Bass Tournament.

This event will be held June 14, 2008 at Kensington Lake, Kensington Metropark, Brighton, Mich. The pro-am style bass fishing event will provide a fun filled day on the water for veterans who have sacrificed so much for American freedom.

To support this event or to volunteer, email veterans@biami.org. It is requested to complete registration early. For more information contact Rick Briggs at 810-229-5880 or visit www.biami.org.



## New consumer toolkit for TRDP

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program has a dynamic new enhancement to the Consumer Toolkit for enrollees.

The toolkit, found under the "Current Enrollees" section at www.trdp.org, already enables TRDP enrollees to manage their program enrollment by allowing them to view their eligibility, benefits, claims and maximum information, print ID cards and claim forms and much more.

The added online tutorial now allows enrollees to learn about TRDP at their own pace and makes using the Consumer Toolkit simpler.

For more information call 630-587-6397 or visit www.trdp.org.



## Free session for future entrepreneurs

A free workshop on starting and financing your own business will be offered from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on May 15, 2008 at the offices of the nonprofit VetBizCentral in Flint, Mich.

Jeff Sabolish, a certified public accountant and financial planner with Rachor, Purman and Tucker, will be a guest speaker.

There is no fee to attend, however seating is limited and advance registration is necessary. To register, call VetBizCentral at 810-767-8387 or toll-free at 866-716-8387.

VetBizCentral, based in Flint, Mich., serves all of Michigan and helps connect veterans with the training and

funding sources to successfully start and run their own businesses.



## IAFN Dinner May 11, 2008

The International Armed Forces Night council is inviting all Michigan National Guard officers and spouses to attend the dinner May 11, 2008.

The IAFN is a formal dinner open to all American and Canadian officers and spouses held annually for nearly 50 years.

The location alternates between Detroit and Windsor. For 2008, the site is the Windsor Armory in Windsor, Canada.

For more information contact Lou Wilson at 734-483-0322 ext. 131 or visit www.iafnc.org.



## Chrysler Freedom Calls

The Chrysler Freedom Call program provides video conferences for family and friends with loved ones in Iraq. Students with pen pal Soldiers are also welcome.

To schedule or for more information contact hero@chrysler.com or call 248-512-HERO (4376). Additional information can also be found at the Chrysler Headquarters website, www.freedomcalls.org.



## Transition Assistance Program- TAP

TAP classes sponsored by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, will be offered again this year during the second week of Annual Training.

Participants can choose one of the eight, four-hour TAP workshops being offered. Pre-registration is required. Classes will be held in the Distance Learning Center, building 329.

Participants will receive the current Job Search Guide from US Department of Labor and instruction on personal appraisal, career exploration, strategies for an effective job search, interview skills, resume and cover letter tips and accepting the offer.

Workshops will be held Aug. 6 through Aug. 9 at various times. Pre-register for a TAP workshop by emailing perkinsg@michigan.gov.


  
**CSM**  
*From the desk of*  
**The State Senior Enlisted Advisor**  
**TALK**

In a past edition of *The Wolverine Guard* I wrote the article “Mentoring – Critical to Success.” In that article I pointed out the Army’s definition of “mentorship” as being the voluntary developmental relationship between a person of greater experience and a person of lesser experience characterized by a mutual trust and respect. That article focused on the extreme importance of military leaders mentoring their subordinates to someday replace them in those leadership positions.

On Jan. 12, 2008, during the general session of the joint senior non-commissioned officer conference, Sgt. Maj. Joseph Staudt, senior enlisted advisor for the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, stated that the one thing that kept him awake at night was the question of whether our nation could sustain and maintain an all voluntary armed force in the decades to come.

Sgt. Maj. Staudt’s concern was that within the age group that we focus our recruiting efforts on (17-24 years of age), currently, less than one percent is qualified to serve in our Armed Forces. This is due to many factors; however, the one that stands out the most is that these young men and women have made mistakes in their lives which have resulted in a criminal record, thus disqualifying them from serving our state and nation in any branch of the military.

During the same session, Michigan’s First Gentleman, Daniel Mulhern unveiled Michigan National Guard’s partnership with the Mentor Michigan Program called “Mobilizing Mentors.” Mulhern also discussed how Michigan youth desperately need positive role models.

Today’s changing family structure includes radical increases in single-parent homes and two-parent working families. Research has found that 40 percent of a teenager’s waking hours are spent without companionship or supervision. Statistics indicate that 3,600 students drop out of school in the United States each day. They also proved that those within those same age groups who have mentors are more likely to stay in school, 46 percent less likely to use illegal drugs and 27 percent less likely to drink alcohol than their peers – two major mistakes our youth make that mark them with a criminal record.

So what links all this to Sgt. Maj. Staudt’s inability to sleep at night?

Just as mentoring is a proven approach and valuable tool for military and civilian organizations and leaders alike, it also is a priceless tool that strengthens our youth. I know it will help us to nurture our youth who may someday want to be part of our Armed Forces to gain eligibility.

Staff Sgt. Jerred Johnson, Michigan Army National Guard and a mentor in the Mentor Michigan Program, said it best, “It is important that we do our duty as Soldiers and fulfill our obligation in our communities.”

As Soldiers, we live by the Army Values. As Soldiers and Airmen, every time we walk down the street in uniform, every time we support various community activities and every time we extend our hand to adults and children of the war-torn countries where we serve, we become mentors without realizing it.

**Continued on page 7**



Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth L. Slee

E-mail us at [WolverineGuard@michigan.gov](mailto:WolverineGuard@michigan.gov)



Photo by Master Sgt. Dale Atkins  
Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Slee (left) and Chief Master Sgt. Michael Dalton (right) were the emcees for the senior non-commissioned officer ball on Jan. 12, 2008. They are pictured here with keynote speaker, Sgt. Maj. Joseph Staudt (center), the senior enlisted advisor for the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs.



Photo by Master Sgt. Denise Rankin  
First Gentleman Daniel Mulhern, Staff Sgt. Jerred Johnson and Tony Marhofer discuss the benefits of the Mentor Michigan, Mobilizing Mentors program at the senior non-commissioned officer conference on Jan. 12, 2008 at the Kellogg center in East Lansing, Mich.

“When you mentor a child you help to build a stronger future for them, our communities, and our great state. Mentoring is a great way to share with others the lessons that have helped shape our lives. Just an hour a week can make a huge difference for a child who needs your support.”

-- Governor Jennifer M. Granholm

# Celebrating 40 years of women's service in the National Guard

Source: <http://userpages.aug.com/captbarb/guard.html>

As the National Guard reorganized its units after World War II, none of its ranks included women. Because of the Guard's dual federal and state mission, there was no central authority to grant women access to its ranks.

Starting in the mid-1950s, some Air Guard commanders received permission from the National Guard Bureau to employ female "augmentees," drawn from the Air Force Reserve, to work in their medical units. This policy permitted women officers to conduct "traditional" stateside

training in Guard medical facilities. If these units were mobilized, the women would return to their Reserve "parent" organization and the Guard's readiness for deployment would be compromised. It was clear that women must be allowed to serve directly as members of the Guard in order to maintain unit preparedness.

In July 1956, Congress enacted passage of Public Law 845, authorizing female officers in the National Guard. New York Air Guard Capt. Norma Parsons joined the 106th Tactical Hospital, becoming the National Guard's first female member. The Army Guard's first woman Soldier was 1st Lt. Sylvia Marie St. Charles Law, who received her commission in January 1957.

By the end of 1957 the Air Guard had 42 female nurses. The Army Guard, however, had only 11 nurses working in its 468 authorized positions. By 1960, only 56 women were included in a total Army Guard force of 401,765 personnel.

In October 1961, then President John Kennedy mobilized 44,371 Army Guard members in response to the Berlin crisis. Included in this mobilization were 17 women nurses - the first time Guard women had been mobilized. The Air Guard mobilized 21,067 people, but there is no record indicating how many were women. Throughout the 1960s almost all of the jobs open to military women were in the medical field, and only to officers. But the status of Guard women began to change.

On Nov. 8, 1967, Public Law 90-130 authorized the enlistment of women in the National Guard. All Army

Guard enlisted women and officers, not in the Nurse Corps, were made members of the Women's Army Corps (WAC). By 1978, with women integrated throughout the Army, the WAC was no longer needed. The Army Guard counted 13,353 officers and enlisted women among its ranks by 1978. With the advent of the all-volunteer force

during the 1970s, women worked in many of the combat support and combat service support fields.

Women were maintaining aircraft and ground vehicles, operating trucks and heavy construction equipment, and working in the battalion headquarters of some Army Guard artillery units in addition to many previous personnel, finance, and medical positions.

By the time the Gulf War began in 1991, more positions for women had opened up. This included jobs that put them in direct

combat roles, such as fighter and helicopter pilots, and command positions, which exposed some female leaders to direct enemy fire. Such was the case for Pfc. Charla Shull, a member of the Missouri Guard's 138th Military Police Company. Her company was on a routine training mission in Panama when Operation Just Cause began on Dec.

19, 1989. Her unit came under direct enemy mortar fire, making her the first Guard woman to come under combat fire. During the Gulf War, hundreds of Guardswomen deployed to Saudi Arabia where they performed various tasks to support the Allied effort to remove Iraqi troops from Kuwait. Of the 34 active duty Guard members who died in the Gulf, eight were women.

After the Gulf War, women began assuming key leadership positions in the Guard. In 1991, Wisconsin's Sharon VanderZyl was promoted to brigadier general, becoming the first flag officer in the Army Guard. In 1997, then Lt. Col. Martha Rainville, from the 158th Fighter Wing made National Guard history.

Now a major general, Martha Rainville is the Vermont adjutant general. She is the first woman in the 370-year history of the National Guard to serve as a state adjutant general. As adjutant general, she serves as the inspector general and quartermaster general of the 4,600 members of the Vermont Army and Air National Guard.

Today, women comprise an estimated 15 percent of the Guard - more than 450,000 Soldiers. They serve all over the world, whenever and wherever needed.

