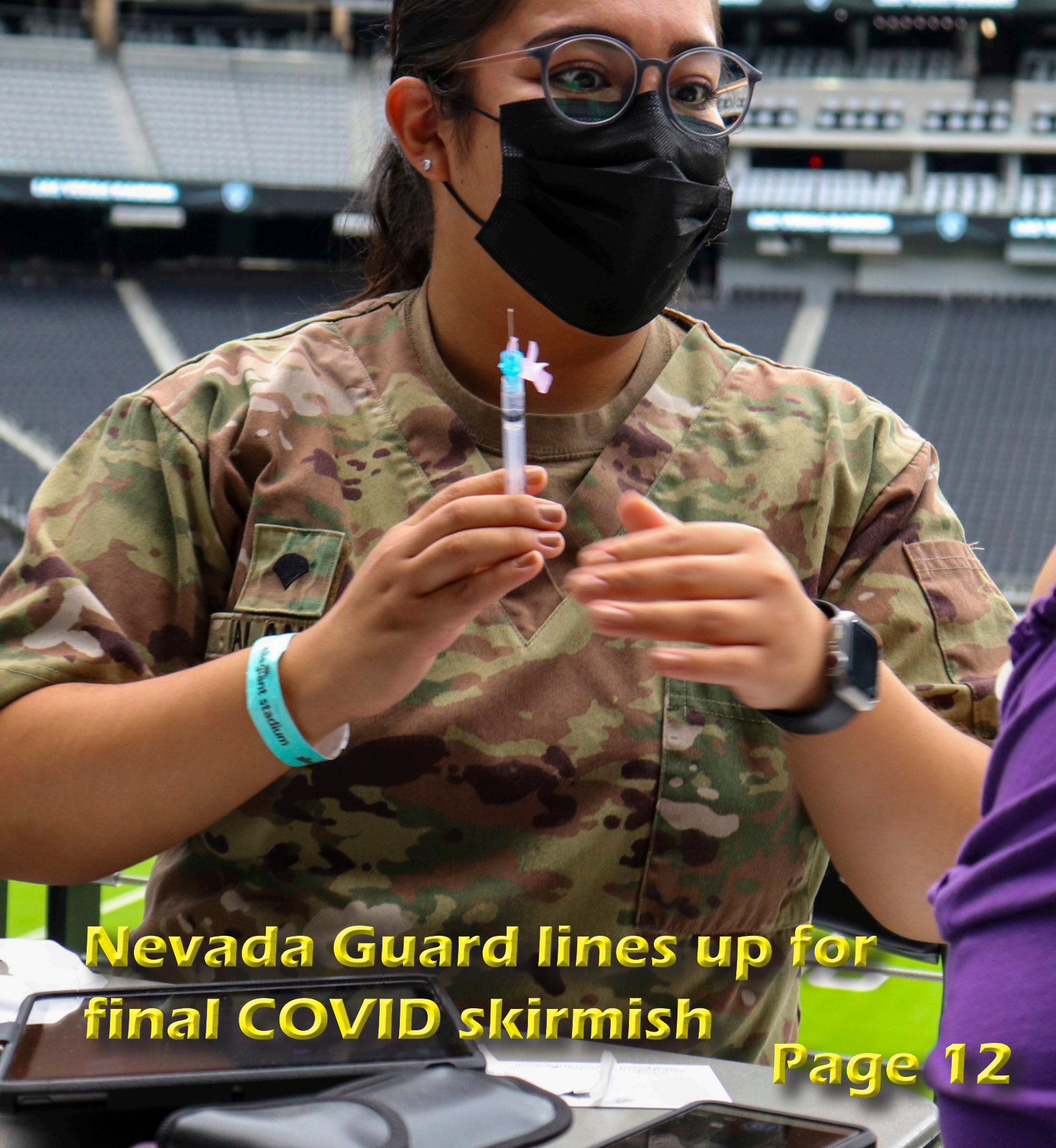


# Battle Born



Quarterly Magazine of the Nevada National Guard - Summer 2021



**Nevada Guard lines up for final COVID skirmish**

**Page 12**

# MILITARY *Appreciation* NIGHT

AT THE RENO ACES

Saturday August 28, 2021

★ ★ ★ **AT GREATER NEVADA FIELD** ★ ★ ★  
**RENO ACES vs.**  
**SACRAMENTO RIVER CATS,**  
*the Triple-A Affiliate of the San Francisco Giants*

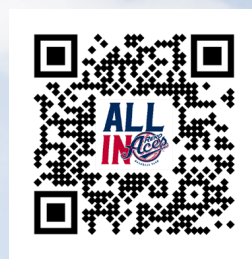
- ★ **Gates Open** at 5:35 pm
- ★ **First pitch** at 6:35 pm
- ★ **Ceremonial First Pitch** by Chapter 989 Life Member:  
**CW5 (Ret.) Mike Billow**  
**LOM, DFC (3), BS (2), AM (45)**  
**US Army & NVARNG 1969 – 2009**
- ★ The Vietnam Veterans of America Sierra Nevada Chapter 989, in partnership with the Reno Aces, invite you to our POW/MIA Chair of Honor Rededication Ceremony during the game

**Reserved Seating:** Section 101

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Gov. Steve Sisolak  
Commander in Chief  
Nevada National Guard



Maj. Gen. Ondra Berry  
The Adjutant General  
Nevada National Guard

# Battle Born

## Features:

From the TAG: COVID response brought out the best in us .....	Page 4
LCC: First six month in the chair .....	Page 5
Top Airmen recognized .....	Page 6
Nevada's Best Warriors .....	Page 6
Henderson Soldier, top National Guard recruiter in the nation .....	Page 7
Battle Born Youth Challenge opens doors .....	Page 10
NV Guard's battle with COVID-19; Road to victory by the numbers .....	Page 12
Vaccine hunter hustles to make sure no cure is wasted .....	Page 14
Home for the summer, all deployed Guardsmen return .....	Page 16
MAFFS take to the skies; prepare for an anticipated heavy fire season .....	Page 17
Women leading from the front: Two Soldiers, two brigade commanders .....	Page 18
Newest C-130 instructor pilot joins 152nd .....	Page 19
Child & Youth Program coordinator retires after almost a decade of service .....	Page 19
Robert T. Herbert Administrations Building named after NV Guard leader .....	Page 20
NVNG mentorship programs begin to gain traction .....	Page 21
NV law makers pass several proposals; how it will affect NV Guardsmen .....	Page 22
Meet Air Guard's newest star: Brig. Gen. John Week .....	Page 23
Army Guardsman escapes Chicago's violent streets, finds solace in gym .....	Page 24
ESGR highlights about 100 organizations with Patriot Awards .....	Page 26
Honorary Capt. Tennyson "Wizard" Hunter, Pilot for a Day, passes away at 15 .....	Page 27

## Departments:

Drop Zone .....	Page 8
Sports News .....	Page 25
Awards, Promotions, Retirements .....	Page 28

## ON THE COVER:

Spc. Dulce Alaniz with Joint Task Force 17 prepares to administer the one-shot Janseen vaccine to a local resident at Allegiant Stadium, Thursday, June 10, 2021 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie

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### Submissions and Letters to the Editor

Submission and letters to the editor are welcome. They must be signed and include the writer's full name and mailing address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. Other print and photographic submissions of interest to our diverse readership is encouraged and welcome.

Please send letters, articles and photos to:

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Publication of material is determined by available space and reader interest. The staff reserves the right to edit all material.



### Coronavirus brought out the best of Guard

It's been 16 months since the coronavirus pandemic ushered in the largest and lengthiest state activation in Nevada National Guard history.

Over the course of this time, Nevada Guardsmen volunteered for a variety of missions including the movement of personal protective equipment, food distribution, testing and vaccinations. The state's Soldiers and Airmen did this while concurrently conducting five federal overseas deployments in addition to civil unrest response last summer in Nevada and earlier this year at the U.S. Capitol.

Looking back, it's amazing to comprehend all that was completed. As of July 1, Guardsmen had directly administered 725,643 tests. Additionally, Guardsmen distributed more than 10 million articles of personal protective equipment and packaged nearly 2 million meals for those in need.

The vaccination push included an even more herculean effort from the Guard. As of July 1, Guardsmen were responsible for 780,858 direct vaccinations, about a third of all vaccinations in the state. One Guardsman, Capt. Caleena Longworth, was responsible for administering more than 4,000 vaccinations. Thousands more tests and vaccinations were supported by Nevada Guardsmen, such as Sgt. John Huss, who setup a Facebook group to inform people when open doses were running against the clock in need of being used or wasted.

As we drawdown this mission it's important to note how well positioned our men and women were to assist. The Nevada Guard serves as a federally funded, state managed and locally executed best practice. Through protest, polarization and pandemic, the National Guard proved its



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
Spc. Graciela Gomez with Joint Task Force 17 helps schedule patients for their second dose of the Pfizer vaccine at the Cora Coleman Senior Center this spring in Las Vegas. In 2021, the Guard has transitioned to primarily helping with vaccinations after spending much of 2020 conducting coronavirus testing..

promise as a positive example of unity and dedication to our nation.

As I reflect on the past year, I remain extremely proud of the work we've accomplished. History will show Gov. Steve Sisolak and COVID-19 Response Director Caleb Cage provided measured leadership that followed the science and helped save lives.

I also want to thank my staff, Brig. Gen. John Week, Lt. Col. Brett Compston and Lt. Col. Justin Galli, who tirelessly worked in cooperation with multiple government agencies to establish an effective, unified state response.

I'm especially proud of the 1,400 Soldiers and Airmen who have activated for COVID-19-related missions this past year, including Spc. Jermaine Longmire, who took the initiative to learn Paiute and Shoshone greetings to warmly welcome tribal members arriving at COVID testing sites. Longmire and other members of the Guard's mobile testing team conducted 40 COVID-19 swab

collection sites in remote locations around the state to track the spread of the virus in rural Nevada and on Tribal land. That's in addition to hundreds of others who built and managed large-scale testing and vaccination sites in metropolitan areas.

I also want to thank our Guardsmen who volunteered outside of their respective military occupations. First Lt. Sparkle Mccuiston was one of the first Airmen to enter the fight against COVID-19. Mccuiston responded in March 2020 and worked tirelessly in her civilian job as an infectious disease nurse in Clark County. More than 240 Nevada Guardsmen worked full-time as civilian medical professionals during the coronavirus battle.

So many in our state deserve recognition for their effort the past 16 months, including medical professionals, first responders and, of course, Nevada Guard Soldiers, Airmen and civilians.

The Nevada Guard is always ready, always there as neighbors helping neighbors.



### First 6 months a whirlwind for commander

No time for land component commander to ease into job in the midst of coronavirus battle, deployments

It's difficult to believe, but by the time this article appears in Battle Born magazine, I'll have spent more than 180 days in my position as the Nevada Army Guard's land component commander. I can't overemphasize how proud and honored I am to serve in this role with each of you. I continue to be amazed at what the Nevada Guard accomplishes every day in our state and nation. In the past year alone, in addition to training, deploying and redeploying Army Guard units to and from CENTCOM, EUCOM and AFRICOM, we've experienced the largest state activation of National Guardsmen in history to support the battle against COVID-19. From disinfecting nursing homes to supporting community-based testing sites, our Soldiers and Airmen under the direction of outstanding leaders have done magnificent work and helped save countless lives.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
Land Component Commander Col. Troy Armstrong delivers a message during a recent Town Hall Meeting.

Despite the tremendous commitment of personnel and resources to respond to the pandemic, our teams continued to work hard to maintain and enhance readiness. Our commanders, directorates and many of our junior and mid-level leadership developed a strategic plan to achieve multi-domain readiness by 2028. The pandemic did not deter the Nevada Guard's ability to support other missions: We supported local authorities during civil unrest, assisted with fire suppression in multiple states and continued to support drug reduction efforts through our Counterdrug Task Force.

Just as we saw the light at the end of the tunnel in the battle against COVID-19 with the start of vaccine distribution, our nation suffered a setback in Washington, D.C. Protesters assaulted the Capitol, disrupted the Electoral College, damaged infrastructure and caused the loss of life. As we watched in astonishment, the decision to send more than 25,000 National Guardsmen to protect our constitution and the democratic process put all states, including Nevada, on alert.

