

Wall of Honor Ceremony held with Memorial Day event

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# Fallen Virginians remembered on Memorial Day

Virginia National Guard Soldiers who died while serving overseas in the Global War on Terror were remembered along with 263 fellow Virginians during the Commonwealth's Memorial Day Ceremony held May 28 at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond. For the first time, the Memorial Day event incorporated the Wall of Honor ceremony which was previously held at the State Capitol. The Wall of Honor recognizes those Virginians who lost their lives in the Global War on Terror.

"To all the families whose loved ones are pictured on the Wall of Honor, we can never express with appropriate words the sacrifice and pain you have been through for our great nation," said Gov. Bob McDonnell. "For that, we salute you."

Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Long, Jr., the Adjutant General of Virginia, placed a memorial wreath at the Eternal Flame in the Shrine of Memory at the Virginia War Memorial to honor the Virginia National Guard.



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Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/30/1279/>

## Virginia National Guard News Headlines

### 116th BCT HQs holds Freedom Salute to honor service in Afghanistan

Family, friends and employers joined approximately 160 Soldiers from the Virginia National Guard's Staunton-based 116th Brigade Combat Team Headquarters at the Richmond Convention Center May 20 to conduct a Freedom Salute in honor of their service in Afghanistan.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/24/1256/>

### Task Force Punisher Soldiers hold Freedom Salute honoring service in Iraq

Approximately 300 Virginia National Guard Soldiers assigned to the Sandston-based 2nd Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment, 91st Troop Command, also known as Task Force Punisher, gathered at the Richmond Convention Center May 20 to conduct a Freedom Salute in honor of their service in Iraq.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/24/1262/>

### Soldiers compete for top state honors in pistol marksmanship

Nearly 30 Soldiers from seven different Virginia National Guard units competed in the State Pistol Match at Fort Pickett May 18 to 20. Top honors were handed out in individual and team classes.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/22/1269/>

### Engineers crush rock for range improvements at Fort Pickett

Approximately 30 Soldiers from the Fort Pickett-based 157th Engineer Platoon produced more than 4,000 tons of rock, stone and crush and run for various range improvement around the installation during their annual training.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/06/01/1290/>

## Mark Your Calendars!

### June 2: Company C Community Service Day and Open House

Soldiers the Leesburg-based Company C, 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry Regiment, 116th Brigade Combat Team are scheduled to perform community service projects June 2 at locations across the Loudon County area.

Work at the community service project locations is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the unit will host an open house at the Leesburg Armory from 1:30 to 6 p.m.

For more information, contact 1st Lt. Kevin J. Hoffman, commander of Company C, at 571-344-8616 or Maj. Kurt Kobernik, executive officer for 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry Regiment, at 540-280-4810.

# AG and Air Guard leaders brief "State of the State"

Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Long, Jr., the Adjutant General of Virginia, together with leadership from the 192nd Fighter Wing, 203rd RED HORSE Squadron, 200th Weather Flight and Joint Force Headquarters delivered the "State of the State" brief to Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt, III, Director of the Air National Guard, and his Air Staff leadership team May 16 and 17.

The main objective of the two-day event is communication between organizations. Specifically, topics of discussion included: accomplishments, significant issues, areas where assistance may be needed from the National Guard Bureau and mitigation plans.

Long noted that it's also a great opportunity to continue to build relationships, many of which are already in place. "Resources come from this level," Long said. "It is important for them to understand the issues that we deal with, the issues of what's going on in the field, at the unit level."

During the first day, Brig. Gen. Zane R. Johnson, Air Component Commander, together with Air leadership across the state delivered the brief to Brig. Gen. Brian G. Neal, Air National Guard Readiness Center Commander, and the Air Staff. The initial brief was followed by break-out sessions with respective counterparts to take a deeper dive into specific issues and begin making headway on solutions. "We want to try to move the states forward. That's why we have these meetings ... That's our promise to you," said Neal.

On the second day, Johnson and key leaders briefed Wyatt on the issues and the progress being made as a result of the meetings from the previous day and highlighted some of the biggest accomplishments made in the past year.

Recruiting recognized high-performing personnel: Tech. Sgt. Rick Dumas received the Region IV Rookie Recruiter of the Year award; Master Sgt. Neil Keane was recognized for the first, second, and third quarters as the Recruiting and Retention Non-Commissioned Officer with the Most Accessions, and Master Sgt. Dan Miller was recognized for the Century Level Club Award.

The 203rd RED HORSE Squadron highlighted the return of 122 Airmen from a six-month deployment to Southwest Asia in October whereupon 70 projects were completed, valued at \$32 million across 18 sites and seven countries. Construction of the Disaster Relief Beddown System is underway.

The 200th Weather Flight deployed five personnel for six months in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation New Dawn. The flight also conducted a training exercise with the DC Guard's 121st Weather Flight and four training exercises with the 34th Civil Support Team and local first responders. The flight was critical in providing Hurricane Irene weather support.

The 192nd Operations Group was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period from September 2009 to September 2011. During the Unit Compliance Inspection in November, the group was 99% compliant. In September, the F-22 returned to flying operations after a 5-month stand-down.

The 192nd Maintenance Group was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period from September 2009 to



**Col. Thomas K. Wark, commander of the 192nd Fighter Wing, briefs the accomplishments of the wing during the "State of the State" brief May 17.**

September 2011. Additionally, two National Guard Bureau awards were presented to Maintenance professionals: Maj. Matthew Hummel was presented the Lew Allen Award, and Capt. Elim Sniady was presented the Leo Marquez Award.

The 192nd Mission Support Group locally developed a reorganization plan that currently awaits NGB approval and drafted a host-tenant memorandum of understanding with the 633rd Air Base Wing.

The 192nd Medical Group reported a 70% participation rate in the "Tropic Care" humanitarian mission, an Innovative Readiness Training service in Hawaii. During the mission, more than 10,000 patients were treated, providing approximately \$2 million in care, and achieving more than 40,000 hours of training time.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/22/1218/>

## MORE ON THE WEB

### Adjutant General's 2012 Memorial Day Message

<https://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/25/1239/>

### Photos: Governor McDonnell announces new Virginia Veterans ID card

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10150831151810841.394735.52585440840>

### Virginia Guard Soldiers to perform community service projects in Leesburg area

<http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/30/1246/>

### Counterdrug Task Force assisting with summer camps

<http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/18/1299/>

### Petersburg City Council approves agreement for demolition project

<http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/03/1296/>

### LCC publishes Annual Training Safety Message

<http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/30/1312/>

### Virginia National Guard on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/vanguardpao>

### Virginia Guard Public Affairs Flickr Photostream

<http://flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao>

### Virginia Guard Public Affairs YouTube Channel

<http://www.youtube.com/vanguardpao>