## Michigan National Guard Women

1957--Rosemary E. Charboneau: First female Air Guard officer  
1972--Margaret Ann Miller: First enlisted Air Guard female  
1973--Julia H. Keefer: First female Army Guard member  
1973--Ruth A. Newman: First female Army Guard officer  
1978--Nancy Lundberg: First female Airman of the Year, Air Guard  
1979--Lillian M. Terry: First female warrant officer, Army Guard  
1981--Nancy Graff: First female Group Commander, Air Guard  
1983--Judith Dot'o: First female Senior NCO Academy graduate, Air Guard  
1986--Nancy Graff: First female Deputy Commander, Air Guard  
1987--Susan K. Wilkins: First female First Sergeant, Army Guard  
1988--Brenda L. (Snyder) Lampman: First female helicopter pilot, Army Guard  
1991--Susan K. Wilkins: First female Sergeant Major, Army Guard  
1993--Christina Greiger: First female airplane pilot, Air Guard  
1995--Mandi A. Murray: First female battalion commander, Army Guard  
1996--Betty L. Foehl: First female Colonel, Army Guard  
2001--Carol Ann Fausone: First female Brigadier General select, Air Guard  
2002--Rhea R. Pruet: First female Command Chief Warrant Officer in the nation, Army Guard

# Michigan lawmakers adopt annual POW/MIA recognition day

By Spc. LaKeshia Tryon

In a tribute to Waterford resident Pvt. Byron Fouty, Ann Arbor resident Spc. Ahmed Altaie and all Soldiers missing in action and being held prisoners of war, State Representatives Fran Amos and Jim Marleau introduced a house resolution on Dec. 13, 2007 to proclaim Dec. 16 “POW/MIA Recognition Day” in Michigan.

“Pvt. Fouty, Spc. Altaie, past and current Soldiers missing in action and prisoners of war deserve the highest amount of gratitude from the very citizens they fight to protect,” said Amos. “I am honored to observe with these brave Soldiers’ families the unselfishness and patriotism of our men and women who are serving overseas.”

Fouty’s step-father, Gordon Dibler, joined Amos and Marleau to witness the introduction of the resolution after being welcomed on the Senate floor earlier that morning when an identical resolution was introduced by Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop.

Fouty and Altaie, both from Michigan, are two of only four Soldiers declared missing in action in the current conflict in Iraq.

“My heart goes out to the friends and family of those who cope with the devastation of having loved ones who are prisoners of war and missing in action, especially during this difficult holiday season,” said Marleau. “However, I am proud to join with my colleagues and the concerned citizens of Michigan in order to remind our loyal men and women in uniform that they are not forgotten.”

The resolution was passed establishing Dec. 16 as “POW-MIA Recognition Day.” This commemoration is part of a national effort to pay tribute to the nation’s prisoners of war and those missing in action.

Dec. 16 was chosen as the day of recognition because it was the first day of the 1944 Battle of the Bulge, the largest (600,000 troops) American-fought battle of World War II. The battle resulted in more than 23,550 Soldiers taken as a POW or declared MIA, more than any other battle during the war.



“The sacrifices of these missing and unaccounted for Americans and their families are deserving of our state’s recognition and support,” said State Senator Randy Richardville. “As the chair of the Veterans and Military Affairs Committee while in the state House, I heard from family members about the need for closure for our missing Soldiers. I empathize with their emotional pain and frustration with the unknown. These families wake up each morning hoping that day will be the one that brings them closure or brings home their loved one,” said resolution cosponsor.

## Battle of the Bulge

Dec. 16, 1944 - Jan. 25, 1945

### Battle Facts

- The coldest, snowiest weather “in memory” in the Ardennes Forest on the German/Belgium border.
- More than a million men, 500,000 Germans, 600,000 Americans (more than fought at Gettysburg) and 55,000 British.
- Three German armies, 10 corps, the equivalent of 29 divisions.
- Three American armies, six corps, the equivalent of 31 divisions.
- The equivalent of three British divisions as well as contingents of Belgian, Canadian and French troops.
- 100,000 German casualties, killed, wounded or captured.
- 81,000 American casualties, including 23,554 captured and 19,000 killed.
- 1,400 British casualties 200 killed.
- 800 tanks lost on each side, 1,000 German aircraft.
- The Malmedy Massacre, where 86 American soldiers were murdered, was the worst atrocity committed against American troops during the course of the war in Europe.
- The 106th Infantry Division, average age of 22 years, suffered 564 killed in action, 1,246 wounded and 7,001 missing in action at the end of the offensive. Most of these casualties occurred within the first three days of battle, when two of the division’s three regiments was forced to surrender.
- In it’s entirety, the “Battle of the Bulge,” was the worst battle- in terms of losses - to the American Forces in World War II.

Source: <http://ice.mm.com/user/jpk/battle.htm>

## CSM Talk continued

- The “Mobilizing Mentors” partnership allows us to:
- “Cultivate **Loyalty** by being a friend and companion.”
  - “Promote **Duty** by being a positive role model.”
  - “Establish **Respect** by being a limit setter.”
  - “Aide in the development of **Selfless Service** simply by being a mentor.”
  - “Heighten **Honor** by being a resource and advisor.”
  - “Grow **Integrity** through listening and coaching.”
  - “Foster **Personal Courage** by believing in a child.”

Mentor Michigan has set a goal of 500 Michigan National Guard mentors by 2010. To become one of those 500 please access the Michigan Community Service Commission website, [www.mentormichigan.org](http://www.mentormichigan.org) or call 517-335-4295 to gain more information and get enrolled into this fulfilling, worthwhile program.

“One mentor, one person, can change a life forever.”  
Help grow our youth and our future leaders – get involved.

# Honor thy father: A loved one grateful to MIARNG Honor Guard

By Allison Wall

The six Soldiers of the Honor Guard stood tall in front of us, facing each other. I put my glasses on so I could see the only movement that was exerted from their bodies, which was in their eyes. Even then, as the American flag began to unfold into one single long stretch of red, white and blue, their eyes hardly averted from the Soldier standing directly in front of them.

Hand movements signaled the next move to be made only seconds before they were moving onto the next progression. The flag held in their hands, one-fourth the size, and with one whisper, it became whole. The seventh Soldier stood at the head of the flag. Even through the tears in my eyes, I could see row upon row of his decorations upon his uniform. He slowly raised his crisply white, gloved hand straight from his side up to his right forehead and within one robotic motion, saluted a fallen Soldier.

I thought I had it together until the all too familiar notes of Taps sounded from a horn to the right of me in the hall. Tears started falling, as I used steady breaths to contain myself from sadness. My brother shook next to me with tears and all of my grandfather's children heads hung low with grief.

My eyes still did not move from the ceremony in front of me. I did not look to my right at my brother or to my left at my grandfather's newest great-grandchild. I held tight to the one thing that brought my grandfather one of his greatest missions and values in life: service to our country.

I heard the gloves run against the crisp flag as it began to refold. Each new triangle formed closed another chapter in my grandfather's life; one brisk swipe of a glove and it was folded one step closer to completion. It returned to its original form, just as my grandfather had. Starting so small, to turning into something so large and symbolic, my grandfather too returned from his shining grasp on life to a child of God, once again.

The folded flag was rotated and handed to the seventh Soldier. He turned to face us and slowly took a position in front of my grandfather's oldest son. The six Soldiers remained stationary until they were one-by-one instructed to carry a flag to another child of James Joseph Wall. As the five Soldiers stood in front of the five children, they looked into their eyes. They knelt down and placed the flag into the hands of those who will honor it with their lives.

The Soldier appointed to my father informed him how important this flag was, but more importantly how grateful our country was for the service of my grandfather.

"My deepest condolences," rang in my ear from the Soldier.

As the Soldiers slowly stepped back from the children, in one swooping motion, my heart beat fast. Slowly and steadily the Soldiers left and the deacon informed us of the end of the ceremony. I had to remain next to my brother as my father placed the flag in his hands.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Helen Miller  
Sgt. Karen Dixon and other members of the Michigan National Guard Honor Guard team present folded American flags to surviving relatives of deceased veterans in September 2007.

As I looked into the eyes of the Soldiers when they were standing in front of me, I thought about all the other families that they have stood before. Not just for the families who have lost their 83-year-old patriarch, but the families who lost their 18-year-old babies. There are real people behind the uniforms and stories hidden in the eyes peering from the shadow of a brim.

As my grandfather has returned to his favorite place of all, the sky, I will carry many of the lessons that he taught us all through the life he lived. Seeing the Soldiers pay respect and honor the memory of my grandfather taught me so much about respect and dignity. I hardly think that I shall be the same.

---

*Editor's Note: Allison Wall is the 22-year-old niece of Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Slee. Following the funeral of her grandfather, James Wall, a former captain and pilot in the Army and Air Corps, she posted this blog to Hidden Reflections on Dec. 3, 2007 in appreciation to the Michigan Army National Guard Honor Guard for their service. The entire family, also extremely thankful, with the help of Maj. Gen. Thomas Cutler later presented the Honor Guard with six NCO Swords as a token of their gratitude.*

# All in a day's work



Photo by Staff Sgt. Helen Miller

Spc. Moses Wilson a member of the 1776th Military Police Company and the Michigan National Guard Detroit Honor Guard team performs taps during a funeral ceremony. Moses has been a member of the team since February 2006.

By Spc. LaKeshia Tryon

“We will accept nothing less than successfully completing 100 percent of our missions. Each and every deceased veteran and their families deserve our best effort. There is just not room for failure in this business, it’s just plain unacceptable, we will meet every mission,” said First Sgt. Bryan Merkel, non-commissioned officer in charge.

These words are a constant reminder that adorns the bulletin board of the Michigan National Guard Honor Guard Lansing office to motivate every member of the team to strive for perfection when performing military funeral honors.

The rendering of military funeral honors is a way to show the nation’s appreciation to those who, in times of war and peace, have devotedly defended our country. This ceremonial paying of homage is the final expression an indebted nation can afford to the veteran’s families.

Merkel explained how many people do not recognize the hard work and dedication put forth by the team.

“Many people have become more aware of the amount of work we do,” said Merkel. “They thought we just did one or two funerals a week when we were actually doing between 40 and 60 a week!”

Last year, the Honor Guard completed a total of 2,340 funeral honors missions. The team typically works six

days a week with Friday, Saturday and Monday being their busiest days. Team members can work anywhere from two to 14 missions a day and approximately 45 to 60 missions a week.

Military funeral honors have always been provided whenever possible. However, the law now mandates the rendering of military funeral honors for an eligible veteran if requested by the family. As provided by law, an Honor Guard detail for the burial of an eligible veteran shall consist of not less than two members of the Armed Forces. The honor detail will, at a minimum, perform a ceremony that includes the folding and presenting of the American flag to the next of kin and the playing of Taps. The Honor Guard may also be asked to provide Honorable Transfers, escort the veteran’s remains to and from the funeral home to the burial location, act as pallbearers or perform a ceremonial rifle volley.