In my opinion, Nevada teams set the example for other states to follow. Within four days of receiving the



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
Rep. Susie Lee (D-NV) speaks with Land Component Commander Col. Troy Armstrong while visiting with Joint Task Force 17 Soldiers and Airmen at the Cashman vaccination site this spring in Las Vegas. According to the Nevada Guard's Joint Operations Center, Nevada Guard Soldiers and Airmen have vaccinated more than 780,000 Nevadans.

request for support, the Nevada Army Guard teamed with the Nevada Air Guard and deployed a force of more than 250 Soldiers and Airmen to secure the Presidential Inauguration. The Nevada Guard then placed another 120 Soldiers on standby as Quick Reaction Forces throughout Nevada to potentially supplant local authorities.

The Nevada Guard in-processed Soldiers, performed weapons qualification, conducted civil disturbance training and distributed equipment and supplies for all operations in less than 96 hours. We pray for future peaceful events, but have demonstrated we are ready to seize the day and defend our nation's democratic processes in a timely manner with nothing less than absolute honor and steadfast professionalism.

In summation: Keep up the great work! Seek excellence in all that we do, care for one another, be inclusive and demand the treatment of others with equality, dignity, respect and professionalism. Our Warrior ethos requires these qualities and they are absolute necessities.

Last but not least, don't forget to tune in to the monthly Nevada Guard Town Hall meetings to hear important messages and strategic initiatives. These meetings serve as a great opportunity to speak to Nevada Guard officials, including your land component commander.

# Top Airmen recognized at annual awards ceremony

By Senior Airman Baylee Belanger  
152nd Airlift Wing

RENO — The Nevada Air National Guard hosted its annual awards ceremony and named its Outstanding Airmen of the Year in late winter at the Nevada Air National Guard base.

The Nevada Air Guard presented a total of 14 awards and recognized its outstanding Airmen of the Year in the Silver State.

The following were the 2020 award winners recognized during the ceremony:

## Outstanding Airmen of the Year

**Senior Airman Shemar Wiggins** of the 152nd Maintenance Group was named Airman of the Year.

**Staff Sgt. Halee Young** of the 152nd Civil Engineer Squadron received the Noncommissioned Officer of the Year award.

The Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year was **Master Sgt. Marcus Eisemann** of the 152nd Maintenance Group.

The Company Grade Officer of the Year award was given to **Capt. Quinn Lundbom** of the 152nd Civil Engineer Squadron.

**Master Sgt. Javier Sosa** of the 152nd Security Forces Squadron was tabbed the

First Sergeant of the Year.

Several Airmen were recognized for their efforts in their respective sections and fields of expertise:

The Recruiter of the Year Award went to **Tech. Sgt. Devan Hedgorth** and the Unit Career Advisor of the Year was **Tech. Sgt. Jay Pascua**.

**Staff Sgt. Jennifer Ghera** was recognized with the 2020 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Award and the Mervin T. Johnson Safety Award went to the crew of **Roller Tail No. 31**.

The Chiefs' Awards were given to **Lt. Col. Janelle Kimsey** the and **COVID-19 Domestic Operations Team**.

The Commander's Excellence Awards went to the following Airmen::

State Headquarters: **Master Sgt. Sonia Hernandez**; 152nd Airlift Wing: **152nd Airlift Wing Command Post**; 152nd Maintenance Group: **Senior Airman McKenzie Burke**; 152nd Mission Support Group: **Emergency Operations Center Team**; 152nd Medical Group: **Medical Group COVID Support Team**; 152nd Operations Group: **152nd Operations Group Command Support Staff Team**; 152nd Intelligence Squadron: **Distributed Ground System Title 10 Airmen**; 232nd Operations Squadron: **1st Lt. Samuel Manghane**



Photo courtesy 152nd Airlift Wing  
Airman of the Year Sr. Airman Shemar Wiggins.



Photo courtesy 152nd Airlift Wing  
NCO of the Year Staff Sgt. Halee Young.

# Silver State's Best Warriors shine in Region VII contest

Staff reports

FORT CARSON, Colo. – Two Nevada Army Guard Soldiers were among the 16 noncommissioned officers and Soldiers from eight western states and territories who competed in the 2021 National Guard's Region VII Best Warrior Competition at Fort Carson, Colorado, in late May.

Sgt. Jose Saenz, an interior electrician with the 609th Engineer Company, and Spc. Lesley Northcutt, a cavalry scout with the 1st Squadron, 221st Cavalry, represented the Silver State. The competition entailed several physically and mentally challenging events, including a marksmanship stress shoot, land navigation, Warrior tasks and drills, a physical fitness test, and a mystery event that tuned out to be a 2,768-stair, 1,200-meter sprint into the sky.

Saenz was the winner of the mystery event – the grueling stair sprint up the Manitou Incline trail that features a 2,090-foot elevation gain. For his effort up the incline, he received a fitness challenge award from the Colorado hosts.

“The mystery event was the hardest on our bodies,” Saenz said. “It was the last event of the competition and our bodies were already beat.”



Photo by Spc. Taylor Lakey-Tamacori  
Sgt. Jose Saenz of the 609th Engineer Company, completes a push-up during the fitness event at the Region VII Best Warrior Competition in May.

Only the first-place finishers were revealed. Utah Guardsmen won both the Soldier of the Year and NCO of the Year titles and will represent the region at the national Best Warrior contest.

# Nev. Army Guard boasts top recruiter Henderson Soldier captures national Director's 54 award

Staff reports

LAS VEGAS – The top recruiter in the nation is in the Nevada Army Guard's ranks. Staff Sgt. Leah Cabusao, 28, of Henderson, is the Army Guard's Recruiter of the Year after receiving the National Guard Director's 54 Award for 2020, the National Guard Bureau announced this spring. She is the first Nevada Army Guard Soldier to win the national award.

The Director's 54 Award is based on the Total Soldier Concept and takes into account a Soldier's community service, physical fitness, education and leadership as well as recruiting performance. Each state and territory awards a local Director's 54 Award for superior recruiting and accession numbers; Cabusao emerged from the 54 state winners to garner the national award.

"To represent Nevada and be named the top recruiter in the nation is something I never

imagined I would achieve," Cabusao said. "It isn't about the award or title for me, but rather the process in getting here and the relationships I've built along the way.

"I'd like to thank everyone for believing in me."

Cabusao was a Recruiting and Retention sergeant at the Eastern Recruiting Office in Las Vegas during the first half of 2020. During those six months, she enlisted 22 Soldiers. In fact, she attained her annual mission goal in just three months.

In summer 2020, Cabusao joined the Nevada Army Guard's Officer Strength Management team as the Simultaneous Membership Program manager. She also became a platoon sergeant and Military Science Instructor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, in the ROTC program, where she continues to work.

She also attended and completed the Army Guard's Drill Sergeant School in 2020 and graduated with high marks. She was invited to return to the academy as a Drill Sergeant Leader.

Cabusao was also active in the community and organized a blood drive at UNLV that resulted in more than 100 blood donations in just one day. She also participates in Charity Miles, an organization that turns miles recorded in various forms of exercise into donations for charity.

She accomplished everything in 2020 while pursuing her bachelor's degree as well as acquiring her CrossFit certification and Master Fitness Trainer certification.

Cabusao received her national award this summer at the National Guard Bureau in Arlington, Virginia. As the national winner, she'll also provide insight to the Director's Strength Maintenance Advisory Council.



Photo courtesy Nevada Army Guard Recruiting and Retention  
Staff Sgt. Leah Cabusao, of Henderson, is the Army Guard's Recruiter of the Year after receiving the National Guard Director's 54 Award for 2020. She is the first Nevada Guard Soldier to win the national award

**For recruiting assistance,  
call 775-267-8115 or visit:  
[www.nationalguard.com/nv](http://www.nationalguard.com/nv)**

Cabusao emphasized the importance of top-notch recruiting and retention sergeants for the acquisition of excellent incoming Soldiers into the National Guard.

"In order to be successful in recruiting quality Soldiers, it requires more than just educating others about the benefits," Cabusao said. "It includes how a recruiting and retention sergeant presents themselves as leaders and role models as well as motivate others to be a part of something bigger than themselves.

"Ultimately, individuals join the service not just for benefits, but due to how the recruiter inspired them and made them feel."

Nevada Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Ondra Berry said Cabusao will receive the Adjutant General's Silver State Sentinel Award for Excellence for her 2020 achievements and accomplishments.

"Staff Sgt. Cabusao is very deserving of this recognition for her many accomplishments over the past year," Berry said. "I trust everyone will join me in congratulating her."

# DROP ZONE



Photo by Staff Sgt. Walter H. Lowell

**CAMP ROBERTS, California** — Col. Randy Lau, brigade commander, 79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, California National Guard, fires a 120mm mortar during a live-fire exercise June 15. Lau's command is ground breaking as he remains the Nevada Army Guard's directorate of plans and operations while simultaneously overseeing the expansive brigade combat team that includes battalions across California. Lau, 45, of Dayton, is an Armor officer who joined the Army in 1995. "This historic selection represents both the Nevada Guard's and California Guard's commitment to division realignment for training," said Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Ondra Berry. "His command will pave the way for an ever stronger partnership with the California Guard and open future opportunities for command and key developmental assignments."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Zandra Duran

**RENO, Nevada** — One day in advance of Earth Day in April, the Nevada Army Guard teamed with the Reno Fire Department to test the agencies' united fuel spill response with an exercise at the Army Aviation Support Facility. Within 20 minutes, Reno Fire Department was on scene to help contain the spill and prevent mock damage to any aircraft; within 45 minutes, the Nevada Army Guard spill response team had the liquid contained without one cup entering the storm drains.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie

**GOLDFIELD, Nevada** — Nevada Guard support of the state's coronavirus battle reached every corner of the state, including once booming Goldfield. Soldiers from Task Force 17 took time out for a photo at the visitor's center after staffing a mobile vaccination unit at the site. For more on the Nevada Guard's pandemic fight, turn to Page 12.





Photo courtesy Minnesota National Guard

**LITTLE FALLS, Minnesota** — Sgt. Jordan McElroy of 2/238th Aviation skis to a silver medal in the men's 12.5-kilometer pursuit race at the Chief of the National Guard Bureau Biathlon Championships in February at Camp Ripley, Minn. McElroy was also on the podium for the 10-kilometer sprint with his third-place finish. His silver medal was the highest finish in men's senior competition in Nevada Team history. For more on the biathlon, turn to Page 25.



Photo courtesy Bravo Company

**CAMP BUEHRING, Kuwait** — Before their deployment concluded last spring, the mechanics with Bravo Company, 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion in the Middle East received their Mechanic Badge awards after having demonstrated skill and knowledge in the military occupation as well as gathering requisite experience while assigned as automotive equipment mechanics in their unit. Due to the hard work of the unit's mechanics, the Bravo Company equipment readiness rating rose to 100 percent.



Photo courtesy Nebraska National Guard

**LINCOLN, Nebraska** — Nevada Army Guard Capts. Dan Woodbury, left, and Kashmir Cardoso run stride for stride in May during the Lincoln/National Guard Marathon Trials to determine the All-Guard Team that will represent the National Guard in upcoming 2021 distance races. Woodbury, 30, of Las Vegas, recorded his personal best time of 3 hours, 52 minutes. Staff Sgt. Paul Duncan of Henderson made the All-Guard team with his 28th place in 3:06.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Walter H. Lowell

The pristine Battle Born Youth Challenge Academy in Carlin was officially opened in February with a ribbon cutting ceremony that included Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Ondra Berry and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Spaulding. The academy, which is designed to assist at-risk students, will open its doors to its first class in July. The academy is currently accepting applications for both students and cadre.

# Battle Born Youth Challenge Academy ready for students

By Toni Milano  
Elko Daily Free Press

CARLIN — The Nevada National Guard's Battle Born Youth Challenge Academy is officially open after a three-year journey that involved two "Tsunami Sisters," a new state law and renovation of the former fire science campus.

