

Connelly Award recognizes food service excellence

On page 2: Governor visits Afghanistan

# 1032nd Trans. Co. presented national award

The Virginia Guard's Gate City-based 1032nd Transportation Company received the Department of the Army Philip A. Connelly Award For Excellence in Army Food Service in the Army National Guard Field Kitchen Category July 24, 2013, in Sandston. Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Long, Jr., the Adjutant General of Virginia, presented the award to representatives of the company and its food service section.

"This is another example of how the Virginia National Guard has proven to be among the best in the nation in many different areas," Long said. "I know that a great deal of hard work goes into being competitive for this award, and it sets a high standard that other units want to follow. We appreciate what these Soldiers do for their unit and what the quality of their food service operation means to Soldiers training in the field."

The official announcement for the award was made May 13, 2013, by the Department of the Army.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2013/07/25/4217/>



Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Long, Jr., presents the Department of the Army Connelly Award For Excellence in Army Food Service to representatives of the Gate City-based 1032nd Transportation Company July 24, 2013, in Sandston.

## Virginia National Guard News Headlines

### Va. Guard helicopter crew departs to support Southwest border mission

Soldiers from Detachment 1, Company A, 2nd Battalion, 151st Aviation Regiment departed July 29, 2013, for the Texas border aboard a UH-72 Lakota helicopter from Sandston, Va. Approximately 15 Virginia Guard Soldiers will rotate through Texas between now and the end of October.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2013/07/31/4256/>

### Recruit Sustainment Program named top in the nation

The Virginia Army National Guard's Recruit Sustainment Program earned recognition from the National Guard Bureau as the 2012 Army National Guard Recruit Sustainment Program of the Year.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2013/07/23/4212/>

### Airmen, Soldiers honored by Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce

Virginia National Guard Airmen and Soldiers from Virginia Beach-based units were recognized at the Virginia Beach Armed Forces Awards Luncheon July 18, 2013, at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2013/07/26/4233/>

### 266th MP Company sharpen their skills, compete with each other during AT

Virginia Guard Soldiers from the Manassas-based 266th Military Police Company, 1030th Transportation Battalion, 329th Regional Support Group traveled to both Fort Pickett and Camp Pendleton for annual training July 13-27, 2013, in order to sharpen their individual and collective MP skills.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2013/07/29/4244/>

## Mark Your Calendars!

### Aug. 10: Back to School Bash

The Virginia National Guard is hosting a Back to School Bash at the Great Wolf Lodge on Saturday Aug. 10, 2013, in Williamsburg, Va. The event will cover topics like leadership, anti-bullying, and other issues that may keep youth and teens from looking forward to going back to school.

Lunch will be provided, and the event will be followed up by spending time in the water park. This is a one day event from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. The fee is \$25.00. Checks, cash or money orders are accepted.

For more information, contact Drew Davis, Lead Child and Youth Coordinator at [drew.s.davis@us.army.mil](mailto:drew.s.davis@us.army.mil) or 804-236-7866.

# Governor visits Va. Soldiers in Afghanistan

Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell met with deployed U.S. service members serving in Afghanistan, July 25. His stop at Kandahar Airfield included a visit with Virginia National Guard's 1710th Transportation Company.

The 1710th provides sustainment support to the war fighters in Afghanistan's southern region. McDonnell, a 21-year Army veteran and father of a daughter who deployed to Iraq, said he was proud of the Guardsmen and wanted to personally thank them for the service and sacrifices they make, especially as they traverse throughout the country's dangerous routes.

"You are a terrific unit," said McDonnell, as he addressed the troops who stood before him. "You're a long way from home; you're doing tough, but very important work to resupply some of the people on the front lines."

McDonnell added that the Emporia, Va., based transportation company is among the 9,000 Guardsmen who've served since the September 11, 2001 attacks.

"I can't tell you how proud I am of what you are doing," McDonnell continued. "In most of the previous wars, there was a draft, but this war in Afghanistan (includes) an all-volunteer (U.S.) Army. You Soldiers enlisted or reenlisted knowing that you would be put in harms way; you still chose to do this anyway. To me that is the best that America has to offer - an all volunteer service."

As a token of appreciation for the 1710th's efforts in Afghanistan, the governor presented the Ghost Riders' company commander, Capt. Rodney Rhodes, with a flag that was flown over the state capital, Richmond.

"Thank you for all that you have done in Afghanistan, and for what's still to come" he said, as he thanked Rhodes and his Soldiers for their leadership.

"It's a real incredible honor for me as your governor."



**Gov. Bob McDonnell presents a Virginia flag to Capt. Rodney Rhodes, commander of the 1710th Transportation Company, July 25, 2013, during his trip to Afghanistan to meet with Virginia troops.**

McDonnell travelled to Afghanistan with Montana's Governor, Steve Bullock, who also visited with his hometown troops serving at Kandahar Airfield.

The Soldiers from the 1710th mobilized for federal active duty April 1, 2013, and then spent about 60 days at Fort Hood for final preparations before heading to Afghanistan. They are scheduled to serve on federal active duty for 12 months.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2013/07/25/4220/>



**Gov. Bob McDonnell talks with Soldiers from the 1710th Transportation Company July 25, 2013, during his trip to Afghanistan to meet with Virginia troops.**

## MORE ON THE WEB

**Photos: Governor hosts reception to recognize Va. Guard**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157634885085719/>

**Photos: Soldiers train in virtual environment at Camp Pendleton**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157634797685347/>

**Photos: Va. Guard schoolhouse instructs on motor transport**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157634801846732/>

**Photos: Light infantry leaders assault Fort Pickett training village**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157634804901052/>

**Camp Pendleton CTC launches Facebook page**

<https://www.facebook.com/CampPendletonCTC>

**Va. National Guard Youth Programs on Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/VANGYouthProgram>

**Virginia National Guard on Twitter**

<http://www.twitter.com/VaNationalGuard>

**Virginia National Guard on Facebook**

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