The Michigan team currently operates with 18 full-time guardsmen and 38 part-time (up to six days a week) across the state. Often times in situations of multiple funerals in one day, spread across the state, the Honor Guard can look to the retirees, the American Legion and various other Veteran Service Organizations to supplement the work load.

***Continued on page 10***

## Funeral Honors continued

In addition to providing military funeral honors, the Honor Guard also provides the presentation of the colors at high priority events such as the governor's inauguration, POW/MIA recognition day, the Annual Training Memorial Review, the Detroit Macy's parade and the dedication of the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial at Camp Grayling.

According to Merkel, this is not an easy job. "It is a very emotional event for the family and friends of the fallen veteran. Walking into this type of situation is difficult for the Honor Guard Soldiers especially if they knew the deceased veteran. It takes a special type of personality to work in this environment on a daily basis. This is not your typical nine to five operation. Our Soldiers put in long hours and log many miles to properly intern a fallen veteran," he said.

It is projected that Michigan will lose approximately 67,000 of its Army veterans by the year 2010. In order to meet the increasing demand for military funeral honors, the Michigan Army National Guard and Veteran Service Organizations aim to partner to provide each veteran and their family with these deserved military funeral honors.

"It doesn't matter if the veteran was a private or general, if there is a room filled with grieving family or if the veteran was homeless with no loved ones present; we are motivated to put forth 110 percent every time," said Merkel.

To request military funeral honors the funeral director serving the family needs to contact Fort Knox at 502-624-3164 or visit [www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil](http://www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil). For more information on how to become a member of the Michigan National Guard Honor Guard contact 517-896-8401.

## Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (Col) Herbert Heavner

After changing the oil in my car I normally start up the engine, allow the engine to run for a couple of minutes, and then shut it off to check the oil level. I have done this for years, just to make sure everything was okay. On this particular occasion I decided to forego the normal routine.

The next morning I started the car and the "check oil" light remained on. I assumed there must be a malfunction in the light since I had just changed the oil. I thought again and decided I had better check to be sure. I opened my garage door to turn on the outside lights and was amazed to see a huge pool of oil spread out on the floor where my car had just been. I discovered that I had grabbed a new oil filter from my shelf, but not the correct filter for my engine and it caused the oil to leak out around the improperly sealed gasket.

Had I not paid attention to the warning light on my dashboard I could have incurred major engine problems and been faced with a huge repair bill. I thought about how that incident related to military life and even to life itself.

We often see warning signs along our journey. It could be as simple as a flashing light marking a construction zone. I believe God gives us warning signs along the way that we need to follow. Those signs are evident in the Bible.

The Bible is filled with warning signs and instructions designed to help us live a better life. We need to pay attention to the warning signs. If we fail to follow these instructions, our lives may end up in the wrong direction. If we follow these instructions, God will bless us in ways that we would never see otherwise.

As a chaplain, I recommend that you read your Bible. Discover what it has to say to you. Pay attention to the warning signs and follow the instructions that guide you.

---

## Michigan among states showing support of American Troops in 2007

By Janet Larson

Keeping with the spirit of the season, Michigan residents showed their generosity in 2007, sending 29 BX/PX gift certificates worth more than \$830 to troops and their families.

The BX/PX gift certificates can be redeemed for items of necessity and convenience at Army and Air Force Exchanges (AAFES) across the globe, including 53 facilities in Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

The agency that runs the BXs and PXs, AAFES, began the "Gifts from the Homefront" in March 2003. Since then, more than 97,000 gift certificates have been sent through the Department of Defense-approved effort.

Some of the most popular items picked up by deployed troops in 2007 included Monster Energy drinks, Red Bull, laptop computers and frappuccinos.

"The support that all of Michigan has shown our military this year is awe inspiring and heartwarming,"

said the Selfridge BX/PX General Manager Gina Meeks. "While a lot has been done since Jan. 1, it is important that we continue to stand together in support of our troops for the remainder of this year and beyond."

"Gifts from the Homefront" can be sent to deployed troops by logging on to [www.aafes.org](http://www.aafes.org) or calling 877-770-4438. From there, the gift certificates are sent to individual service members (designated by the purchaser) or distributed to any service member through the Air Force Aid Society, American Red Cross, Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, Fisher House, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Operation Homefront, Operation Interdependence or United Service Organizations (USO). "Gifts from the Homefront" gift certificates can be redeemed at exchange facilities worldwide.

For more information contact Janet Larson at phone number 586-307-5792 or email [larsonj@aafes.com](mailto:larsonj@aafes.com).

# Passing of the aircraft keys

By 1st Lt. Penny Carroll

After a year of drawdown for the 127th Airlift Group at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., which included the loss of its C-130 airlifters, the Michigan Air National Guard (MIANG) received the first plane for its new refueling mission on Dec. 20, 2007 in a “passing of the aircraft keys” event.

The ceremony marked the movement of the first KC-135 Stratotanker from the 927th Air Refueling Wing, Air Force Reserves, to the 127th Wing, MIANG.

According to decisions made by the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) commission, the 927th will move to MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., later in 2008 to become an associate unit of the active duty 6th Air Mobility Wing. As the unit tapers its missions in Michigan, they have been assisting the MIANG to undertake the new mission.

The 127th is converting flying missions per the 2005 BRAC decisions, including flying the C-130 Hercules airlifters to the KC-135 refuelers. The unit said farewell to the last of their C-130s in October 2007.

At the December passing event, 927th Commander Col. Gary Beebe remarked, “This is the beginning of the end of an era of owning our own planes.”

Currently, the neighboring units of two separate Air Force components are working together to ensure training requirements are met as the 127th ramps up to this new mission.

Beebe spoke of the joint training happening during their drawdown and the Guard’s taking delivery of the mission. “Being at the same installation has allowed us, as two different wings, to come together,” he said. “You’ve done a great job of recognizing that everyone who wears this uniform is an Airman – whether they’re Guard, Reserves or active duty.”

“Total Force is working overseas in the War on Terror

with the Guard, Reserves and active duty coming together to accomplish one mission,” said Capt. Joseph Winchester, 127th conversion officer, and former member of the Air Force Reserves. “This is the first time we’ve come together like this here at our base.”

More than 220 ANG personnel are fully integrated with the Reserve component at Selfridge, including maintenance, operations, and command personnel.

Brig. Gen. Michael Peplinski, 127th commander, also spoke to the Airmen. He acknowledged that the joint training began as a vision he and Beebe shared that would allow the 927th to continue their mission, even while

decreasing in numbers, and offering outstanding training opportunities to the 127th as they learned a completely new mission.

“Receiving this aircraft today is a tribute to the teamwork, the corporate knowledge and the patriotism of all involved,” said Peplinski. “There can be no doubt at the 6th Air Mobility Wing that they’re getting a great partner in the active-association with the 927th Air Refueling Wing.”

Peplinski and Beebe agreed that the two units, in training and working together on a daily basis, is a great partnership in Total Force that could be mirrored by other Air Force units.

Peplinski continued by offering words of his vision for the future of Selfridge, telling the crowd of community and

congressional representatives, “We’re losing our great partners with the Reserves and the 927th, so we’re looking for new partners and in that, we are endeavoring to bring an active duty associate unit here to Selfridge.”

“The Guard really benefits here,” said Winchester. “We get to learn from subject matter experts on these planes. We’re getting to pick up on their years of experience and knowledge and learn from a bona fide experienced reserve forces unit,” he said.

The first ANG flight of the KC-135 from Selfridge took place later that week with another aircraft transfer occurring on December 27. In all, the 127th will obtain eight KC-135 aircraft from the Air Force Reserves by the end of 2008.



Photo by Senior Airman Jeremy Brownfield  
Brig. Gen. Michael Peplinski, 127th Wing commander (left) poses with the “key” to the first 127th Wing KC-135 along with Mater Sgt. Cliff Prew and Master Sgt. Keith Anderson, crew chiefs with the 127th Air Refueling Group.

# 1432nd Engineer Co completes OJS mission, home for holidays

By Spc. Steven Kamin

In December 2007, Michigan Army National Guard 1432nd Engineer Support Company, from Kingsford and Iron River, Mich., participated in Operation Jump Start. This operation supports the border patrol on the U.S. - Mexican border. 1432nd's part in this mission was to work



Photo courtesy of 1432nd Engineer Support Company  
The 1432nd Engineer Support Company in Kingsford and Iron River, Mich., leave their mark at the border.

for the Arizona Border Patrol constructing anti-personnel and anti-vehicle fencing, designed to discourage the illegal crossing of the border.

1432nd's mission began Dec. 1 with a bus ride to KI Sawyer International Airport, in Marquette, Mich., and an eight hour flight on a C-130 to Phoenix Ariz., where they spent the night preparing for the next day's travels.

The main force of the mission was located east and west of Douglas, Ariz., where they constructed fences and improved roads under the watchful eye of the border patrol at the job site. They also constructed a section of fencing at a regional border patrol equestrian training center in Wilcox, Ariz., with border patrol and permanent party Guardsmen.

Despite two days of rainy, bad weather which put a foot of mud in the center of their area of operations, making work next to impossible, the unit continued to excel.

In true "yooper fashion," the 1432nd completed its mission on Dec. 20 and departed Douglas in route back to Phoenix.

With the mission completed in less than 20 days, the 1432nd were home in time to spend Christmas with their families.

---

## Detroit Pistons team up with Selfridge Air National Guard Base

Story and photo by  
Master Sgt. Terry Atwell  
The Palace  
Foundation of Auburn  
Hills, Mich., sponsored a "Seats for Soldiers" night during the Detroit Pistons basketball game Dec. 23, 2007.

The Palace Foundation encouraged season ticket holders to donate their seats for the game against the Houston Rockets to the military stationed at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. Almost 400 tickets were donated and servicemembers from all branches of the military stationed at Selfridge were able to participate.

1st Lt. David Daniels, a Chinook



Detroit Pistons' player Lindsey Hunter awards Brig. Gen. Michael Peplinski, Selfridge Base Commander and Technical Sgt. Kathy Smith, 107th Fighter Squadron the Pistons' Hero Award during the half-time show of the Pistons, Houston Rockets game on Dec. 23, 2007

pilot with the Michigan Army National Guard and Staff Sgt. James Donaldson, a finance technician with the Michigan Air National Guard proudly sang the National Anthem before the game.

Interviewed during the game was Spc. Michael May, a public affairs specialist with the 177th Military Police Brigade who was at home on leave in the middle of his tour in Iraq.

During the half-time show, Brig. Gen. Michael Peplinski, 127th Wing commander and Selfridge Base Commander, along with Technical Sgt. Kathy Smith of the 107th Fighter Squadron, received the Pistons' Hero Award from Pistons' player Lindsey Hunter, in honor of all military present at the game.