About a hundred people were on hand in February to witness the official opening of the youth challenge program at the Nevada Army Guard's previous Elko County Readiness Center. Attendees included Academy staff and National Guard officers.

The program is aimed at serving at-risk 16- to 18-year-old students statewide to obtain high school credits in a regimented setting. It also provides a year-long mentorship once the student successfully completes the 22-week residential phase.

**For enrollment information, call 775-315-1154 or visit: [nvng.nv.gov/BBYCA](http://nvng.nv.gov/BBYCA)**

"This is a defining moment for our state in terms of what we are able to bring for our citizens and our young people," said Nevada Guard Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Ondra Berry. "It will elevate who we are because anything that you do for young people pays itself over time-and-time again."

The Academy received state funding from the 2019 Legislature, providing \$500,000 annually along with \$1.5 million in anticipated federal funds.

The money was used to renovate the Readiness Center, purchased by former

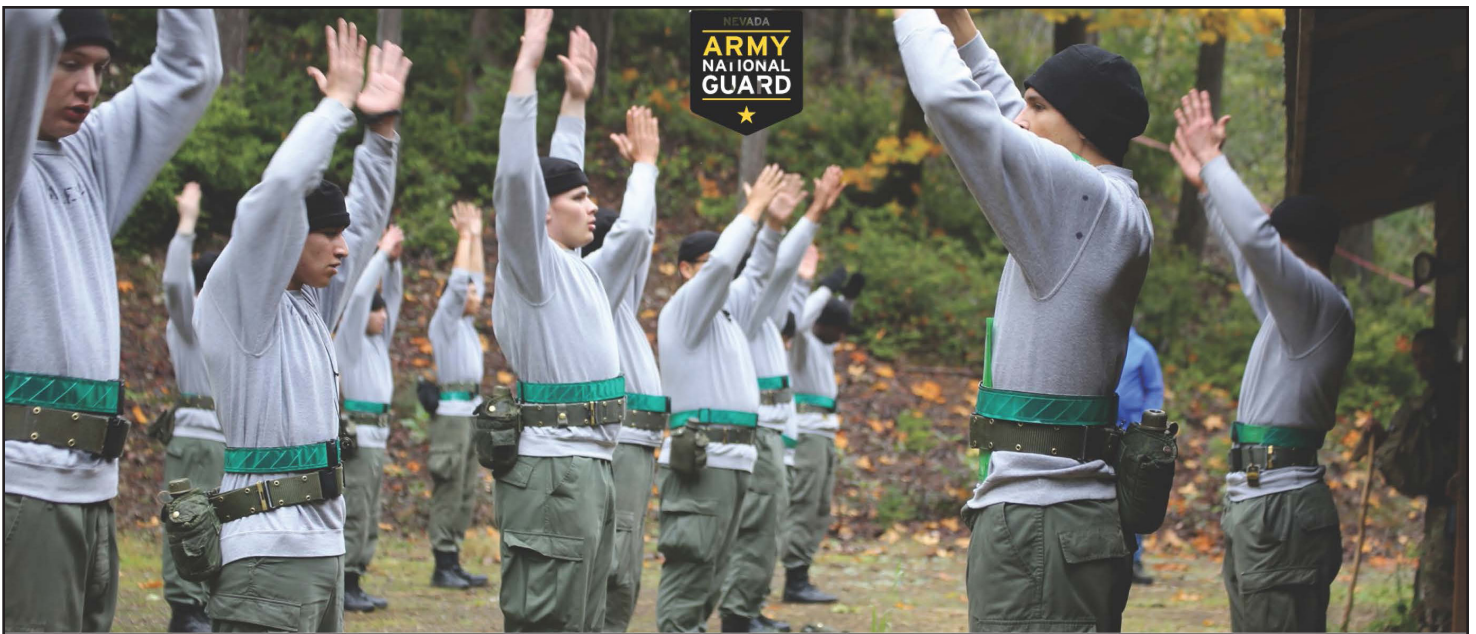
Nevada National Guard Adjutant General Brig. Gen. William Burks with the intention of starting a youth challenge program in Nevada.

The property was originally the home of University of Nevada, Reno's Fire Science Academy from 1999-2008. Millions of dollars in debt forced its closure by the Board of Regents.

The campus includes four buildings: Berry Hall, the Food Services Building, Burks Barracks and Castagnola Quarters. The quarters building is named after retired Col. Felix Castagnola and the other two being named after NGNV Adjutant Generals.

Classrooms and offices are located in Berry Hall; Burks and Castagnola are living quarters for the students.

Now retired, Burks serves on the youth challenge program board of directors.



# BATTLEBORN YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY

in partnership with the Nevada Army National Guard.

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He told the audience of his desire to establish a program in the state instead of sending students to Arizona and California for an opportunity in the National Guard's Youth Challenge Program.

### Tsunami Sisters

Heather Goulding and Grace Nichols of Reno received rounds of applause from numerous presenters during the ceremony for bringing the program to the attention of the lawmakers in 2019.

"We are here today to cut the ribbon. I've got to be honest with you, without the Tsunami Sisters over here, Heather and Grace, it would not have happened. They were giants. They rolled over the Legislature and that's why they are called the Tsunami Sisters," Burks said.

For Nichols, the project began about three years ago when her son attended a youth challenge program in Oregon. Wanting to see a program created in Nevada, she approached Burks with her thoughts during a pancake breakfast.

Currently, there are 38 other states that run similar programs thought the National Guard.

Goulding teamed with Nichols, who quit her full-time job to learn about the legislative process. Eventually, the measure passed unanimously in both the Assembly and State Senate during the 2019 session.

### Program for change

The Battle Born Youth Challenge Academy opened its doors to its first group of students in July.

The program is voluntary, free, and open to students throughout the state who are seeking a change in their lives and intend to take it seriously, said Lisa Williams, program coordinator.

"They can apply or receive a recommendation, but either way, we expect a great deal of buy-in from them from the get-go," she said.

Applicants are required to fill out an extensive form and obtain a physical. They must also find a mentor within their community, or ask the academy to place them with a mentor if they are new to the area.

"We are not looking for the students who have been in the most trouble or the least trouble. We are looking for the students who want to make a change," Williams said.

During the 22-week course, students will be offered a chance to catch up on high school credits, working at their own pace. Some cadets may receive enough credits to graduate at home, while some may earn enough to receive a diploma from the Elko County School District, she said.

Educational staff is provided to the Battle Born Youth Challenge Academy through a partnership with the Elko County School District.



# In This T Nevada Guard b

## Coronavirus fight enters final stages for NV Guard

By Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
17th Sustainment Brigade

LAS VEGAS – More than one year into its battle with the coronavirus, the end of the state’s fight with the microscopic enemy appears to be on the horizon. With the number of cases and deaths within Nevada continuing to decrease or stabilize thanks mainly to vaccination efforts, the Nevada Guard will reduce its number of Soldiers and Airmen devoted to COVID-19 duty this summer and eventually look to remove all Guardsmen from the coronavirus support mission.

The number of Guardsmen on coronavirus support in southern Nevada will decrease. Joint Task Force 17 is set to shrink by 140 Soldiers and Airmen on July 7 and retain 78. In northern Nevada, Task Force 422 will draw down to 69 personnel. The state expects to have each task force completely wrap up all operations by early

September. In April 2020, more than 1,100 Guardsmen were on daily duty battling the coronavirus, making the COVID-19 war the largest domestic activation in state history. A total of about 1,400 of the state’s 4,400 Guardsmen assisted in Nevada’s COVID-19 response since last April. The draw down will bring that number of members actively working COVID-related missions to under 140 personnel statewide by early August (or smaller dependent on vaccine demand).

“The amount of coordination involved between the different agencies to fight this pandemic was tremendous,” said Joint Task Force 17 Executive Officer Maj. Jon Minnich.

The city of Las Vegas hosted one of its largest vaccination drives in June to ensure every one of its residents has the opportunity to receive the vaccine. More than 45 Guardsmen assisted the Southern Nevada Health District during the effort,

which ran for two weeks.

Since the cooperative vaccination effort began in January between the health district and Nevada Guard, SNHD has counted 1,807,000 vaccination doses administered. That number is about 45 percent of the Las Vegas Valley’s population. Statewide, about 50 percent of Nevadans over the age of 12 have received a dose of the vaccine. As of July 1, Guardsmen had directly administered 725,643 vaccinations statewide.

The Las Vegas area was among the hardest hit by the pandemic. Clark County recorded more than 253,297 coronavirus cases, 16,676 hospitalizations and 4,428 total deaths due to the pandemic. As of June 15, the virus had killed 5,631 Nevadans, according to the NV Health Response dashboard.

In southern Nevada, Task Force 17 itself has administered more than 531,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. During



Airmen 1st Class Andrew Tremblay with Joint Task Force 17 draws a dose of the Pfizer vaccine at the Cashman Center vaccination site, May 5 in Las Vegas. Task Force personnel assisted in inoculating over 200,000 Nevadans against COVID-19 since vaccine operations began in January of this year.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie

# Together: battles COVID-19



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie

Spc. Lauren Damiano, left, and Spc. Savanna Stutts with Joint Task Force 17 pack pharmacy supplies at the Cashman Center vaccination site, May 5, in Las Vegas.

the past six months, Guardsmen helped manage several vaccination points of distribution in collaboration with both the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the SNHD. Location ranged from senior centers to elementary schools.

In April, the state launched its Mobile Vaccination Unit that included Nevada Guardsmen and several health care partners in an effort to vaccinate rural Nevadans. The MVU's goal was to provide access to the lifesaving vaccine in small Nevada towns.

The MVU kicked off its mission at the Las Vegas Paiute Indian Tribe in April and then traveled across Nevada to: Pahrump, Beatty, Goldfield, Tonopah, Round Mountain, Alamo, Panaca, Ely, Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, Dyer and finally Laughlin.

Before the prioritization of the vaccine distribution, Joint Task Force 17 had tested more than 639,000 southern Nevada residents during the past year. That number included community-based collection sites in metropolitan Las Vegas

as well as rural "hotspots."

In addition to vaccine administration and testing during the pandemic, the Nevada Guard also managed and distributed millions of personal protective equipment items. According to Nevada Guard internal reports, the state's Guardsmen distributed 5,394,265 PPE items, prepared 3,470 pallets of supplies for shipping, and drove more than 13,000 miles to delivery locations.

Nevada Guard Soldiers and Airmen also made more than 39,000 calls supporting health districts while assigned to tracing investigation teams. They also distributed more than 800,000 meals in partnership with the Three Square organization last year during the height of the pandemic.

"The Nevada Guard definitely helped save lives during this pandemic," said Land Component Commander Col. Troy Armstrong. "Our Soldiers and Airmen fought this battle with courage and placed their health and lives on the line during this pandemic."

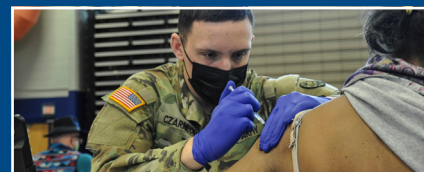
## By the numbers NVNG's impact

As of July 1



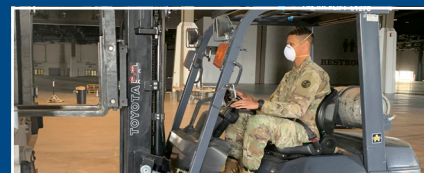
### COVID tests

**722,643**



### Vaccinations

**780,858**



### Equipment/PPE delivered

**3,470 pallets**

# Vaccine seekers find doses, hero in Las Vegas Soldier



Article and photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
17th Sustainment Brigade

*(Editor's note: All Nevadans 16 and older have been eligible to receive a coronavirus vaccine since April 5. Wait lists for vaccinations have significantly decreased since this article was written.)*

LAS VEGAS — Sgt. John Huss of the 72nd Military Police Company became a well-known celebrity to vaccine hunters in southern Nevada this past spring. The Task Force 17 Soldier helped serve the community by personally facilitating, organizing, and streamlining the distribution of extra vaccine doses at the Cashman Center.

