

HJ Resolution No. 385 presented center aisle

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General Assembly commends Va. National Guard

The Virginia General Assembly recognized the Virginia National Guard March 4, 2014, with a center aisle presentation of House Joint Resolution No. 385 commending the Guard for their accomplishments in the last year.

Del. Richard L. Anderson, the patron of the resolution, made the presentation to Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Long, Jr., the Adjutant General of Virginia, on the floor of the House of Delegates.

“We have a ready, reliable and relevant response force here in Virginia,” Anderson said. “It is a privilege to welcome them to Mr. Jefferson’s House.”

Joining the presentation on the House floor were Command Sgt. Maj. Dennis Green, Virginia National Guard Senior Enlisted Leader, Capt. Rodney Rhodes, commander of the 1710th Transportation Company, and Chief Warrant Officer 3 James Robison, automotive maintenance supervisor for the 1710th Transportation Company.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2014/03/04/5027/>



Del. Richard L. Anderson presents House Joint Resolution No. 385 to Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Long, Jr., the Adjutant General of Virginia, March 4, 2014.

Virginia National Guard News Headlines

New commanders announced for 116th IBCT, 183rd RTI, IOSC and Fort Pickett

The Adjutant General of Virginia announced a series of senior officer moves March 12, 2014, that include new commanders for the 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 183rd Regiment, Regional Training Institute, the Fort Pickett Maneuver Training Center and the Information Operations Support Command.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2014/03/13/5064/>

Henrico Fire Chief recognizes Va. Guard Soldier for accident response

Henrico County Division of Fire Chief Anthony E. McDowell presented a certificate of commendation to Staff Sgt. Johnathan Hoggatt of the Virginia National Guard March 11, 2014, in recognition for his actions assisting a Henrico firefighter after his personal vehicle flipped off 295 in Hanover County.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2014/03/12/5057/>

ChalleNGe welcomes two new classes, host of changes to the program

The Virginia Commonwealth ChalleNGe Youth Academy underwent some changes before it welcomed 111 cadets into Class 40 earlier this year. The cadets completed their “acclimation period” into ChalleNGe Jan. 23-31, 2014.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2014/03/11/5054/>

Memorial service honors 203rd RED HORSE Airmen killed in 2001

The Virginia Beach-based 203rd RED HORSE Squadron conducted a memorial ceremony March 3, 2014, at Camp Pendleton to honor 18 unit members and three Florida Army National Guard aviators killed in a plane crash 13 years ago.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2014/03/07/5035/>

Mark Your Calendars!

May 23 & 30: Camp Registration Deadlines

Registration for the Youth Camp must be received by May 23, 2014. The camp will be held at Camp Pendleton from July 20-25 for ages 8-12. The cost is \$150 per child.

Registration for the Teen Camp must be received by May 30, 2014. The camp will be held at Wilderness Adventure at Eagle Landing in New Castle from June 22-26 for ages 13-17. The cost is \$50 per child.

For more info contact Drew Davis at 804.236.7866 or andrew.s.davis87.ctr@mail.mil or Allison Mecadon at 804.236.7865 or allison.e.mecadon.ctr@mail.mil.

Guard, VDF Chaplains hold state workshop

Chaplains and their assistants from the Virginia Army National Guard and the Virginia Defense Force gathered March 1, 2014, at the Fort Pickett-based 183rd Regiment, Regional Training Institute for a day-long State Chaplain Workshop. The event served as an opportunity for chaplains from across the commonwealth to come together for annual sustainment training.

The event attendees primarily serve on unit ministry teams, usually two-person teams consisting of a chaplain and a chaplain's assistant working at the battalion level and fulfilling a valuable role in the units of their assignment. Chaplains are responsible for providing religious coverage and support to Soldiers, regardless of denomination or faith, and to provide support to Soldiers and their families.

During the event, the chaplains received training on recent changes to U.S. Army policy, U.S. Army doctrine, training requirements for unit ministry teams, Soldier care issues, and information on supporting commanders.

For Chaplain (Lt. Col.) J. D. Moore, operations chaplain for the Virginia Army National Guard, one of the best parts of the event was getting together with fellow chaplains.

"The highlight of the event was seeing the UMTs from across the Virginia Army National Guard having fellowship with some of the best and most professional folks in the Army," Moore said. "We rarely are able to meet together to talk about our experiences and ministry."

Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Long, Jr., the Adjutant General of Virginia, was on hand to talk to the chaplains about his goals and vision for the Virginia National Guard, as well as values he believes are important to the success of the organization.

"You are the best of the best training, best equipped, smartest National Guard that the nation has ever known," Long said. "Thank you for all that you do. I'm real proud of the chaplains and some of the things you all do."

Long also took time to answer questions from the chaplains on what the future might hold for the Virginia National Guard.

The chaplains also recognized one of their own, Pastor Robert Lee Farmer, who serves in the Virginia Defense Force. Farmer heads Coan Baptist Church, a Partner in Care participant, who assisted in raising more than \$5,000 for a family in need.

The Partners in Care program was founded by the Chaplain Corps of the Maryland National Guard and has since spread to additional states. The program aims to help reduce stressors that may result in low resiliency among National Guard Soldiers and Airmen and brings together organizations and congregations that have volunteered or requested to support Virginia's Guard families, according to Moore. The various partners involved offer a wide variety of support, including financial assistance, home repair and childcare, and are generally connected to service members in need of support through the Chaplain Corps.

"The chaplain world is a lonely world and few understand our role," Moore said. "Many times we bear the burden of Soldier and family. The position of complete confidentiality means we cannot



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) J. D. Moore (left) and Chaplain (Col.) Todd Combee recognize Virginia Defense Force Chaplain Robert Lee Farmer March 1, 2014, during the State Chaplain Workshop at Fort Pickett. Farmer heads Coan Baptist Church, a Partner in Care participant, who assisted in raising more than \$5,000 for a family in need.

discuss, for any reason, what officers and Soldiers discuss with us. We hear their stories, feel their pain and mourn with them. Coming together for us means caring for each other, even if it is only for one day."

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2014/03/10/5049/>

MORE ON THE WEB

Photos: Virginia Guard Soldiers on duty across the commonwealth for snow response support

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157641809465534/>

Photos: Engineers compete for "best squad" honors

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157642119847165/>

Photos: Cav Soldiers prepare for upcoming evaluations

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157641854737314/>

Photos: Va. Guard Field Artillery conducts live fire

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157641755140243/>

Virginia National Guard Family Assistance Centers

<http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/fac/>

Virginia National Guard Family Programs on Facebook

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

Virginia National Guard on Twitter

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

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