# What PDHRA can do for you

## PDHRA PRIMER

### Who is Eligible?

Soldiers who deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Bosnia, or Kosovo.

### What is the Purpose?

To give National Guard Soldiers same medical care as regular Army Soldiers.

### When is it done?

90-180 days after completing active duty orders. The screening is part of a unit drill, so it is done on the Army's time, not yours.

### Why the wait?

Some problems take time to show; for example, symptoms of Traumatic Brain Injury may not show until months after the injury occurred.

### Why do I care?

The screening will help properly document deployment related health problems, can help get medical care, and can even pay travel to medical appointments.

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Martin

Although many Soldiers do not realize it, the Post Deployment Health Reassessment (PDHRA) screening is one of the most important parts of the demobilization process. Simply put, PDHRA exists to help Soldiers properly document deployment related injuries. Beyond this, eligible Soldiers can be placed on Active Duty for Special Work orders to attend their medical appointments.

The goal of the PDHRA program is to ensure that National Guard Soldiers receive the same level of medical care as regular Army Soldiers. The Army recognizes that National Guard Soldiers undertake the same missions and are placed in harms way, and should, therefore, have the same care.

PDHRA screening is ideally accomplished 90-180 days after completing active duty orders, following a deployment to Afghanistan, Iraq, Kuwait, Bosnia or Kosovo. This is because many medical problems may not be noticed until after returning home.

Traumatic Brain Injury is an excellent example of a combat injury that may not be detected until months after a specific event.

Sometimes Soldiers assume that a medical problem will go away after leaving theater, but the symptoms continue after returning home.

For example, a Soldier could exhibit problems breathing normally. The Soldier could reasonably assume that once away from blowing dust and burning garbage the breathing problems will stop, only to learn later that the exposure to the blowing dust actually caused permanent damage to the sinuses and lungs. PDHRA screening enables Soldiers to report these issues and concerns, and helps them receive medical treatment.

PDHRA is required for all Soldiers released from active duty orders after March 9, 2005. The screening is conducted as part of a drill weekend. The screening is mandatory, and since already at drill, it makes sense to get the most out of the drill.

The PDHRA team at Joint Force Headquarters in Lansing, Mich., is always available to answer any questions. For more information contact Sgt. 1st Class Tonya Phipps, PDHRA noncommissioned officer in charge at 517-481-8349 or Staff Sgt. Matthew Martin at 517-481-8366.

## NG education benefits expand

By Robert Fay

When it comes to education benefits and joining the military, the first thing people generally think of is the Montgomery GI Bill and money for college. Yet if the Army National Guard (ARNG) has anything to do with it, people may have to add General Educational Development (GED) and civilian vocational training to their list of military education benefits.

It's been more than a year since the ARNG instituted its GED Plus program at Camp Robinson, Ark., and the results look promising. The program allows young men and women without a high school diploma or GED to join the Guard as long as they agree to attend a basic-training like environment at Camp Robinson, where they will have an opportunity to earn their GED. The National Guard schoolhouse allows these Soldiers-to-be to prepare to pass the GED, which is a requirement to be a Soldier. As of August 2007, approximately 1,300 young men and women recruits have passed the GED and gone on to basic training.

To be eligible for the GED Plus program, recruits must get a score of at least 31 on the Armed Forces Qualification Test, have at least a ninth-grade education, have left school at least six months before enlistment and be 18 or over.

Once students receive their GED at Camp Robinson, they can then ship to basic training and begin their official Guard training. In addition to schooling, the GED Plus program also introduces recruits to basic soldiering skills that will prepare them for the challenges of basic training.

The program helps young people get their GED for free, receive a paycheck and prepare for their Soldier career all at once. Most importantly, the program allows young people to quickly get back on track, finish their education and prepare for their future.

After receiving their GED, Guard Soldiers will typically serve their country one weekend a month and 15 days per year, during annual training.

# 126th Soldiers give Brookwood students a lesson to remember

Story and photos by Diane Epps

Four hundred students of Brookwood Elementary in Grand Rapids, Mich., went from a dull murmur to an excited chatter as Soldiers of the 63rd Brigade in Wyoming, Mich., Lt. Col. Clark Barrett, Maj. Jeff Kinninger, Command Sgt. Maj. Michael White, Capt. Wesley Smith, Sgt. Tanishia Horton, Sgt. 1st Class Christina Bahr, Sgt. 1st Class Jason Brink, Staff Sgt. Keith Russell, Spc. Richard Ragucky, and Spc. Jami Lutz, filed into the school gymnasium and took their seats on Dec. 13, 2007.

Student teacher Danielle DiPierro welcomed the military personnel, their families, and the students' parents that had gathered. DiPierro encouraged the Soldiers to slip in among the students. Young faces beamed with pride as the Soldiers sat on the floor shoulder to shoulder with them.

Students from grades kindergarten up performed songs, recited poems, rang bells, and read letters they had composed for the Soldiers. DiPierro then asked five Soldiers to volunteer to accept questions from students.

One student asked Sgt. 1st Class Brink why he was willing to fight for his country.

"Because I love the people and I love this country," Brink said without hesitation.

Lt. Col. Barrett looked down as another student asked him, "Why did you become a Soldier?" Barrett explained he comes from a long line of Soldiers and it is his honor and his duty to country that led him to this career.

The last question was asked of Sgt. 1st Class Bahr, "When do you get to spend time with your family?"

Bahr smiled and said, "I work just like everyone else. I see my family each night and on weekends."

She explained that sometimes she has to go away for a long time but then she comes home and her time with her family is more precious and valuable.

Before ending the program, Command Sgt. Maj. White and Maj. Kinninger marched ceremoniously to the front of the gymnasium with a neatly folded flag held reverently in

White's hands. Brookwood student council president stepped forward and took the hand of 5-year-old Jax Kinninger, (son to Kinninger), together they joined DiPierro.

The room became silent as the two 126th Cavalry members marched side by side stopping just feet from the students and DiPierro. White turned and handed the flag to Kinninger, with a slow turn he stepped away. Kinninger stepped in front of his son and slowly leaned down to pass him the flag.

Jax stared into his father's face as the major gave a slow deliberate salute to the flag and then watched as his son carefully handed the flag to the student council president. The significance of this flag seemed more important with the knowledge that Kinninger and his unit were leaving home in January to prepare to deploy to Iraq.

The flag now hangs from the cafeteria rafters as a daily reminder of what the flag represents and from whom they had received it. Today

that meaning seems very clear to those young minds that are now aware that some of their fellow students may have to send their mothers or fathers to war at any time.

"The students were left with their respect increased and their pride expanded," said Principal Sandy Lauritzen.



Maj. Jeff Kinninger presents a folded American flag to his 5-year-old son Jax on Dec. 13, 2007 in Grand Rapids, Mich., during a Brookwood Elementary School holiday presentation honoring American Soldiers.

---

## Michigan Minutemen make more history

By Spc. LaKeshia Tryon

During the first week of January, Michigan mobilized more than 900 Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry Regiment and 1st Battalion, 126th Armor, the largest single mobilization since World War II. That, however, is just one highlight for the Michigan Minutemen as they continue to make milestones in National Guard history.

For the first time ever, National Guard Bureau and the Department of the Army have given state adjutant generals

the authority to certify that their units have completed pre-mobilization tasks. This is possible with the help of the newly formed State Pre-mobilization Training and Assistance Element (PTAE) that materialized in early November 2007.

The benefit and goal of the PTAE team is to reduce the amount of time units spend at their actual mobilization stations. Previously, time lengths at mob sites have exceeded four months; with PTAE assistance, a company size element can expect to spend approximately 30 days at

their mob station, 45 days for a battalion size element, and no more than 60 days for a brigade combat team.

According to PTAE Operations Officer Maj. Ravindra Wagh, the U. S. Secretary of Defense is heavily encouraging the 12-month-total mobilization process, with maximum amount of “boots on ground” time.

“Units should be preparing long before their mob,” said Wagh. “The training these Soldiers get at home takes a big slice out of their mob time.”

There are 40 Army Warrior Tasks and 11 battle drills that each individual must complete at least 12 months prior to their deployment; six months for weapons qualification. In the case of the 125th and 126th, the units were pushed

into this new model shortly after PTAE’s inception in November, giving the team roughly 90 days to train those units to standard. The units successfully completed 70 percent of their premobilization requirements; however, the brigade size element is still expected to spend several months in Fort Hood, Texas before deploying.

The goal is to accomplish these tasks and drills before the units arrive at the mobilization station, allowing more time to focus on collective and mission specific training. Tasks not completed in the premobilization stage are added on at the mobilization site and can ultimately reduce units’ time and effectiveness in theatre accomplishing their mission.

**Continued on page 23**

---

## Luts of love for the Michigan Air National Guard



Photo courtesy of Chief Master Sgt. Cheryl Luts  
Chief Master Sgt. Cheryl Luts (center) is happy to share her Michigan Air National Guard experience with her children, Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Luts and 2nd Lt. Lindsey Luts.

By Staff Sgt. Alec Lloyd

For the Luts family, Air National Guard (ANG) membership is a family affair. Between February and June 2007, the family had three members serving with the 110th Fighter Wing, a feat believed to be a record.

Chief Master Sgt. Cheryl Luts of the 110th Wing Command Post recruited two of her children – daughter 2nd Lt. Lindsey Luts in 2006 and son Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Luts in June 2001 – to continue the family tradition.

Chief Luts said she loved having her two children serving along side her. “I’m not sure they were so crazy about it,” she said.

Luts said that each child had different abilities and that the Guard suited them in different ways. “I love the Guard,” she said. “I’d share it with anyone.”

According to his mother, Jeffrey has benefited from the structured environment, motivation and self-discipline that military service provides. Jeffrey was with the 110th Munitions, but has since moved to Phoenix, Ariz., and is employed with USAA. He hopes to join the Arizona ANG since his separation in 2007 following a six year enlistment obligation.

For Lindsey, the decision to join the ANG was an unexpected one. A University of Michigan graduate, she was unhappy with her civilian career as a staffing specialist with Manpower employment agency, when her mother urged her to apply for an opening with the Military Equal Opportunities office in October 2006. Lindsey jumped at the chance to interview, in fact she got her resume to the Wing commander the same day the position opened and was selected two weeks later.

“The opportunity presented itself,” Lindsey said. “It just really seemed to fit in with my goals now, I’m so happy with it.”

Lindsey also did not anticipate the responsibility of outranking her own mother. For her, accepting the first salute from her mother felt uncomfortable.