Huss, 29, managed the “waste list” at the site and helped people ineligible that day for an appointment ultimately find a way to receive a dose of the vaccine. Posts on social media described the sergeant as “brilliant” and “amazing” as he jumped through hoops to assist thousands of Nevadans in their quest to receive their vaccination.

“I like to help people,” Huss said. “I enjoy seeing the positive changes made while serving the public.”

Huss, who is set to soon become a Mineral County

Sheriff's Department cadet, has served in the Nevada Army Guard since 2011. It's been a memorable journey for Huss since Fort Leonard Wood a decade ago when he graduated from the Military Police School. Earlier this spring, he served every day on Task Force 17, helping the Las Vegas community on the coronavirus battle beginning in July 2020.

Huss is one of more than 280 Soldiers who were on orders for TF17 this spring. What differentiated Huss was his ability to create an efficient process for people on the stand-by list to quickly receive a COVID-19 vaccination.

“It all started with a Facebook group (Las Vegas Vaccine Hunters),” Huss said. “At the beginning, it was a challenge because everything was so new, but our goal from the start was to become better organized.”

After seeing the challenges faced by his team due to the standby list, Huss promptly took charge and began to work with his chain of command. He identified certain areas of concern based upon social media intelligence, relayed that information, and then developed a proactive approach with his leadership team to resolve the problem of extended wait times.

“At first, the wait list was on the fly and was comprised of just a list of names,” Huss said. “I thought 'How can we make this better?' We began to prioritize the list based upon the Southern Nevada Health District's age guidelines and began to engage with people on a personal level when they would arrive.”

The officer in charge at the site, 2nd Lt. Samirah Furman, said she was impressed with Huss's innovation.

“I'm amazed how he's taken on this responsibility,” Furman said. “He's adapted to numerous challenges and he's overcome every obstacle put in his path and turned them into success.”

Facebook commentator Mark Smith noted the impressive work the National Guard and Huss has accomplished at Cashman.

“I especially want to call your attention to Sgt. Huss, who is assigned to the Cashman vaccination facility.” Smith wrote. “He has helped provide a community service with a professionalism in his work to ensure that every possible dose is administered. He manages the process and openly communicates in a clear and precise manner, answering every single question from a crowd over 100 people every morning.”

Huss didn't stop at organizing the standby list. When people would arrive in the morning, he displayed a personal interest in each individual and interacted with everyone as the day's information was released. Rather than request individuals come back later in the day, Huss and his team would assist with real-time dose distribution. The team would walk residents through the appointment-creation process and would usually get them promptly through the bureaucratic gauntlet for a vaccination.

“My team is the first set of people you will meet when you come to Cashman,” Huss said. “It's all about customer service. The fewer the number of people I have on the wait list means we're getting more people in the door and vaccinated.

“The day we get rid of the list — that's a good day because it means everyone's getting in.”

Clark County had administered more than 719,000 total doses as of late March, according to the Southern Nevada Health District. Nevada also had the ninth-highest utilization rate in the United States — it used 91 percent of its allocated vaccines this spring compared to the national average of 85 percent.

For information on receiving a COVID-19 vaccine in Nevada, visit <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/covid-19-vaccine/>.

# All Army Guard units home for summer

## Staff reports

CARSON CITY – If not for the coronavirus, the summer of 2021 would make a perfect time for a Nevada Army Guard statewide reunion.

For the first time since August 2019, all Nevada Army Guard units are home following international deployments. The last unit to return to the Silver State was Bravo Company, 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion.

The final group of Bravo Company Soldiers arrived back in Nevada around Independence Day. Forty-six of the unit's approximately 140 Soldiers returned in April. They spent the majority of the past year supporting Operation Inherent Resolve in Kuwait and neighboring countries working on nodal and extension communications.

At the height of the deployment surge, five units including more than 210 Soldiers were participating in international deployments on three continents.

In addition to Bravo Company, the units that recently returned included:

The **3665th Explosive Ordnance Company** based in Henderson supported



Photo by Staff Sgt. Walter H. Lowell

Sgt. Anthony Avelar, assigned to 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion, greets his daughter after his deployment to Kuwait, July 2.

Operation Freedom's Sentinel from 2019-2020

Two rotations of **G Company, 2/238th Aviation** based in Reno deployed to Afghanistan from 2019-2020 to provide medical evacuation capabilities to the region.

The Soldiers and Chinook helicopters of **B Company, 1/189th Aviation** served in Kuwait and neighboring countries from 2019-2020 to support the 34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade in the region.

**Detachment 3, Company B, 2/641st**

**Aviation** spent the majority of 2020 in Africa providing personnel and cargo transport aboard its fixed-wing aircraft

The **757th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion** spent 10 months of 2020 in Poland supporting European Command's Operation Assured Response and the Defender 2020 exercise.

The Army Guard homecoming is set to continue through the conclusion of 2021, as no Army Guard units are set to exit the state for the remainder of the year.

## Renowned pilot takes command of 232nd squadron

### Staff reports

LAS VEGAS – Judging by Lt. Col. Ethan Waitte's distinguished 24-year career with the U.S. Air Force, it was no surprise Nevada Air Guard officials chose him to become the latest commander for the 232nd Combat Training Squadron last winter.

Waitte, an F-22 pilot, succeeded Lt. Col. Justin Galli during a change of command ceremony held at the Las Vegas Readiness Center. Galli was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his numerous contributions to the organization in recent years.

Waitte, whose call sign is "Lefty," began his career at the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1996 and received his commission in 2000. He became a F-16 fighter pilot and flew about 610 hours during Operation Enduring Freedom.

Upon completion of his first tour, Waitte attended the highly

prestigious Air Force Weapons School and the initial F-22 Raptor course at Nellis Air Force Base. After graduation, he returned to Langley Air Force Base as the 94th Fighter Squadron chief of weapons and tactics. He eventually became an operational test and instructional pilot with the 422nd Test and Evaluation Squadron.

Waitte continued his active duty service until 2012 and transitioned to the Air Force Reserves as a weapons and tactics instructor. In 2020, Waitte was handpicked to serve as the U.S. Air Force Weapons School's director of strategic plans and programs.

"I am grateful for the trust and this unique opportunity to contribute to an organization that will have a significant and positive impact, not only on the Air Guard, but also entire U.S. Air Force," Waitte said.

Galli received a Meritorious Service Medal for his successful stint while commander of the 232nd.





Photo courtesy California Air Guard

Chief Master Sgt. Mikael Sundin guides a Nevada Air Guard C-130 Hercules aircraft from the 152nd Airlift Wing during the Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System training in California on May 5. Air Guard crews from the 152nd Airlift Wing and the 146th Airlift Wing worked together to become certified on MAFFS equipment in advance of the summer firefighting season.

# Nevada Air Guard activates as fire season starts month earlier in 2021

By Senior Master Sgt. Paula Macomber  
152nd Airlift Wing, Nevada Air Guard

RENO – The National Interagency Fire Center has requested one C-130 aircraft and aircrew from the 152nd Airlift Wing, Nevada Air National Guard, to aid firefighting efforts in the West.

The activation is more than a month earlier than last year, when the 152nd Airlift Wing was activated July 29. That firefighting activation lasted through Oct. 3, the longest in the unit's history. This year's initial request came on June 26 and lasts through July 26 (the activation is expected to last longer than July 26 and updated dates were not available in time for printing of this magazine).

"This activation highlights the important role the military plays in assisting federal, civilian firefighting efforts, especially with that need coming much earlier this year than past years to combat increased fire activity across the American West," said Col. Jeremy Ford, 152nd Airlift Wing commander. "The 152nd Airlift Wing embraces this incredibly vital domestic operations mission and our ability to help save life and property threatened by wildland fires."

The aircraft, operating the USDA Forest Service's Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System, or MAFFS, departed Reno June 26 for its initial deployment at CAL FIRE's McClellan Reload Base in Sacramento, California. The crew is assisting federal and private firefighting assets around the region as needed.

Military units have provided a surge capacity with MAFFS since 1974 but are only activated after private contracted assets are

exhausted and the forest service deems additional support necessary.

The 152nd Airlift Wing, known as the High Rollers, is one of four military C-130 units around the nation equipped with MAFFS for large-scale wildland firefighting. The Reno unit joined the 146th Airlift Wing out of Channel Islands, California, to help battle fires in the region.

The National Interagency Fire Center reported in June that 50 large-scale wildland fires have burned 543,099 acres in 11 states, with new large fires in Alaska, California, Colorado, Idaho and Nevada. More than 9,180 wildland firefighters and 17 Type 1 and Type 2 incident management teams are assigned to fires, according to NIFC.

As of late June, 29,362 fires had burned 1,164,555 acres across the nation, NIFC said.

MAFFS equipment, loaded into the cargo compartment of a C-130 aircraft, can drop up to 3,000 gallons of water or fire retardant in six seconds through a nozzle on the rear left side of the plane. The U.S. Forest Service owns MAFFS equipment and supplies retardant, while each of the four military units provides C-130 aircraft, maintenance, support personnel and flight crews to fly the missions.

The 152nd Airlift Wing recently became the first "combat coded" Guard unit in the nation to upgrade its entire C-130 fleet with the NP-2000 propeller modification. This modification swapped out four-bladed propellers with eight-bladed modular NP-2000 propellers. This increased performance and flying capabilities of the fleet, Ford said.

"This is especially important for the extremely challenging MAFFS mission, while flying in extreme hazards including flying low, slow and heavy while dropping water or retardant," Ford said.

Summer 2021 / **BATTLE BORN** / 17

# 2 female officers make brigade history in time for Women's History Month

By Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
17th Sustainment Brigade

LAS VEGAS — The 17th Sustainment Brigade perfectly timed the assignment of two female Soldiers to key leadership positions in the 17th Special Troops Battalion in February just days in advance of Women's History Month in March. The two Soldiers, Lt. Cols. Stacy Carter and Ashley Philbin, are the first women to hold their respective positions within the 17th STB.

## Lt. Col Stacy Carter

Carter became the first female commander of the special troops battalion when she assumed command at the Las Vegas Readiness Center in February.

Carter was born in Bowling Green, Ohio. She began her military career in 1999 with the Tennessee Army National Guard and served with the 3/278th Armored Cavalry Regiment. In 2004, she commissioned into the Military Intelligence Corps and in the same year received her bachelor's degree in Spanish marketing. She deployed to Stuttgart, Germany, in 2006, with European Command and subsequently deployed to Camp Bucca, Iraq, through 2008.

In late 2008, Carter took command of the 117th Regional Training Institute in Smyrna, Tennessee, and in 2010 joined the 17th SB and became the first Special Troops Battalion Headquarter Company commander. She then served in several other leadership roles within the Nevada Army Guard before being assigned to lead 17th's STB.

"I've never looked back and had regrets," Carter said. "I always gave 100 percent (in every position) and I left knowing the position



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie

Lt. Col. Ashley Philbin takes time out for a photo in front of the U.S. Flag at the Las Vegas Readiness Center in February after becoming the support operations officer for the 17th Sustainment Brigade.

was better than when I started."

Reflecting back on her career, Carter didn't dwell upon the unique challenges she faced as a woman in the Army. Instead, she focused on the requisite requirement she needed for success.

"I've always focused on what I need to do as a Soldier to meet the standards," Carter said. "Be true to yourself and don't allow others to stifle your success. Someone once told me when I was a young lieutenant that a good attitude will take you far in life, and I still remember that to this day."

## Lt. Col. Ashley Philbin

Lt. Col. Ashley Philbin assumed her new leadership position as the support operations officer for the brigade during February's drill.

Philbin was born in Binghamton, New York. She studied criminal justice with an emphasis on forensics at Gannon University in Pennsylvania and graduated with her bachelor's degree in May 2005. She is currently a master's in business administration student candidate at Penn State University with a concentration in strategic leadership.

Philbin has more than 15 years of military service. She was an explosives ordnance officer with the 731st Explosives Ordnance Disposal Company when the unit deployed to Afghanistan in 2013. After a stint at Fort Stewart, Georgia, she transferred to the Arizona National Guard and worked in battalion staff planning operations during Steppe Eagle Koktem in Kazakhstan in 2017.

"There are women leaders everywhere we look," Philbin said. "We all need to work together, continue to persevere and be a strong voice for those who have no voice."

Despite the many challenges facing Soldiers in the Army today, Philbin is a strong supporter of hard work and building futures together.

"You are the architect of your own future – break down those barriers and stereotypes," Philbin said. "Don't let anyone stop you from achieving what you want to accomplish in life."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie

Lt. Col. Stacy Carter addresses the Soldiers of the 17th Special Troops Battalion shortly after assuming command in February. She succeeded Lt. Col. Ryan Swindell and is the first female Soldier to command the battalion.

# Spy infiltrates Nevada Air Guard, set to be 1st C-130 female instructor pilot in state history

By Senior Airman Baylee Hunt  
152nd Airlift Wing

RENO — Maj. Sarah Spy, a C-130 Hercules pilot for the 152nd Operations Group, knew she wanted to be a pilot from the time she was 8 years old and took a flight for a family trip to Florida.

“From the moment we started rolling down the runway, I was glued to the window,” Spy said. “I just thought it was amazing. I never grew out of that.”

Now, Spy is an accomplished Air Force pilot with more than 4,500 flight hours, numerous deployments, multiple exercises, and many certifications under her belt. This year she is set to add a new accomplishment to her list— first female instructor pilot in the Nevada Air Guard.

“Women are becoming more commonplace in the aviation field and hopefully that encourages more to consider becoming pilots,” Spy said. “It can be intimidating to consider entering a career field in which a person is a distinct minority, especially in such a competitive one.”

In addition to being a minority in her field, Spy also overcame many barriers in her youth.

“I ended up living full-time with a parent who eventually had a significant substance abuse problem that resulted in eviction from our apartment when I was still in high school,” she said. “I was supporting myself



Photo by Senior Airman Baylee Hunt  
Maj. Sarah Spy of the 152nd Operations Group is set to become the Nevada Air Guard's first female instructor pilot later this year. She transferred to the Nevada Guard in 2010 and will now instruct new and experienced pilots alike on C-130 operations.

before I even graduated.”

Spy said it was good timing when she discovered the Air National Guard at a college preview day at her high school. Shortly after that introduction, she enlisted as a crew chief with the 180th Fighter Wing in Toledo, Ohio, in 2002, and used the Guard as a tool, along with her hard work and drive, to attain her lofty goals.

“I am lucky to have found the Air Guard at that time,” Spy said. “The opportunities it offered made it possible to achieve my dreams. Without the Guard, I may not have been able to start flying.”

After joining the Air Guard in 2002, Spy attended a long list of schools. She started training to be a pilot in 2003 at Kent State University and graduated in 2006 with a degree in Aeronautical Studies. She also earned a commercial pilot certificate and became a certified flight instructor. In the Guard, she continued to work as a crew chief until she earned her commission in 2007 and was selected by the 180th Fighter Wing to become a fighter pilot.

Things didn't go as planned in the fighter pilot course.

“I was not successful in the fighter pilot course,” Spy said.

But quitting wasn't an option. She soon sought other flying units where she could pilot a different type aircraft.

Spy visited the 152nd Airlift Wing during a drill weekend and was sold. Spy said instructor pilot school will prepare her for anything, including flying with new pilots who have little experience as well as flying with experienced pilots who are cross training and learning to fly C-130s.

“Instructor school will likely be the last formal flying training I attend in the Air Force, and I am honored to be trusted with the responsibility to help shape the future of our squadron,” Spy said. “To anyone with a goal, know that a roadblock is not necessarily the end of the road -- there just might be a detour or two you have to take to get there.”

## Longtime Nevada Guard Child and Youth Program coordinator retires

By Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
17th Sustainment Brigade

LAS VEGAS — Delana Cardenas, the Nevada National Guard's longtime Child and Youth Program coordinator, retired in May after nearly a decade of service in the Military and Family Services Office.

Nevada Guard officials gathered in late April at the North Las Vegas Readiness Center to say thank you and farewell to Cardenas and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

“Delana put her heart and soul into taking care of our families,” State Enlisted Leader Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Spaulding said. “I can't thank her enough for everything she has done for us over the years.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
Ret. Col. James Walker, left, and Rex Miller, right, from Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve, ESGR, present the Seven Seals Award to Nevada National Guard's Child and Youth Program Lead Coordinator, Delana Cardenas at the North Las Vegas Readiness Center Apr. 29.

Cardenas spent nine years in the position serving southern Nevada military families. She helped build Soldier family readiness teams and assisted countless children and youth with the many challenges associated with deployments and helped them grow into strong and resilient adults, Spaulding said.

No matter the situation, Cardenas lightened the atmosphere with her optimism and buoyant attitude. She planned and organized myriad events, including both the annual Santa's Workshop and Spring Fling events that recognized the support and sacrifice of military children.

“It has really been a privilege to serve the Nevada Guard,” Cardenas said. “The families and children inspired me every day. I will miss you all tremendously.”

## FACILITIES ROUNDUP:

# Yerington Armory becomes Robert T. Herbert Administrative Building; Army Guard plans for \$46 million addition to Reid Center

By Lt. Col. (Ret.) Steve Ranson and  
Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

YERINGTON – Retired Nevada Army Guard Maj. Gen. Robert T. Herbert's 42-year military career was recognized by Yerington city officials in late March as the facility housing the town's City Hall and council chambers was officially named the Robert T. Herbert Administrative Building. The "new" administrative building is the remodeled Yerington Armory at 14 Joe Parr Way.

Herbert is the last Nevada Guard Soldier to attain the rank of major general. While working on Sen. Harry Reid's staff in Washington for more than two decades, Herbert assisted the senator with the procurement of more than \$200 million for Nevada Guard equipment and improvements in infrastructure.

Herbert retired from the military in 2018. The Las Vegas resident said he was speechless when he learned Yerington officials wanted to affix his name to their Administrative Building.

"I never thought I accomplished enough to justify having my name on a building, but there were people who thought otherwise," Herbert said.

The Yerington Armory was completed in January 1959 and Battery B began drilling at the building with four officers and 66 enlisted Soldiers. March 8, 1959, was declared "National Guard Day" in the Yerington community – a day for the community to honor the men and officers of the local unit. The City of Yerington, in need of a larger city hall, purchased it for \$232,000 in 2019 after the 609th Engineer Company decided to drill solely in Fallon.

Yerington Mayor John Garry said he recommended naming the building after Herbert after reading the major general's impressive biography.

Herbert served in the U.S. Army for 42



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Maj. Gen. Robert Herbert poses for photos in front of the newly named Robert T. Herbert Administrative Building, March 31, in Yerington.

years in a variety of enlisted, warrant officer and officer positions. He began his military career at age 18 patrolling the East-West German border as a young helicopter pilot in the active-duty Army. After joining the Nevada Guard in 1989, he moved up through the ranks to become the Deputy Commander of the Nevada Army Guard, the Assistant Adjutant General and finally the special assistant to the Chief of the National Guard as the Nevada Army Guard's lone – and last – major general.

Herbert is also renowned as a leader in the aviation community and an expert in national transportation policy. He accrued more than 7,000 flight hours as a commercial and military pilot on both fixed and rotary-wing aircraft.

**WINNEMUCCA ARMORY UPDATE** – On the same day Yerington named its administrative building after Robert Herbert, the City of Winnemucca assumed possession of the Nevada Army Guard Armory at 735 W. 4th Street. The armory, built in 1959, is now the City of Winnemucca's centralized location

for its public works department.

**NEW FACILITY IN STEAD** – The Nevada National Guard is now leasing the former Navy Operational Support Center in Reno's Stead neighborhood at 4601 Cocoa Avenue. The Nevada Guard started its lease on April 1 and will pay the University of Nevada, Reno, \$17,000 per month for use of the facility. The property is likely to become a pre-mobilization site for departing Guard units.

The acquisition of the Navy Operational Support Center will offset some of the office and training space lost when the Nevada Guard's 50-year lease on nearby Stead Training Site expired in 2019.

**HUGE EXPANSION PLANNED FOR REID CENTER** – The Nevada Guard plans to continue to expand its available building space in upcoming years and is in the planning phase for the most expensive construction project in Nevada Guard history – a \$46 million expansion of the Harry Reid Readiness Center in Washoe County. The expenditure will surpass the \$37 million construction cost of the Speedway Readiness Center in North Las Vegas that was completed last year. The cost of the expansion on the 23-year-old building will be split equally by federal and state funding.

The expansion is set to add 55,000-60,000 square feet of space to the Reid Readiness Center, 19980 Army Aviation Drive in Reno. All of the current units drilling at that facility will remain at that site. The project is expected to be completed by 2025.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Navy Operational Support Center located in the Stead neighborhood in north Reno.



## Nevada Guard introduces ground breaking, innovative mentoring programs

By Capt. Micah Gill  
106th Public Affairs Detachment

CARSON CITY – The Nevada National Guard launched two new, innovative mentorship programs this past spring, including the Female Mentoring and Morale Program and the Joint Mentoring Program. The Nevada Guard and the Virginia Guard are the only two National Guard states conducting these groundbreaking joint mentorship programs concurrently within the 54 National Guard states and territories.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
Soldiers attend a Nevada Female Mentoring and Morale Program (FMMP) event hosted by Col. Amy Klima at the Speedway Armory, Saturday, June 5, 2021 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The mentoring programs are designed to help Nevada Guard Soldiers and Airmen refine their leadership skills and learn from current leaders so they can realize their military-career potential and prepare to fill future leadership positions.

Men are welcome to participate in the Female Mentoring and

Morale Program. According to Col. Amy Klima, the deputy chief of staff of logistics, the overarching mission of the FMMP is to provide mentorship, personal and professional development and fellowship to both female and male junior enlisted service members, NCOs, as well as commissioned and warrant officers. The focus of the program is to strengthen and empower the Nevada Guard's female ranks through mentoring, coaching, professional engagements and networking.

According to Klima, the long-term vision for the FMMP is to become the premier personal and professional development program for all service member's regardless of gender with a focus on addressing female service member challenges and issues via leadership forums, workshops, panels and one-on-one mentoring sessions.

The Nevada Guard introduced its Female Mentoring and Morale Program in May at the program's inaugural meeting in Reno.

In February, the Nevada Guard introduced its first Joint Mentoring Program in conjunction with the launch of Nevada Leadership University. NLU is an educational tool designed to assist the development of emerging talent (Soldiers and Airmen)

destined for leadership positions of increasing responsibility while simultaneously contributing to the strategic initiatives of the Nevada Guard.

The Joint Mentoring Program began last winter when Nevada Guard Soldiers, Airmen and civilian employees were invited to submit an "Individual Development Action Plan" via the NLU to the Nevada Guard's Joint Mentoring Advisory Board. The board assessed each submission and matched each applicant with an appropriate mentor based on the applicant's military goals, knowledge and abilities. The applicant's and mentor's military branches are immaterial, thus creating true "joint" mentorship teams.

Today, more than 30 pairs of mentors and mentees are teamed and conduct ongoing mentoring sessions. Each team meets at least once a month to discuss career goals, experiences and guidance. The program aims to add a new set of mentoring partnerships annually.

"Talent Management is a top organizational priority for the Nevada Guard. The fact we need to prepare our upcoming leaders as best we can is the reason for establishing this mentoring partnership program," said Col. D. Rodger Waters, the senior program manager for the Joint Mentoring Program. "The Joint Mentoring Program is modeled on the Department of Defense's mentorship framework and is a formal, double-volunteer initiative that welcomes all Nevada Guard Soldiers, Airmen and civilians who want to improve their leadership skills."

Waters said the establishment of the Joint Mentoring Program emphasizes the priority the Nevada Guard places on its human resources. He noted how the Nevada Guard Strategic Plan for 2020-2035 states one of the organization's goals is to prioritize "People First" and "invest in our human capital, develop leaders, manage talent, improve organizational culture and care for members, families, retirees and veterans."

The Joint Mentoring Program is designed to benefit the mentor as well as the mentee. Mentors benefit by gaining renewed enthusiasm in their role as an expert as well as improving their skills in coaching, counseling and listening. At the end of the year, the teams are set to provide feedback and review the program's successes and challenges in an effort to make future partnerships even more productive.