“It felt wrong,” said Lindsey. “It just made me nervous.”

Chief Luts, on the other hand, thought it was wonderful. “I love it,” she said. “But Jeff is not so wild about it.”

Lindsey said Wing members were also very supportive of her decision to join and have embraced her abilities by putting her skills immediately to work. Above all, she herself believes that the decision was the right one.

“It was a natural thing to realize – finally, that this was the path for me,” Lindsey said.

Chief Luts and her husband have a third child, a second son, who maintains a successful career in New York City. However, Luts said, “He’s still fair game until he turns 35.”

# California ARNG unit taps Michigan ARNG medical officer

By Sgt. Stewart Brown and Staff Sgt. Bryant Maude

The California National Guard's 1st Battalion, 143rd Field Artillery reached out for a general medical officer and found Capt. R. Dale Jackson, a Michigan National Guard flight surgeon with the 3rd Battalion, 238th General Support Aviation.

Raised in Prince William County, Va., Jackson currently lives just north of Detroit where he is completing his post-graduate medical specialty training in combined Emergency and Internal Medicine at Henry Ford Macomb Hospitals.

"The Soldiers are lucky to have someone like him," said Maj. Michael Wise, the 1st Battalion, 143rd Field Artillery executive officer. "He sees things in a broader sense and works hard to make sure the right things are done for them."

Jackson's 18-year Army career is a combination of active duty, Army Reserves and National Guard service. It was the encouragement of some fellow battalion surgeons and physician assistants that led him to pursue a career as a physician.



Photo by Sgt. Stewart Brown

Capt. R. Dale Jackson, a Michigan National Guard flight surgeon with the 3rd Battalion, 238th General Support Aviation checks out a Soldier with 1st Battalion, 143rd Field Artillery. Jackson is assigned to the 1st Battalion, 143rd Field Artillery at Camp Taji, Iraq.

**"It's not everyday you get to take care of the best patients in the world; the American Soldier."**

*Capt. R. Dale Jackson*

"Having the opportunity to deploy in a time of war is, in a sense, me coming full circle," said Jackson. "It's not everyday you get to take care of the best patients in the world; the American Soldier."

Jackson is proud of his service in the National Guard and is amazed by

the large number of guardsman serving in Iraq.

"The fact that yesterday they were lawyers, salesclerks, office workers and contractors, and today they are professional Soldiers serving as infantrymen, military police, combat truck drivers, logisticians amazes me," said Jackson.

"They are performing admirably and their dedication, commitment and professionalism should fill their families and every Americans' heart with pride," he added.

After his service in Iraq, Dr. Jackson will head back to work and complete his post-graduate specialty training. He plans to work full time for a health care system and serve in the Army National Guard until retirement.

---

## Airmen honored at 127th Commander's Call

By Staff Sgt. Dan Heaton

Airman who have gone above and beyond the call of duty at home and abroad – in both ongoing operations and from the days before the Air Force even became a separate service – were honored during a 127th Wing Commander's Call at Selfridge Air National Guard Base on Dec. 2, 2007.

Eight Airmen from the 127th Wing of the Michigan Air National Guard were honored as Outstanding Airmen of the Year by the Wing. These Airmen will be announced in a later issue of *The Wolverine Guard*.

In addition to Airmen of the Year announcements, Col. John Theisen, commander of the 127th Wing Maintenance Group, was awarded a second Bronze Star for his actions in Afghanistan.

In May-August 2007, Theisen served as the commander of the 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Group while

engaged in ground operations against the enemy at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. He commanded more than 650 personnel in three aircraft maintenance units responsible for F-15, A-10 and C-130 aircraft. During his period of command, the aircraft employed over 96 tons of ordnance, moved 7,500 tons of cargo and transported 23,000 passengers.

Theisen's proactive leadership resulted in a 100 percent flying scheduling effectiveness rate and a five percent increase in mission capable rates for the F-15s and A-10s his group maintained. These actions were accomplished while his group was subject to indirect fires that struck within close proximity to his maintenance personnel, during a high-action period of combat in Operation Enduring Freedom.

Col. David Miller, 127th Wing vice commander congratulates James Marbry (left) after presenting him with his long overdue Distinguished Flying Cross at a 127th Wing ceremony held Dec. 2, 2007. Marbry, a World War II veteran, was a B-17 waist gunner with the 381st Heavy Bombardment group and one of the first to fly in a daylight raid over Berlin on March 6, 1944.



Photo by Technical Sgt. David Kujawa

Technical Sgt. (ret.) James Marbry was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross medal that he earned in action over the skies of Germany during World War II.

Marbry was honored for his actions while serving as a waist gunner in a B-17 aircraft during the first daylight bombing mission over Berlin during World War II. He also served as a ball turret gunner and radio operator during his 24 missions with the 8th Air Force of the U.S. Army Air Corps. On his 24th mission, in May 1944, Marbry's aircraft was shot down and he was captured by the German Air Force. He spent the next 11 months in a German prisoner of war camp.

Marbry was accompanied by many family members and friends, including his grandson, Air Force Master Sgt. Michael Marbry, who was able to fly home from Ramstein Air Base in Germany, where he is currently stationed, to attend the ceremony.

In the midst of all the recognition it was also a time to say goodbye to the old and welcome to the Wing's new command chief master sergeant, the senior enlisted advisor. The change of command was passed from Chief Master Sgt. Steven Krajewski to Chief Master Sgt. Keith Edwards. Krajewski retired in February after more than 25 years of military service.

"You are America's finest," Krajewski said as he addressed the Wing. "I couldn't possibly carry the flag of the 127th Wing if it had a streamer on it for every one of your accomplishments."

After accepting the Wing's flag from Krajewski in the time-honored change of command ceremony, Edwards urged the Airmen to continue to excel through the ongoing transformation of the Wing.

"I challenge everyone in the Wing to embrace the change, to challenge it and make it right," said Edwards.

---

## CSMS operation more mission practical, environmentally sound

By Jean Linderman and Tom Pavlik

When a new Combined Support Maintenance Shop (CSMS) for the Michigan Army National Guard was planned, CSMS staff knew they wanted their shop to be efficient and utilize new technologies. Saving time and money, while protecting the environment, was at the forefront of everybody's thoughts. As a result, many pollution prevention control measures were installed at the facility. This is especially true in the painting operation managed by the CSMS Allied Trades Section. New pollution prevention technologies were put to work and now their benefits are being realized. Their operation is more mission practical, environmentally sound, and therefore more sustainable.

One of the most promising new technologies utilized in the painting operation at the CSMS is the Closed Loop Advanced Water-jet System (CLAWS) used in the paint stripping bay. CLAWS is a paint stripping operation designed to remove old paint with water instead of the typical, more commonly used blasting material. Before new paint can be applied to vehicles and equipment, any old paint must first be removed to allow for good adhesion and an even coat.

The traditional way to prepare vehicles and equipment for painting is by chemical stripping, sanding, or the use of an abrasive blast media, all of which can potentially generate a significant amount of hazardous waste. Instead,

**Continued on page 18**

CLAWS uses a high pressured water jet to remove old paint, a process that significantly reduces the amount of hazardous waste generation. CLAWS delivers up to 40,000 psi of water pressure but only uses approximately three gallons per minute in water consumption. Furthermore, wastewater flowing into drains from the paint stripping operation is sent through a recycling process that utilizes a series of filters, centrifuge, and deionizing tanks, thus producing clean water for re-use.



Because of the closed loop feature, water is not wasted as it continuously runs through the cycle. The Allied Trades staff at the CSMS likes the ease and simplicity of this system that can strip paint at a comparable, if not faster, rate than conventional stripping methods (personnel strip approximately four to seven vehicles per month, in addition to numerous other pieces of equipment of varying size). Moreover, personnel do not have the added worry of generating a large amount of waste, nor do they have to spend a significant amount of time managing the waste. In fact, the CLAWS operation only generates approximately 15 pounds of hazardous waste per month or less, keeping their hazardous waste quantities from growing larger and thus keeping their operating costs low.

Another new technology in the painting process at the CSMS is the use of high volume, low pressure paint guns instead of conventional air-spray guns. These guns use less paint material than traditional guns making the painting process more efficient. More paint material hits the vehicle. Less paint is sent airborne which means less over-spray that would otherwise end up in the paint booth filtering system. The reduction in filter use and disposal saves time and money. So does the fact that less product is used. The painters also note that clean up is easier and less labor intensive.

The CSMS has made the switch from using a solvent-based Chemical Agent Resistant Coating (CARC) paint and primer to a water-based CARC paint and primer on tactical vehicles. The water-based CARC and primer contain no hazardous air pollutants such as methyl isobutyl ketone or toluene, and therefore have significantly reduced air emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds. Water-based CARC and primer were created to meet Clean Air Act regulations but they also have the added benefit of being safer for painters, and significantly reduce the hazardous waste stream volume for the painting operation. Moreover, from a mission perspective, the water-based CARC and the water-based primer are less labor intensive to use, and the water-based CARC paint reportedly is up to three times more durable than conventional solvent-based CARC paint.

The CSMS Allied Trades Section realizes that having the right equipment and using the right materials are not enough in the painting process.

“Having properly trained painting technicians is also paramount to an efficient painting operation” said Chief Warrant Officer Richard Wilder, supervisor of the CSMS Allied Trades Section.

According to Wilder, the total hazardous waste disposal cost for the painting operation was less than \$1,000 for fiscal year 2007.

“If it wasn’t for pollution prevention initiatives that we employ in our painting operation, I have to believe our operating costs would be much higher, perhaps even an order of magnitude higher,” said Wilder.

## CURRENTLY DEPLOYED

HHD, 177th Military Police Brigade  
 ETT Joint Force Headquarters  
 107th Engineer Battalion  
 1st Battalion 125 Infantry Regiment  
 1st Battalion 126th Armor  
 126th Press Camp Headquarters  
 Joint Force Headquarters Element FWD  
 1071st Maintenance Company  
 127th Wing  
 110th Fighter Wing  
 CRTC-Alpena

Iraq  
 Afghanistan  
 Iraq  
 Iraq/Kuwait  
 Iraq/Kuwait  
 Iraq  
 Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan  
 Germany  
 United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Turkey  
 Operation Jump Start  
 Hawaii

# RFSC, a new Michigan Guard home and abbreviation

Story and Photo by Master Sgt. Ronald Raffik

RFSC and JFRC; new abbreviations for Soldiers and Airmen at Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ) in Lansing to add to the list of many others. However, the newly renovated Reserve Forces Support Center (RFSC), part of the Joint Forces Readiness Center (JFRC), welcomed its new tenants in mid-January and early February.