For information on the FMMP, write to amy.k.klima.mil@mail.mil or Chief Master Sgt. Angela Ash at angela.ash.1@us.af.mil.

For information on the Joint Mentoring program, write to daniel.r.waters2.mil@mail.mil and include the subject line "NVNG Joint Mentoring Program."

# Nevada Legislature passes numerous laws for Guard

Staff reports

CARSON CITY – The 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature in Carson City this year included several new laws that will impact the lives of Soldiers, Airmen and Civilians of the Nevada National Guard.

**Laws included:** the ability to transfer the state's college tuition waiver to one family member; the creation of an annual tax holiday on Nevada Day weekend for active Nevada Guard members for the next 10 years; the transition of the Division of Emergency Management from the Department of Public Safety to the Nevada Office of the Military; new law on sexual harassment and assault; and provide about \$40 million in state funds for capital improvement projects. Here is a brief description of Nevada National Guard-related bills that became law this year:

**Assembly Bill 156:** This bill, spearheaded by the Nevada National Guard Association, authorizes transfer of the in-state tuition waiver to one family member. Nevada Guardsmen become eligible to transfer their ability to waive tuition to a family member after they re-enlist following six years of service. Officers are also eligible after serving six years. Previously, only active Nevada National Guard members were eligible for the state's tuition waiver at Nevada System of Higher Education schools. Under the new law, one family member — spouse or child — can receive the tuition waiver. The tuition waiver cannot be transferred to more than one person.

**Senate Bill 440:** This bill, proposed by the Governor's office, amends existing state law to create a sales tax holiday for members of the Nevada National Guard and their DEERS dependent family members. In the 2005 legislative session, Nevada lawmakers created an exemption from certain sales and use tax for members of the Nevada National Guard called into active overseas service. The bill revises that law and creates a sales tax holiday for members of the Nevada National Guard who are residents of Nevada. This three-day tax holiday will occur annually for the next 10 years. It will fall on Nevada Day observed and the following Saturday and Sunday. According to Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak, Senate Bill 440 served as a token of gratitude for the Nevada National Guard's work during the pandemic.

**Assembly Bill 485:** This law, also proposed by the Governor, transferred the Division of Emergency Management and its powers and duties from the Department of Public Safety to the Office of the Military, granting the Adjutant General authority over DEM. At the onset of the pandemic last year, DEM moved under the Nevada National Guard to navigate the state through the global emergency.

"It became apparent that managing statewide emergencies called for a more efficient, effective response," said Maj. Gen. Ondra Berry, Nevada adjutant general. "This model proved to be the best answer and a way forward for future emergencies."

**Senate Bill 28:** This Nevada National Guard proposed bill strengthens existing state law to establish a punitive punishment provision for sexual harassment in the Nevada National Guard and aligns state military justice code with Department of Defense legal definitions for sexual assault and consent. This provides commanders with an option under the state's military justice code for disciplining a service member who sexually harasses another member. Previously,



Photo By Senior Master Sgt. Paula Macomber  
Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak signs Senate Bill 28 into law May 27 at his office at the Capitol in Carson City. The law changes existing Nevada statute surrounding sexual assault and harassment in the military. It was one of several laws concerning the Nevada National Guard passed during this year's legislative session

sexual harassment was not a specific punitive article under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

"The law aligns the state military justice code with federal policy to simplify legal analysis on whether a sexual assault occurred, as defined by the Department of Defense, not Nevada criminal statutes," said Lt. Col. Kevin Remus, Nevada state judge advocate general.

**Senate Bill 492 and other Capital Improvement Projects:** The Legislative Session also included the approval of about \$40 million in state funds to assist capital improvement projects at Nevada National Guard facilities around the state. In all, 22 projects were approved, including about \$26 million state funds — matched by \$19 million in federal funds — for the construction of the 55,000-square-foot addition to the Washoe County Training Center. The addition will increase the total size of the readiness center facility from 61,000 square feet to more than 110,000 square feet.

**Senate Bill 432:** This law appropriates \$1.4 million for state maintenance projects, computer hardware, software as well as shop equipment and tools with about 40 percent state funds and the remainder provided by the federal government.

Additionally, the Nevada Legislature approved the creation of a civilian state employee to work as the Nevada National Guard's Psychological Health Manager. The Psychological Health Manager begins work as a state employee starting in October. Also, the Nevada National Guard was approved for funding authorization to establish two new Department of Defense STARBASE youth programs in Nevada.

"Everything mentioned here highlights the level of gratitude our state's Governor, lawmakers and citizens show for the men and women of the Nevada National Guard, especially after the largest and longest state activation in history during the pandemic, five unit deployments and a record-setting firefighting season," Berry said. "We must continue to serve with distinction, class and pride in our state, especially as our state continues to support our members and families in such a profound way."

# Self-described 'computer geek' oversees joint staff, joins general officer corps

By 1st Lt. Emerson Marcus  
152nd Airlift Wing

RENO — John Week planned to leave the Nevada Air Guard in 1989 after completing his college courses and reaching the rank of technical sergeant. Now he's the latest Airman to attain the rank of brigadier general.

"I developed an interest in computers in the 1970s and carried that throughout my career and life," said Week, who grew up in Minden where his father taught business and typewriting at Douglas High School. "I enjoyed working in aircraft maintenance, but I really wasn't doing anything with computers there, and that was my passion."

After working in the private sector at a few computer shops in Reno, Nevada Air Guard leadership eyed Week's computer skills and hired him as a supply management officer largely because the squadron sought to transition many processes in an increasingly digital workforce.

"I was impressed with his computer skills and down to earth personality," said retired Brig. Gen. Larry Cerfoglio, who at the time was the commander of the 152nd Resource Management Squadron. "He thrived in supply and developed many changes."

Three decades after he was hired, Week was promoted to the rank of brigadier general during a ceremony in late January at the Nevada Air Guard Base auditorium in Reno.

His journey to reach the general officer corps almost didn't get off the ground.

"I didn't see myself as officer material," Week said with a laugh about his decision to commission and stay in the Nevada Air Guard. "I also wasn't sure how I would do in supply. Maintenance and supply aren't known to get along. It's the nature of the beast."

While serving as a company grade officer at the Air Guard Base supply shop, Week also put his computer skills to work as a member of the base network implementation team.

"We didn't have a local area network on the base," he said. "There were a few PCs scattered around the base, but no internet access. There was not enough manpower at the time. They basically looked around the base for anyone with experience with computers."

Following a decade in supply and helping the Nevada Air Guard transition into the Internet Age, Week took command of the 152nd Maintenance Squadron. After three deployments to Iraq and moving up the ranks,



Photo by 1st Lt. Emerson Marcus

Members of Brig. Gen. John Week's family assist with the pinning of his new rank during Week's promotion ceremony at the Nevada Air Guard Base in Reno in late January.

Week eventually became deputy commander of the 152nd Maintenance Group in 2008. In 2014, Week became commander of the 152nd Mission Support Group.

"When you're in aircraft maintenance, you think of yourself as the support asset, which is true, but without the mission support group, you're not going to get anything done," Week said. "We made customer service one of our main priorities. A lot of what I learned working in the computer industry in the 1980s grew from that goal of excellent customer service. I'll admit, there were times when I was younger and enlisted, I wasn't always treated well. That was not going to be the case when I was commander."

In 2016, Week became the chief of the joint staff. He became director in 2017 and maintains that role overseeing the Nevada Guard's joint and domestic operations. That was no small task last March when the Nevada Guard ramped up for its largest and lengthiest state activation in history during the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 1,150 Nevada Guardsmen activated and more than 400 remained on orders into the summer for the state's pandemic response.

"It was truly unprecedented and unlike anything we've ever done in the Nevada Guard," Week said. "The joint force — both Nevada Army and Air Guard — really came together during the past year to help the state

combat the virus. We weren't trained in community based collection sites, vaccine and food distribution, but everyone came together to accomplish a variety of missions."

Even with his accomplishments, Week still describes himself as "a nerdy, computer geek" and admits one of his favorite hobbies is communicating with people around the world through ham-radio technology.

"It's an interesting hobby," he said. "I've connected with all kinds of people around the world."

Cerfoglio, who retired in 2006 as commander of the Nevada Air Guard, said he was happy he and other officers in Nevada Guard leadership positions spotted Week's skills, effectively keeping the newly-promoted general in the Guard for an additional three decades.

"I'm very proud of his hard work and dedication to the Nevada Air Guard," Cerfoglio said. "He will make an outstanding general officer."

Week was not the only significant change in leadership during the month of January. Lt. Col. Ethan Waitte, an F-22 pilot with the Air Force, replaced Lt. Col. Justin Galli to command the 232nd Combat Training Squadron. The change of command ceremony was held at the Las Vegas Readiness Center.

# 593rd Transportation Soldier chooses bodybuilding over city's mean streets

By Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
17th Sustainment Brigade

LAS VEGAS — Spc. Jimmy Payton escaped the turmoil and uncertainty of Chicago's South Side caused by drugs and violence. Now, Sin City has supplanted the Windy City as Payton's hometown as he focuses on his promising future in the sport of bodybuilding and serves with the Nevada Army Guard.

“Chicago is a different world,” Payton said. “The city is in a bad position now with all the gang-related violence and drugs. A lot of people I knew there were getting shot.”

Payton was born in Clarksdale, Mississippi. His hometown is famous for being the birthplace of several famous blues musicians including John Lee Hooker and Muddy Waters. The Delta Blues Museum is located in Clarksdale along the Sunflower River.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie  
Spc. Jimmy Payton of the 593rd Motor Transportation Company.

When he was a toddler, his family relocated to Chicago where he spent most of his childhood and formative years. He escaped the mean streets of Chicago's South Side at age 25 and relocated to St. Louis, Missouri. He was a forklift trainer and operator for a short time until he finally decided to leave the Midwest for good. He moved to sunny Las Vegas in July 2017.

Shortly after moving to the Silver State, Payton enlisted in the Nevada Army Guard in April 2018. He joined as a motor transport operator, 88M, with the 593rd Motor Transport Company based in Las Vegas and has been with the unit ever since.

“I wanted that discipline in my life,” Payton said. “For me, serving in the military is one of the most honorable things I can do.”

Three years after joining the Army Guard, Payton now studies computer science at UNLV and works as a delivery driver for Amazon when not performing his part-time duties with the Guard. These days, he's working full-time for the Guard while assigned to the COVID-19 Task Force southern strike team.

In addition to his school, work and military responsibilities, Payton has been competing as an amateur bodybuilder for nearly six years.

“I started bodybuilding when I was 24,” Payton said. “I lost three really close friends in Chicago. These were people I knew since kindergarten and they all died in shootings. I was under a lot of stress and I just wanted to get away.”

Payton said he initially used bodybuilding as a way to cope with the loss of his friends but soon found a passion for the sport.

“It took me to a different place (mentally) where I didn't have to



Photo courtesy of Spc. Jimmy Payton

Spc. Jimmy Payton competes at the 2020 National Physique Committee's Sampson Showdown at the College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas. He recently took first place in the Men's Classic Physique Awards competition contested in March in Las Vegas.

worry or think about the bad things happening around me,” Payton said. “When I go into the gym the world shuts off.”

Bodybuilding became a part of Payton's daily routine and when he began to see his own physical transformation the sport transitioned into his lifestyle. In March 2016 he competed in the St. Louis Natural Bodybuilding Classic and won first in his class and first overall.

Last year, he competed at the 2020 Sampson Showdown at the College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas and took first place in the Men's Classic Physique division.

“I was so excited,” Payton said with a laugh. “They gave me a huge Conan the Barbarian sword and everything. It was a big deal and winning that set the stage for me to compete this year at the nationals.”

Payton said there is one simple mindset to maintain that will lead to success in the military and in civilian employment and bodybuilding. In addition from competing at the national bodybuilding level, Payton has a military goal — he wants to attain the rank of first sergeant someday.

“Set the goal, do the work, and achieve the goal,” Payton said.. “Nothing beats hard work. I'm not giving you 80 or 90 percent; I'm giving you 100 percent of everything I've got, every time.”