Despite sub-zero temperatures, bitter cold wind-chills, and nearly record-breaking snowfall, state and federal components of the Michigan National Guard and the Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs moved into the RFSC, formerly known as the Baker-Olin Building at 3423 North Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. The building is co-located with the Combined Support Maintenance Shop (CSMS) and the Multi-Unit Readiness Center (MURC).

"The completion of the RFSC brings phase one to its finishing point," said Col. Dwight Mickelson of the Facilities Management Office. "Phase two, the warehouse and supply function for the USPFO (United States Property and Fiscal Office), Recruiting and Retention Command (RRC), the USMC (United States Marine Corps), and other units, will begin this summer, and will be complete in one year."

The 128,400 square foot RFSC is now home to the 46th Military Police Command, state and federal Human Resource Offices, RRC, the USPFO, Facilities

Management Office, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Military Support, State Finance Office, Environmental Office, Safety and Occupational Health, Distance Learning, Visual Information, and USMC Reserves.

"The RFSC has many 'firsts' to its credit," said Mickelson. "It is our first attempt at a 'Green Building' concept."

The green building concept means that approximately 90 percent of the building's material was recyclable. The facility also has increased insulation in the walls and decking, and a revolving door. The revolving door maintains a continuous seal to the outside air while allowing a constant flow of in-and-outbound foot traffic. The windows are blast resistant, and the building has the highest 'R' value relative to the overall insulation factor.

The RFSC was a de-construction (short for demolish-construction), and the largest ever in the Michigan National Guard. "When projects increase in scope, and you think you have a handle on things, you realize the need for communication," Mickelson said about the planning, research, and coordination required to finish the project.

"It is the most difficult move we have ever done when you consider the various locations and the number of people," Mickelson said. "But we were on time and within budget. It's a good-news story."



State and federal components of the Michigan National Guard and the Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs moved into the newly renovated Reserve Forces Support Center (RFSC), formerly known as the Baker-Olin Building at 3423 North Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

# STARBASE's Koscak receives RARE Everyday Hero Award

By Alan Hibbert

Barbara Koscak, co-founder and executive director of STARBASE, Michigan has been selected as the first 2008 recipient of the RARE Foundation's Everyday Hero Award. As the RARE Foundation's 50th Everyday Hero Award recipient (since its inception), she received her award in a special halftime ceremony at the Detroit Pistons (also celebrating their 50th anniversary) game on Feb. 10 at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

STARBASE, an experience-based aerospace learning environment was developed in 1989 to spark young people's interest in math, science and technology. Koscak, then a Utica Community Schools teacher, was the driving force along with Selfridge Commander, Brigadier General David Arendts (ret); former F-16 pilot Richard Racosky; and a Wayne State student Rick Simms.

Koscak had been fascinated by space and flight since she was 10; however, "little girls" did not grow up to be test pilots in the '60s. But she read and studied everything she could anyway, and ultimately decided to become a teacher so that she could inspire young people to pursue their dreams. Once in the classroom however, the reality was that most of her students weren't the least bit interested in math or science, and hardly any had aspirations for careers in engineering or technology. Raised with a strong bias for action, she couldn't just sit back and watch, so she started to dream up STARBASE.

She approached Gen. Arendts with the idea of creating a reality-based aerospace curriculum at Selfridge around real airplanes, and to engage the pilots stationed there to help with the teaching and be the role models. Gen. Arendts then introduced Barbara to Racosky and she met Simms through Civil Air Patrol; together they developed the first STARBASE curriculum to inspire students by immersing them in a real-world aerospace environment.

A three-year grant from the Kellogg Foundation gave the idea legs, and in the summer of 1990, the first STARBASE class was formed. Fifth grade students would come to Selfridge one day

a week over a five week period to learn Newton's laws of motion, the four forces of flight, and Bernoulli's Principle. Potentially boring stuff until you put it in the context of



Photo courtesy of the RARE Foundation  
Barbara Koscak, co-founder and executive director of STARBASE, has been selected as the first 2008 recipient of the RARE Foundation's Everyday Hero Award.

actual flight simulators, designing and flying model rockets, and being assigned to the crew of a full-scale space station laboratory.

The results were so impressive that in 1992, with the support of Michigan Senator Carl Levin, Congress approved federal funding for the first STARBASE at Selfridge under the Department of Defense. A year later, funding was increased to establish STARBASE installations in five states. Today that five has grown to 57.

The STARBASE curriculum also incorporates the principles of teamwork, goal-setting, and even substance abuse prevention to help students raise their own self-esteem and develop a passion for exploration and tackling the unknown.

"We focus on 5th and 6th graders," Koscak says, "because that's the time in their lives when they start to get motivated about what they want to grow up to be. We didn't want them turned off by science just because it was hard for them."

Obviously, it has worked. Nationwide research among STARBASE graduates shows 80 percent demonstrate an increased interest in math and the sciences, and more than 70 percent gain an improved interest in school.



Photo courtesy of the RARE Foundation  
Barbara Koscak, founding mother of STARBASE, is said to be a "true role model for Michigan's youth."

Koscak recalls one of her favorite stories; “Two young boys on break were overheard talking. One said to the other, ‘This is so cool; I wish I could live here, I would go to school every day of the week.’ That told me were doing it right,” she said. “Educated, motivated children are not only our goal, they’re our future.”

Koscak did not become an astronaut, but that has not held her back from flying in an F-16, being honored with the A. Scott Crossfield National Aerospace Educator of the Year Award, and meeting Presidents Reagan and Bush.

Alan Shepherd, the first American in space, spoke highly of Koscak. “I have never known a more effective, enthusiastic, professional teacher. Her move’em, motivate’em technique is dynamic,” he said.

But most important to Koscak is the fact that STARBASE has helped change the thinking, and in many cases the dreams, of thousands of young people in Michigan and across America.

In announcing the award, Alan Hibbert, executive director of the RARE Foundation said, “Barbara Koscak is a true role model for Michigan’s youth. She embodies all the attributes of an Everyday Hero; doing more than she is asked, giving back more than she takes, and leaving things better than she found them, every day.”

## About the RARE Foundation Everyday Hero Award

At a time when our culture has lost sight of its true heroes and material things have replaced character as the currency for measuring success, the RARE Foundation celebrates the lives of everyday people, who through extraordinary commitment, courage and compassion are changing lives... and inspiring others. Its programs provide a forum for these extraordinary individuals to inspire youth to see possibilities and connect the dots between their education, fulfilling careers and meaningful lives. For more information, contact the RARE Foundation, [www.rarefoundation.org](http://www.rarefoundation.org).



## Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

From Nov. 16, 2007 through Feb. 15, 2008

### Army Guard

#### Col.

Taylor, Julia  
Wagh, Ravindra

#### Maj.

Bleau, Joseph  
Cooper, Stacey

#### Capt.

Scott, Kevin

#### 1st Lt.

Bennett, David  
Bowles, Joshua  
Cichon, Mesha  
Exton, Kenneth  
Parker, Amanda  
Sylvester, Adam  
Vandusen, John

#### 2nd Lt.

Betz, Adam  
Rice, Daniel  
Trujillo, Raphael  
Wilk, Patrick  
Zeller, James

#### Warrant Officer 4

Bourdon, Patrick  
Johnson, Cynthia

#### Warrant Officer 2

Harding, Vickie  
Hollon, Steven  
Teepel, Linda

#### Warrant Officer

Foreback, Randy  
Quimby, Christopher

#### Sgt. Maj.

Tompkins, Randall

#### Master Sgt.

Amy, James  
Darling, Mark

Howard, Cassandra  
McDaniels, Mark

Mikolajczyk, Norris  
Miller, Perry

Morrison, William  
Rusaw, Robert

#### Sgt. 1st Class

Schifferer, Paul  
Adams, Edward

Albright, Eric  
Anderson, Laurence

Bogowski, Timothy  
Burch, Shawn

Buttel, Adam  
Byrdo, Roshonda

Caswell, Mark  
Christiansen, Kevin

Davis, Matthew  
Davis, Michael

Dubbs, Michael  
Eagle, James  
Ellis, Douglas  
Emory, Michael

Graham, Jonathon  
Griswold, David

Hyde, Daniel  
Johnson, Jeremiah

Lentini, Jerod  
Owen, Jillian

Plue, Warren  
Post, Brandon

Reese, Vitula  
Rhodes, Scott

Rucker, Latanza  
Schopp, David

Sisson, Tyler  
Stevens, Ross

Sutton, James  
Wilkinson, Michael

#### Staff Sgt.

Alexander, Darin  
Allen, Robert

Anderson, Robert  
Anderson, Stephan

Baumgras, Heather  
Becktel, Matthew

Bogucki, Joseph  
Bragg, Doreia

Brooks, Derrick  
Cain, Jason

Carlson, Frank  
Carpenter, Jacob

Chrisopoulos, Anthony  
Collins, Reginald

Corby, Robert  
Cowan, Timothy

Dalgord, Marshall  
Day, Calvin

Dillion, Wilson  
Drake, William

Duncan, Rex  
Eskola, Benjamin

Fowler, Kevin  
Fulkerson, Kenneth

Gessner, John  
Gingrich, Todd

Glass, David  
Grant, Wayne

Gunneson, Zachary  
Harder, Brian

Hawthorne, Jon  
Haynes, Lalillian

Hicks, Lee  
Horton, Christopher

Houston, Mark  
Kenny, Roger

Kinney, Terrance  
Maddix, James

Magoon, Timothy  
Mcgee, James

Mcginnis, Daniel  
Medina, Jesus

Mesner, Jason  
Mox, Timothy

Osborne, Danny

Ostrander, Douglas  
Palmer, William

Parks, Jack  
Pigeon, Joseph

Price, John  
Proehl, Benjamin

Proulx, Justin  
Quick, Derek

Randall, Albert  
Rohde, Walter

Schinsky, Michael  
Sesnie, Christopher

Smith, Jason  
Sovey, Andrew

Stoops, Mary  
Swanson, Michael

Vazquez, Vicente  
Wall, Garrette

Weatherspoon, Robert  
Webb, Michael

Whitcher, Sharon  
Wright, Patrick

Young, Stephanie

#### Sgt.

Alatabi, Odee  
Allen, Daniel

Armstrong, Sean  
Ashby, Derek

Beaudry, Preston  
Beliossian, Hagop  
Benchley, Matthew

Berry, Kaylaya  
Berryman, Daniel

Bourner, Curtiss  
Bretz, Robert

Bronkema, Ryan  
Brown, Joseph

Brown, Shenandoah  
Browning, Travis

Brumbaugh, Christopher  
Bryant, Jeremiah

Bryant, Kervin  
Byl, Maurice

Cage, Jamil  
Cole, William

Corey, Clark  
Czarnecki, Brandon

Davis, Jamie  
Dewey, Kenneth

Dykstra, Theodore  
Elder, Hank

Ellis, Daniel  
Elmassry, Mohamed

Ervin, Jerrod  
Fell, Deanne

Fomby, Terry  
Francek, Jordan

Francisco, Chad  
Gamble, Jeffrey

Gifford, Christopher  
Giroux, Ryan

Gordon, Daniel

Gorney, Autumn  
Hall, Christopher

Harriger, Daryl  
Hatchew, Ronald

Herron, Donald  
Hickok, James

Horton, Joshua  
Hull, Johnny

Ibrahim, Hany  
Janulis, Paul

Johnson, Matthew  
Johnston, Thomas

Jones, Terence  
Kamali, Mehrdad

Kirby, Brandon  
Kniffin, Andrew

Kolbus, Michelle  
Kovacs, George

Kue, Sue  
Lindsay, Sara

Loper, Don  
Madut, Santino

Mcdermott, Michael  
Meerman, Brice

Meyette, Leslie  
Miller, David

Miller, Ryan  
Miller, Tammy

Moberly, Jay  
Momber, Aaron

Mosley, Jarvis

## Promotions continued

Murphy, Brooke	Bigham, Joseph	Huyck, Jason	Smuts, Luke	Camargo, Jason	Liu, Yalin	Stitt, David
Nagle, Scott	Bishop, Dmario	Jasmin, Bruce	Sparks, Douglas	Campbell, Seth	Lockridge, Desiree	Stokes, Jamie
Pap, Vasile	Blevins, Ephraim	Johnson, Bryan	Spring, Brandon	Carlson, Samantha	Mallams, Justin	Stokes, Jonathan
Pedrigi, Robert	Bond, Justin	Johnson, Christopher	Spry, Matthew	Catlett, Dillon	Mancinelli, Ryan	Syrek, Casey
Pendleton, Reginald	Boogren, Sarah	Johnson, Michael	Stivers, Joseph	Chapman, Tracy	Mann, Bradley	Talbot, Michael
Peterson, Chad	Bouzios, John	Jokinen, Donnie	Strang, Heather	Chevalier, Ronald	Martin, Capri	Talley, Ashley
Peterson, John	Broadhurst, Daniel	Jones, Christopher	Stricklin, Gordon	Churchman, David	Mcaffrey, Levon	Taylor, Rodney
Phillips, Vernetta	Bryant, Byrd	Kangara, William	Striggow, Kenneth	Collett, Dakota	McLane, Adam	Tennis, Nicole
Piccard, Aaron	Buckner, Kristina	Klimczyk, Scott	Switzer, Simeon	Colon, Angel	McLean, Celeste	Thacker, Aaron
Pitts, Christopher	Bullock, David	Kosloski, Matthew	Taylor, Krysta	Conkey, George	Merrill, Seth	Theoret, Ryan
Prell, Richard	Bungart, Shaun	Langerak, Bradley	Telgenhof, James	Cooper, Phillip	Meyer, Casey	Thomas, Josh
Pruden, Cody	Caraballomorán, Anthony	Laverty, Daniel	Tester, Joshua	Cudd, Zachary	Mitchell, Allen	Tolentino, David
Purol, David	Caron, Seth	Loneragan, Brian	Thomas, Jason	Cumbie, Justin	Mitchell, Ryan	Tritten, Jeremy
Rabideau, Randall	Castle, Jeffery	Long, Casey	Thompson, Curtis	Currie, Joseph	Mladenoff, William	Wagner, Jeffrey
Rashad, Medhat	Childers, Elise	Macdonald, Andrew	Thompson, Jacob	Daleiden, Kyle	Moody, Terrance	Waite, Michael
Reinmann, Derrin	Clark, Matthew	Mahone, Justin	Tidswell, Jamie	Davis, Joshua	Moran, Abbey	Waldrup, Stanley
Reyes, Sergio	Clay, Lavell	Manninen, Matthew	Tipsword, Scott	Demattia, Joseph	Morris, Michael	Wambach, Allison
Ritter, Jason	Cleberg, Grant	Marshschweitzer, Jacob	Towns, Donald	Derby, Harry	Munn, Matthew	Warfield, Jeffrey
Rose, Joseph	Codden, Janeen	Marth, Cory	Trotter, Stephen	Dillow, Aaron	Murdock, Michael	Webb, Timothy
Rudd, Jeremy	Colby, Justin	McClelland, Brad	Trudeau, Laurie	Doman, Scott	Mwangi, Martin	Werer, Jessica
Saad, Jalil	Conklin, Michael	McCloskey, Kyle	Tuberville, Ronda	Downing, John	Nabkey, Ryan	Whipple, Craig
Sakri, Dhafer	Connell, Charles	McDonald, David	Turnbull, Simone	Doyle, Jason	Nardone, Matthew	Wilk, James
Sanderfer, William	Cosman, Nicole	Means, Bronson	Uhl, Daniel	Driesenga, Randy	Narhi, Ashley	Willemstein, Ryan
Schafer, Angela	Craig, Roger	Monroy, Robert	Vanmaldeghem, Steven	Ebaugh, Jacob	Nelson, Michael	Williams, Terrence
Sheaffer, Jonathan	Cross, Justin	Moore, Michael	Virshek, John	Eckardt, Robert	Nichols, Christopher	Williamson, Brad
Sheehan, David	Curtis, Andrew	Morehouse, Michael	Vu, Thuy	Eckert, Jason	Oconnor, Jared	Wirsing, Michael
Sheehan, John	Dannemiller, Marcus	Morsi, Joseph	Waayenberg, Justin	Eerdmans, Timothy	Odor, Crystal	Wright, Robert
Stephens, Michael	Davey, Jacob	Mortensen, Dale	Waldorf, Jacob	Eldred, Megan	Oganyan, Stanislón	Wykes, Chad
Tate, Cullen	Davis, Elizabeth	Murdock, Jordan	Warrens, Shanice	Essex, Diamond	Ornelas, Wellington	Yonker, Patrick
Terhaar, Donald	Day, Michael	Myers, Cory	Webster, Corren	Estep, James	Orozco, Wellington	Zimmer, Jason
Tinker, Jasen	Deck, Darin	Neigerbickham, Christopher	Weiss, Andrew	Flexon, Jonathan	Ottusch, Josef	<b>Pvt. 2</b>
Trigger, Wade	Deyoung, Donald	Nichols, Graham	Welcenbach, Mollie	Freebern, Sean	Oviedo, Benjamin	Aldrich, Tommy
Troeger, Andrew	Dillenbeck, Christopher	Nielsen, Jason	Welsheimer, Douglas	Frizzell, Jesse	Paciocco, Nicholas	Alicea, Clara
Vandervoord, Timothy	Dillon, Chadwick	Oates, James	White, Eric	Gary, Gene	Patterson, Katie	Allen, Antonio
Varela, Brian	Dore, William	Osborn, Joseph	Whitty, Jeffery	Gendron, Jeffrey	Paulson, Todd	Allstetter, Warren
Varoni, Caleb	Dugas, Brian	Paepke, Robert	Wier, Brent	Giuliani, Danielle	Petrou, John	Almstadt, Raymond
Watson, Eric	Eberts, Robert	Palmer, Brian	Wilberding, Ian	Grant, Justin	Phillips, William	Athan, Robert
Wells, William	Ellinwood, Brent	Penfield, Jeffrey	Willey, Mathew	Green, Eric	Popour, Jerry	Aulgur, Dwayne
Wennersten, Curtis	Erspamer, Aaron	Pepper, Jesse	Wright, Jesse	Greer, Joshua	Porter, Travis	Banks, Brean
Wiley, Stephen	Eshelman, Kent	Perez, Amanda	Wright, Kyle	Grimm, Jacob	Powell, Joseph	Beard, Matthew
Winowiecki, David	Ferguson, Diana	Phillips, Shane	Yandell, Zane	Grove, Matthew	Prichard, Alexander	Behmlander, William
Witters, Andrew	Fether, Andrew	Powers, Ashley	Yearsovich, Andrea	Haire, Jeremy	Prince, Clifford	Bennett, Kevin
Witucki, Kurt	Filion, Sabrina	Prater, Andrew	<b>Pfc.</b>	Harger, Karl	Raish, Johnathan	Bergsma, Jeffrey
Wright, Anthony	Finstrom, Joshua	Prether, Joshua	Abbeg, Christopher	Harris, Alexander	Reinhardt, Andrea	Bhola, Thomas
Xiong, Parady	Flores, Gregory	Querfurth, Justin	Adams, Ryan	Heflin, Joshua	Resendez, Mario	Bigham, Christopher
<b>Spc.</b>	Fox, Brian	Quintana, Marisol	Adams, Scott	Higgins, Ryan	Richardson, Ryan	Blunt, Nicholas
Andersen, Adam	Frato, Cortney	Radich, Christopher	Agema, Timothy	Hill, Gregory	Ritter, David	Bourne, Joshua
Aranda, Christopher	French, Joshua	Rajacic, Alan	Alfaro, Stephen	Hooyer, Joshua	Ritthaler, Matthew	Boyd, James
Armijo, Emily	Garcia, Robert	Ramer, Mark	Amshey, Chad	Hosteter, David	Robinson, Johnathan	Brown, Armanda
Arter, Richard	Gates, Floyd	Regelin, Ciarra	Andersen, Ryan	Hotsinpiller, Jonathan	Salters, Christopher	Brown, Ronald
Avery, Derik	George, Daniel	Rench, Andrew	Apger, Timothy	Hotsinpiller, Joseph	Schahezinski, Brittany	Brunger, Michael
Axe, Stanley	Gilbert, Travis	Ross, Carrie	Baron, Allison	Hough, Joshua	Schember, Shane	Burns, Michelle
Ayala, Alexander	Gore, Keith	Runyon, Edward	Bartlett, Kristen	Jaworski, Wayne	Schroen, Jeffrey	Butler, David
Badertscher, Gary	Green, Brian	Schaut, Robert	Beattie, Dinielle	Johnson, Matthew	Seageren, Robert	Cadeau, Jean
Bailey, Thomas	Haataja, Matthew	Scoles, Christopher	Bebow, Chase	Jones, Andrew	Seeley, Anthony	Carrier, Jamie
Ball, Jonathan	Henry, Andrew	Sells, Jack	Benson, Justin	Jones, Daniel	Simpson, James	Caudill, Lance
Bannerman, Jesse	Hertzog, Kirsten	Sells, Shawn	Blakney, Andrew	Kievit, David	Smith, Andrew	Champagne, Bradley
Barnhardt, Robert	Hilbrand, Matthew	Servello, Joseph	Bloomfield, Kaitlyn	Kimes, Christopher	Smith, Joshua	Choice, Andre
Barrette, William	Hills, Matthew	Shafer, Kristopher	Blow, Joshua	Kliemann, Elyse	Soules, Amanda	Clark, Joshua
Bates, Stephen	Horne, Janie	Sherd, Robert	Boertje, Christopher	Kreitner, Jeffery	Southard, James	Coleman, Alanda
Beattie, Matthew	Horst, Cory	Sloan, Benjamin	Bouknight, Chester	Kuffer, Matthew	Speier, Jonathon	Collins, Mario
Bell, Craig	Howe, Chadwick	Smith, David	Brooks, Eric	Larson, Thomas	Spivack, Justin	Comtois, Krystal
Bengal, Douglas	Hoyt, Evan	Smith, Gerald	Brown, Brandy	Laurell, Robert	Stanislawski, Nathaniel	Cooley, Jason
Bennett, Dawn	Huston, Erin	Smith, Jacqueline	Brown, David	Lemley, Pamela	Stanton, Lucus	Cooney, Mitchell
Bergeron, Shane	Hutchinson, Eric	Smith, Michael	Brown, Jacqueline	Lentz, Daniel	Stevens, William	Covey, Sean
Bernal, Ami	Hutchinson, Mark	Smith, Wade	Brunger, Gregory	Lewis, Michael	Stitt, Chad	Crawford, Paula