## Biathlon vexation melts away as aviation Soldier claims silver, bronze

By Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka  
Joint Force Headquarters

CAMP RIPLEY, Minn. — Nearly 50 years of Nevada Guard frustration and disappointment in the men's open division of biathlon melted away like winter snow in Las Vegas as Sgt. Jordan McElroy claimed two medals at the Chief of the National Guard Bureau Championships in February.

McElroy's silver in the 12.5-kilometer pursuit race and his bronze in the 10-kilometer sprint were the Nevada Guard's first men's open podium results since biathlon became a National Guard-sponsored sport in 1973. Nevada Air Guard retired Lt. Col. Julie Deitrich won four medals in women's biathlon during the 2012 and 2013 seasons. Biathlon is the Winter Olympic sport that combines cross country skiing and rifle marksmanship.

Although he had been on the podium in the past while a member of the Vermont National Guard, McElroy's exemplary results were somewhat surprising considering he barely skied last year while spending the majority of 2020 deployed with 2/238th Aviation in Afghanistan, where he worked as a crew chief aboard the unit's UH-60 Black Hawk medical evacuation helicopters.

"I was completely shocked looking at the results each day and realizing how fast I was skiing and how good it felt," said McElroy, 27, of Truckee, California.

While in Afghanistan last year, McElroy said he put his cardio training on the back-bencher and focused on strength training. He said weightlifting while deployed actually improved a lingering back injury that had affected his skiing for several years.

"Deploying and being able to focus on power and heavy lifting for a year proved to be the best thing for my body and my athletic career," McElroy said. "I've come back so much stronger than I would have been otherwise and it showed on the trails."

Indeed, McElroy was clearly the fastest skier during the eight day meet that ran Feb. 19-26 at Camp Ripley's biathlon range. Only some missed shots at the range prevented McElroy from climbing higher onto the podium.

In the men's 10-kilometer sprint, McElroy hit on five of his 10 targets and finished the 6.2-mile course in 36 minutes, 18 seconds. Jake Ellingson of the Minnesota Guard hit six targets and won in 34:49; Wynn Roberts, North Dakota National Guard, only missed one shot and garnered silver in 35:52.

In the 12.5-kilometer pursuit, McElroy's skiing speed was on display as he quickly caught and passed Roberts and moved into second place.

He likely would have caught Ellingson with a smaller number of penalty laps, but McElroy missed seven shots (out of 20) while Ellingson remained on target and hit 18 of 20 shots. Ellingson finished in 42:45; McElroy was a scant 1:24 back in 44:09 despite



Photo courtesy Minnesota National Guard Public Affairs Office  
Sgt. Jordan McElroy of 2/238th Aviation skis to a second-place finish in the Chief of the National Guard Bureau Biathlon Championships at Camp Ripley, Minn., in late February. McElroy's silver medal marked the highest podium finish by a Nevada Guard Soldier since the championships began in 1973.

nine misses.

"It was an amazing feeling being able to race and go 'full gas' without having back pain for the first time in seven years," said an ecstatic McElroy.

McElroy was the 2012 California State Cross Country Ski champion and then enlisted in the Vermont National Guard to pursue a spot in the Army's World Class Athlete Program. That program allows biathletes to train for international and Olympic competitions while on military orders.

McElroy's back injury led him to return home to Truckee in 2018 and join the 2/238th. With his recent results, however, there is a chance he may rejoin the All-Guard team and pursue high-level competition once again.

In the team competition, the Minnesota Guard placed first in both the men's and women's contests.

First Lt. Jessica Miller, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Paul Santilena and retired Sgt. Craig Kenison have also won medals in biathlon.

All Soldiers and Airmen in the Nevada Guard are eligible to compete in biathlon. For information, call 775-887-7250

# Record number of Nevada employers receive 2020 ESGR Patriot Awards

Staff reports

RENO — In the unforgettable past year that included the global pandemic and many days of potential civil unrest, the state of Nevada called upon the Nevada National Guard for an unprecedented amount of support in 2020.

In turn, Nevada National Guard Soldiers and Airmen as well as other Silver State reserve component military service members had to rely on their civilian employers for a record amount of support during all of the extended missions that occurred in 2020. The vast majority of Nevada Guardsmen are Citizen-Soldiers and –Airmen who hold civilian jobs

and perform their military jobs on weekends and short-term annual training periods.

In order to recognize the historic support of Nevada’s employers in 2020, the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve organization in cooperation with the Nevada National Guard hosted the first ESGR Statewide Hybrid Live-Virtual Patriot Award Presentation in February. Nevada Guard facilities in Reno and Las Vegas hosted the in-person attendee while dozens joined in remotely for the event from across the state. More than 100 supervisors and managers from 98 Nevada businesses, companies and organizations received ESGR Patriot Awards. The presentation of 120 Patriot Awards was a Nevada ESGR single-day record.

ESGR is a nationwide Department of Defense organization with committees in 54 states and territories that enhances the relationships between employers and their employees who serve in the nation’s National Guard and reserve component forces.

ESGR Patriot Awards are awarded to civilian supervisors and bosses who have been nominated by Guard or reserve component service members for extraordinary support of the service member

## 98 companies and organizations acknowledged for superior support

More than 100 supervisors and managers from 98 Nevada businesses, companies and organizations received 2020 Patriot Awards. The Patriot Award recipients were (in alphabetical order):

**Ameriprise Financial; Ace Fire Systems; Adidas; Aerotek; Allied Universal; Amazon; Amentum – Alion; AMR; Aries Consultants; Art Encounter; Buffalo Wild Wings; Caesars Enterprise; Caesars Entertainment; CaptionCall, LLC; Captioning Center, Henderson, Nev.; Carson City Health & Human Services; CCSD and CCSD Arville Bus Yard; Centennial Hills Hospital Medical Center; City of Las Vegas; DPS; City of Reno; City of Reno Public Works; Clark County School District; Clark County School District and Police Department; Community Ambulance; Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas; CTI Resource Management Services, Inc.; Culpepper Associates and Security Services; Dept. of Homeland Security; TSA; Division of Parole and Probation; Division of Welfare and Supportive Services; Doctoroo; DSW; Enterprise Holdings; Envision Eyecare; Ethel M Chocolates; Falcon Lumper Services; FCFS Child**



Photo by Sgt. Zandra Duran  
Denise Del Porto of International Gaming Technology, right, discusses employer support of Guardsmen with Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Ondra Berry, center, and Senior Enlisted Leader Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Spaulding in February at the Patriot Awards Presentation in Reno in February.

and/or their family. The Patriot Award reflects the efforts made to support service members via a wide range of measures including schedule flexibility, family care and extended leaves of absences if needed. (Spouses of service members may also nominate a supervisor or manager for a Patriot Award.)

“The award presentation is a celebration of patriotism and service and it provides an opportunity to recognize supportive employers and individuals who have gone ‘above and beyond’ to support the Nevada Guard and the state’s reserve warriors,” said Steve Seroka, the Nevada ESGR Chairman.

A total of 120 supervisors and managers from the following 98 Nevada organizations received Patriot Awards. Patriot Award winners will be considered for other ESGR awards, including Seven Seals awards and Above and Beyond awards.

**Haven; FedEx Office; Fletcher Jones Imports; George Raymond Group; GoPro Interiors; Great Plains Enterprise; Herrera Family Dental; Hilton Grand Vacations; Home Depot; International Gaming Technology; Keurig Dr. Pepper; KGHM; Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department; Market Grill Café; Mears Pipeline; Medicwest Ambulance; MGM Grand Las Vegas; Mineral County Sheriff; Mission Support & Test Services; NACE; NDOT; Nevada Department of Corrections; NEVCAL Trucking; NV Injury Law, LLC; Orkin Pest Control; Panasonic; PF Chang’s; Progressive Insurance; Red Star Foam; Robertson Ready Mix; Ruby Duncan Elementary; SB Landscaping & Design; Securitas Security Services; Securitas USA; Sherwin Williams; Smith’s Marketplace; South West Medical; Southern Glazer’s Wine & Spirits; Southwest Airlines; Southwest Gas Corporation; Southwest Medical; Spring Valley Hospital; Station Casinos; The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas; The Mirage; The Rio; Tiffany & Co. at The Forum Shops; Trilogy Spa Holdings; Union Pacific Railroad; University Police Services Southern Command; UPS Store; Venetian – Palazzo; Vitalant; Walmart; Washoe County Sheriff’s Office; WholeFoods Market; Wynn Las Vegas.**

# TENNYSON 'WIZARD' HUNTER: 2005-2021

## Air Guard's honorary pilot succumbs to cancer

By Senior Master Sgt. Paula Macomber  
152nd Airlift Wing

RENO — Honorary Capt. Tennyson “Wizard” Hunter, the Nevada Air Guard’s first Pilot for a Day, died in February after a long battle with Kabuki Syndrome. He was 15.

Hunter, or as Nevada Air Guardsmen called him, “Wizard,” – the call sign he received in 2019 during his Pilot for a Day service – touched the heart of every High Roller on the air base during his Pilot for a Day stint.

The Pilot for a Day Air Force program provides chronically-ill children a chance to experience Air Force life. With his jovial spirit and can-do attitude, Hunter made a memorable impact on the base during his one-day military career Dec. 16, 2019.

Wizard had Kabuki Syndrome, a congenital disorder triggered by a genetic mutation that affects multiple organ systems and causes developmental delays. He had over a dozen surgeries throughout his life. He finally succumbed to complications of his cancer treatment while in the arms of his parents.

Hunter was an eighth grader at Sky Ranch Middle School in Sparks. He was also a baseball player in the Sparks Centennial Little League Challenger Division.

Hunter was widely recognized across Nevada after he was the Renown Health Foundation 2015 Courage Award Recipient. Renown Children’s Hospital was the organization that nominated Hunter to be the first Nevada Air Guard Pilot for a Day.

### Memorable Day

Dec. 16, 2019, began with Hunter swearing in for a one-day oath of commission. Pilots briefed him on his “classified” mission before he received a tour of the 152nd Airlift Wing’s C-130 aircraft. He visited the base firehouse, security forces and the Federal Aviation Administration’s air traffic control tower before the day concluded with his retirement ceremony in the wing



Photo By Staff Sgt. Matthew Greiner

Capt. Tennyson Hunter (call sign “Wizard”), 152nd Airlift Wing pilot stops to pose for a photo during his Pilot for a Day event. The 152nd Airlift Wing honored “Wizard” for an entire day on Dec. 16, 2019.

**To nominate a  
'Pilot for a Day,'  
call 775-788-4515**

headquarters’ auditorium.

“Special events like this transcend our day-to-day tasks,” said Maj. Joseph Jaquish, who had briefed Hunter’s mission and organized his call-sign ceremony. “The Air Force focuses a lot on metrics, data and other numbers, but some projects go beyond numbers. You can’t quantify this. It was much bigger than that. It felt so nice to be part of something special.

“What made the day so enjoyable was that Capt. Hunter was such a wonderful kid.”

### Wizard receives call sign

Every Air Force pilot ultimately receives a call sign, but the pilot doesn’t

get to choose his/her moniker.

Within hours of his commission, Hunter’s potential call signs were narrowed down to four candidates: henceforth in the Nevada Air Guard, Hunter would be known as either “Kittens Mittens,” “Chef,” “Lotto” or “Wizard.”

The nominees were chosen based on his love of cats, his interest in baking, the airlift wing’s luck in acquiring him, and his affinity for J.K. Rowling’s books and movie series “Harry Potter.” It was a tough choice, but in the end, “Wizard” took flight.

The announcement of Hunter’s call sign — revealed during a ceremony attended by more than 150 Nevada Airmen in the wing’s auditorium — was just one of several special moments Hunter experienced during the 152nd Airlift Wing’s inaugural Pilot for a Day.

The 152nd Airlift Wing is set to host a Pilot for a Day event this December. For nominations, call the Public Affairs Office at 775-788-4515.