Curtis, Brian	Jones, Justin	Reedy, Sawyer	Winters, Timothy	Ondersma, Mark	Blumke, Derek	Young, Redena
Cushman, Nathan	Kelly, Brandon	Reynolds, Joseph	Worden, Alex	Paulson, Kevin	Cassada, Donald	<b>Senior Airman</b>
Davidson, Taylor	Kenney, Mandy	Richards, Corey		Rurka, Eric	Corey, Anthony	Bursott, Danielle
Davy, Felicia	King, Alexander	Ross, Richard	<b>Air Guard</b>	Stockwell, Paul	Dailey, David	Cathey, Wytina
Dheel, Beecher	Kitchenhoff, Rollie	Rusticus, Cory		Stowell, Ezekiel	Dailey, David	Deming, Cassandra
Dietrich, Joshua	Korte, Alexander	Schipani, Michael	<b>Maj.</b>	<b>Technical Sgt.</b>	Falster, Christopher	Deming, John
Dupree, Marques	Kryka, Richard	Seguin, Rosemarie	Leonard, Brian	Desser, Jennifer	Farrell, George	Fetters, Christopher
Feldpausch, Daniel	Kuhn, Derek	Sentz, Robert	Sims, Emory	Fisher, Richard	Fielhauer, Brian	Fetty, Glenn
Feliciano, Andrew	Kyle, Christina	Shardlow, Brennan	<b>Capt.</b>	Foy, Dandrea	Gault, William	Fieryrepic, Roberta
Ferguson, Joshua	Lambert, Darin	Shingola, James	Karth, Robert	Franks, Barbara	Hash, Jeffrey	Gee, Cailean
Fishel, Daniel	Lange, David	Simpson, Rondale	Prough, Jeffry	Harris, Chad	Heinz, Corey	Glenn, Brianne
France, Michael	Latreille, Kevin	Singhurst, Trevor	Snyder, Charles	Haywood, Ryan	Hildreth, Antonina	Grandchamp, Hector
Fry, Randy	Leclair, Kyle	Sissom, Jonathon	Voyce, Christopher	Herrada, Veronica	Johnson, Steven	Greiner, Quentin
Gail, Kimberly	Legg, Henry	Smith, David	<b>1st Lt.</b>	Johnson, Andrew	Kaarlela, Robert	Hauck, Gregory
Gapske, Joshua	Lindle, Jonethan	Smith, Evan	Corl, Steve	Kinstle, Thomas	Keely, Barry	Holm, Jason
Gartley, John	Macdonald, Aaron	Snell, Gerald	Sobran, Michael	Kuhlmann, Darren	Klemanski, David	Howard, Adam
Gildner, Christopher	Maxwell, Cory	Spigelmyre, Joshua	<b>2nd Lt.</b>	Kunik, Nathan	Letke, David	Lucas, Pamela
Grzybowski, Tiffany	McCune, Megan	Sprague, Gregory	Brannan, Barry	Martin, John	Long, Damon	Luckett, Joseph
Guyor, Mark	McDowell, Jontavius	Sprowl, Teilah	Radmacher, Jason	Mikowski, Veronica	Olmstead, Jesse	Medaniels, Robert
Haines, Howard	Mcginnis, Carl	Sprutte, Lucas	<b>Chief Master Sgt.</b>	Miller, Thomas	Patel, Mineshkumar	Mchenry, Shawn
Hammons, Thomas	Menutt, James	Steinmetz, Jeffrey	Herman, Thomas	Neil, Ryan	Payne, Benjamin	Moyer, Michael
Harwood, Matthew	Miller, Alvin	Stout, Jonathan	<b>Senior Master Sgt.</b>	Nichelson, Broc	Ricks, Johnny	Pierce, David
Helman, Gary	Miller, Nicholas	Taylor, Nathaniel	Armocida, Eric	Potgeter, Greg	Rumohr, Martin	Scott, Eric
Heltunen, James	Milligan, Julio	Taylor, Randy	Carley, Norma	Reaser, Brandon	Stein, Jonathan	Smith, Donald
Hilleary, Elizabeth	Mobley, Steven	Thomas, Miles	Czerniak, Brian	Stewart, Brian	Taylor, Kevin	
Hook, Nicholas	Mosley, Dorohn	Tucker, Krystal	Harrigan, Duane	Voories, Farrah	Thomas, Antonina	
Horl, Monorum	Murphy, Laquanda	Turner, Kevin	Nozicka, Christopher	Wagster, Robert	Wesley, Jeremy	
Howe, Nicholas	Nickson, Sean	Turzak, Joshua	<b>Master Sgt.</b>	Weinberg, Chad	Westermann, Duane	
Hudak, Christopher	Niemi, Joshua	Usher, William	Baran, Thomas	West, Ryan	Whiting, Sue	
Hunt, Alicia	Nuyen, Chad	Vanbeest, John	Emery, Thomas	<b>Staff Sgt.</b>	Whitney, Kelli	
Husted, Cassandra	Palmer, Kyle	Vanhout, Laura	Faulkner, Brian	Anderson, Scott	Wierzbowski, Matthew	
Huver, Ann	Pardee, Phillip	Walker, Andrew	Fawcett, Daniel	Asselin, Christopher	Willman, Jared	
Hylton, Christopher	Peffer, Charles	Wallace, Joshua	Horton, Jonathon	Baines, Douglas	Yell, Trisha	
Inman, James	Pepin, Aaron	Walton, Adontae	Kinsel, Robbi			
Jackson, Crystal	Person, Jeremy	Webster, Nathaniel	May, Erik			
Jackson, Shane	Poore, Corey	White, Justin				
Johnson, Dustin	Porter, George	Williams, Justin				
Johnson, Timothy	Ralston, Patrick	Winkel, Brett				

## PTAE continued

The Michigan PTAE team is gradually progressing through the “crawl; walk; run phases.” “We are a year or two closer to our goal,” Wagh said.

The concept of these PTAE teams is reasonably new. Wagh explained that there is no historical data or statistics to pull from to see what works and what does not work. With that in mind, the Michigan PTAE team is essentially making National Guard history.



## TAPS

Spc. Christopher D. Stambaugh, 20, Aug. 17, 2007  
Pfc. Danielle E. Carter, 24, Oct. 04, 2007  
Sgt. Amber L. Weber, 20, Oct. 18, 2007  
Capt. Merton W. Leak, 90, Nov. 13, 2007  
Warrant Officer 4 (Ret), Bruce E. Jerome, 76, Nov. 17, 2007  
Master Sgt. (Ret), Jim Wrobel, 60, Nov. 24, 2007  
Platoon Sgt. (Ret), Fern H. Dahlgren, 82, Nov. 27, 2007  
Maj. (Ret), Edwin K. Kohn, 93, Nov. 29, 2007  
Spc. 6 (Ret), Robert E. Blakeslee, 74, Dec. 02, 2007  
Sgt. Lyle W. Ross, 49, Dec. 06, 2007  
Staff Sgt. Richard A. Keller, 70, Dec. 08, 2007  
Sgt. Mark J. Hopkins, 49, Dec. 09, 2007  
Lt. Col. (Ret), Chester C. Sleight, 89, Dec. 10, 2007  
Pvt. 2 Guy T. Bremmer, 23, Dec. 23, 2007  
Master Sgt. (Ret), Michael D. Hewitt, 61, Jan. 02, 2008  
Col. (Ret), Melvin A. Weber, 86, Jan. 05, 2008  
Sgt. (Ret), Etta D. Williams, 46, Jan. 14, 2008  
Sgt. 1st Class (Ret), Richard L. Thies, 73, Jan. 16, 2008  
Master Sgt. (Ret), Bruce A. Ward, 59, Jan. 17, 2008  
Col. (Ret), Ralph J. Bennett, 75, Jan. 18, 2008  
Warrant Officer 2 (Ret), Donald J. Depetro, 70, Jan. 23, 2008  
Master Sgt. (Ret), Andrew Severn Jr., 83, Jan. 31, 2008  
Pvt. 2 Isaiah F. Merwine, 18, Feb. 03, 2008  
Staff Sgt. (Ret), Joseph F. Kojs, 63, Feb. 06, 2008  
Lt. Col. (Ret), Howard L. Hayworth, 80, Feb. 07, 2008  
Spc. Cleo L. Barksdale Jr., 69, Feb. 08, 2008

# NEXT ISSUE...



Photo by Staff Sgt. Helen Miller

Harold Martin, a drag racing superstar, poses with the new National Guard emblazoned race car at the February 2008 Chicago Auto Show where the announcement was made about the new sponsorship between the National Guard and Harold Martin Racing.

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs  
Michigan Army and Air National Guard  
3411 N. Martin Luther King Blvd.  
Lansing, Michigan 48906

PRESORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
LANSING MI  
PERMIT #1096