# AWARDS • PROMOTIONS • RETIREMENTS

MOVING UP AND MOVING ON • October 2020 through February 2021

## Legion of Merit



LTC Brett Compston ..... 421st RTI  
COL Jerome Guerrero ..... JFHQ  
MSgt Christina Sweat ..... 152nd Maint Sqd

## Meritorious Service Medal



LTC Christine Ancajas ..... Med Det  
MAJ Kirk Anderson ..... JFHQ  
SMSgt Kevin Brun ..... 152nd Maint Ops Flight  
LTC Nicholas Chavez ..... 422nd ESB  
MAJ Layne Christopher ..... JFHQ  
CPT Samuel Delaney ..... 609th Engineer Co  
LTC Charles Dickinson ..... JFHQ  
LTC David Evans ..... 422nd ESB  
Lt Col Justin Galli ..... 232nd Ops Sqd  
Lt Col Brian Gunderson ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
LTC Karsten Hall ..... 422nd ESB  
CMSgt Terrance Hunt ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
MAJ Matthew Johnson ..... JFHQ  
LTC Matthew Jonkey ..... JFHQ  
PFC Brandon Lemus ..... 609th Engineer Co  
MAJ Laurie Macafee ..... Med Det  
MSgt Linden Maples ..... 152nd Maint Group  
SFC Genaro Martinez ..... 421st RTI  
SSG Jennifer Nunes ..... Med Det  
COL Cory Schulz ..... JFHQ  
Maj Megan Sharp ..... 152nd Force Support Sqd  
MSgt Christina Sweat ..... 152nd Maint Group  
CPT Lionel Vincent ..... 422nd ESB  
ISG Donald Welch ..... 421st RTI

## Army Commendation Medal



SPC Evelyn Aguirre ..... 422nd ESB  
1LT Christopher Bonilla ..... 422nd ESB  
LTC Michael Bordallo ..... Recruiting & Retention  
SFC Christopher Breuer ..... 422nd ESB  
CPT Michael Bryson ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Christopher Bushey ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Bryanna Chaffee ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Michael Childsgussen ..... 777th Eng Det  
CPT Michael Colyer ..... Recruiting & Retention  
LTC Brett Compston ..... 421st RTI  
MAJ David Connolly ..... JFHQ  
SSG Nicholas Cotham ..... 609th Engineer Co  
SFC Ryan Davidson ..... 422nd ESB  
CPT Sonji Davis ..... 422nd ESB  
CPT John Dekoning ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG David Eisele ..... 150th Maint Co  
LTC Rommel Ferrer ..... JFHQ  
CPT Jamee Finley ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Shayne Fulmer ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC David Gardiner ..... 422nd ESB  
MSG Aric Garza ..... 422nd ESB  
CPT Kelly Gonzales ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Jason Gordon ..... 421st RTI  
SSG Jason Gordon ..... 421st RTI  
SGT Marco Hernandez ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Charron Hernandez ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Zachary Heskett ..... 137th MP

SGT Reese Johnson ..... 422nd ESB  
SFC Paul Jones ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Aaron Kalas ..... Recruiting & Retention  
SFC Christian Kessler ..... JFHQ  
MSG Jeffrey Lashua ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Gilbert Lemos ..... 422nd ESB  
1LT Nick Lighthouse ..... 422nd ESB  
MSG Catalina Manzanares ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Alison Martindale ..... Recruiting & Retention  
CPT Miles McGuire ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Tyler Meroth ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Christopher Moll ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Faith Moreira ..... 422nd ESB  
CPT Brian Mutas ..... 422nd ESB  
SFC Nathan Owens ..... 240th Engineer Co  
SSG Ruby Pineda ..... 422nd ESB  
SFC Raymond Polson ..... 1859th Trans Co  
CW2 Epifanio Rodarte ..... JFHQ  
SSG Jessica Sargent ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Michael Searcy ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Mathew Stanley ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Andrew Storla ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Kyle Thrall ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Zachary Towe ..... 150th Maint Co  
CW2 Rory Townley ..... 422nd ESB  
SFC Thomas Urso ..... 422nd ESB  
CPT Victor Vanhorn ..... JFHQ  
CW3 Domenic Veneziano ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Jessica Weaver ..... Med Det  
SPC Greyson Winkelman ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
SFC Ryan Wroblewski ..... 422nd ESB

## Air Force Commendation Medal



PFC Anthony Alvarez-Pichal ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Joshua Bigham ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
SSG Daniel Borden ..... 1-221st Cav D Co  
SSG Leonard Bundy Jr. .... 1-221st Cav HHT  
1LT Xavier Chapa ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
SSG Jordan Coleman ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
SPC Katie Colette ..... 17th SB  
1SGT Nathaniel Cothran ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
CPT Benjamin Delapaz ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
2LT Chaz Fernandez ..... 72nd MP  
CPT Tana Gurule ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
1LT Benjamin Holden ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
SSG Pedro Jaime ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
SFC Christian Kessler ..... 92nd CST  
1SGT Christopher Laduica ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
SPC Cynthia Lam ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
SSG Christopher Larson ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
CPT Eric Mangino ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
MAJ Michael Moya ..... JFHQ  
SFC Brandon Pick ..... JFHQ  
SSG Alan Potter ..... 150th Maint Co  
MAJ Matthew Powers ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
PFC Fernando Ramirez-Campos ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
SFC Jonathon Rudd ..... 1-221st Cav D Co  
SSG Matthew Steffen ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
SGT Philip Stenberg ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
1LT Alexander Tarangul ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
1LT Tyler Toomey ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
CPT Michelle Tucay ..... 17th SB  
CPT Tyler Wistisen ..... 1-221st Cav HHT

## Army Achievement Medal



SPC Jacob Blizzard ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Elijah Booth ..... 422nd ESB  
PV2 Josiah Boyd ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Gianni Catanzaro ..... 100th Quartermaster Co  
LTC Brett Compston ..... 421st RTI  
SGT Jacob Flick ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Beatriz Flores ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Jonathan Franklin ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Izaya Harris ..... 240th Engineer Co  
SPC Hunter Hayes ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Hector Hernandez ..... 240th Engineer Co  
PFC Donevan Holley ..... 100th Quartermaster Co  
SSG John Holliday ..... Recruiting & Retention  
SPC Robert Horner ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC William Isbister ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Thomas Kavanagh ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Matthew Lagrone ..... Recruiting & Retention  
SGT Sasha Lawrence ..... 100th Quartermaster Co  
SPC Evelyn Lugo ..... 1864th Trans Co  
SPC Idalia Maldonado-Rodriguez ..... 422nd ESB  
CPT Millardmanuel Maynard ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Olman Meza ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Cody Miles ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Nikolay Minkov ..... 777th Eng Det  
SPC William Monroe ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Faith Moreira ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Jessica Narvaez ..... 72nd MP  
SPC Casey Niles ..... 422nd ESB  
SFC Jose Portillo ..... 421st RTI  
SGT Chay Rhodes ..... 422nd ESB  
PFC Baylee Robinson ..... Det 6 D Co Bat 2  
SFC Benjamin Rogers ..... JFHQ  
SPC Shaira Roscom ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Cristina Salinas ..... 422nd ESB  
PFC Fatima Sanchez ..... 422nd ESB  
SPC Kailee Scauturo ..... 72nd MP  
SPC Diana Suastigui ..... 1864th Trans Co  
SGT Cody Wilson ..... 422nd ESB

## Air Force Achievement Medal



SFC Raymond Barquin ..... 92nd CST  
SFC Raymond Barquin ..... JFHQ  
SSgt Eric Bender ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqd  
CPT Layne Christopher ..... JFHQ  
LTC Brett Compston ..... 421st RTI  
Amn Alexis Duclayan ..... 152nd Force Support Sqd  
MSgt Matthew Farley ..... 152nd Airlift Wing  
MAJ Rommel Ferrer ..... JFHQ  
SrA Lourdes Garciamartinez ..... 152nd Force Support Sqd  
COL Jerome Guerrero ..... JFHQ  
CW3 Karen Harris ..... JFHQ  
SSG Michael Kostak ..... JFHQ  
SSG Walter H. Lowell ..... 106th PAD  
MAJ Laurie Macafee ..... Med Det  
MAJ Paul Adcox ..... 422nd ESB  
CPT John Dekoning ..... 422nd ESB  
SGT Beatriz Flores ..... 422nd ESB  
SSG Charron Hernandez ..... 422nd ESB  
MSG Catalina Manzanares ..... 422nd ESB

## Nevada Distinguished Service Medal



BG Zachary Doser ..... JFHQ

# PROMOTIONS

## BG

John Week .....JFHQ

## COL/Col

Eván Kirkwood ..... 152nd Ops Group

## LTC/Lt Col

Charles Steffens ..... 152nd Ops Support Sqd  
 Jeffrey Bellato ..... 192nd Airlift Sqd  
 Shannon Castaneda .....JFHQ  
 Geoffrey Franks .....JFHQ

## MAJ/Maj

Michael Reed ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Jennifer Silva ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 James Bailey ..... 17th SB  
 Ryan Kabanuck ..... 192nd Airlift Sqd  
 Robert Simpson .....JFHQ

## CPT/Capt

Howard Kemple Jr ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
 George Smith ..... 152nd Airlift Wing  
 James Tilson Jr ..... 152nd Airlift Wing  
 Charles Burow ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 Alain Agbadje ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Sparkle McCuiston ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Joseph Lasky ..... 17th SB  
 Dean Thorpe ..... 192nd Airlift Sqd  
 Demurtus Brown ..... 232nd Ops Sqd  
 Millardmanuel Maynard ..... 757th CSSB

## 1LT/1st LT

Emerson Marcus ..... 152nd Airlift Wing  
 Vicenza Dall ..... 152nd Comptroller Flight  
 Rexford Barton ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Nikul Joshi ..... 152nd Maint Ops Flight  
 Nephtali Barrera ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 David Orr ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Matthew Stewart ..... 152nd Medical Group

## CW4

Jared Clack ..... 991st Aviation Troop Com

## CW3

Brice Crawford ..... 1859th Trans Co  
 Justin Fetty ..... 422nd ESB  
 Geoffrey Chrisman ..... Det 3 B Co Bat 2  
 Paul Santilena .....JFHQ

## CSM/SGM/CMSgt

Jason Nunes ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
 Christopher Barber ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Tregg Jackson ..... 152nd Coms Flight  
 Joseph Puertos ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 Frederick Bartalomy III ..... 17th SB  
 Kristina Litle ..... 422nd ESB  
 Angie Green .....JFHQ  
 Joseph Loader .....JFHQ

## 1SG/MSG/SMSGt

Christopher Laduca ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
 Justin Harris ..... 150th Maint Co  
 Tyler Richards ..... 152nd Avn. Maint. Sqd  
 Russell Tom ..... 152nd Comptroller Flight  
 David Colburn ..... 152nd Coms Flight  
 Amy Baker ..... 152nd Force Support Sqd  
 Matthew Fike ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Erik Redinbaugh ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Jason Fritz ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 April Apo ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqd  
 Larry Harlan Jr ..... 17th SB  
 Mayra Haaglund ..... 1859th Trans Co  
 Nathaniel Borja ..... 421st RTI  
 Kyland Lusby ..... 609th Engineer Co  
 Mitchell Hammond ..... 72nd MP  
 David Starkey ..... 757th CSSB  
 Nicholas Scobert ..... 991st Aviation Troop Com  
 Pak Castillo ..... Camp Stead  
 Joseph Babb .....JFHQ  
 Brandon Pick .....JFHQ  
 Jose Obregon ..... Recruiting & Retention

## SFC/MSGt

James Oconnor ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
 Mercedes Taimanglo ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
 Matthew Anderson ..... 150th Maint Co  
 Brandon Carney ..... 152nd Airlift Wing

Christa Morter ..... 152nd Airlift Wing  
 Adam Willett ..... 152nd Airlift Wing  
 Anthony Hinen ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Anthony Masten ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 David Morris ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Robert Randall ..... 152nd Coms Flight  
 Katie Cromeenes ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Jonathan Ewers ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Brandon Herbert ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 Rebecca Myrick ..... 152nd Maint Group  
 Brian Henning ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Katie McCray ..... 152nd Mission Support Group  
 Kristine Mireles ..... 152nd Mission Support Group  
 Christopher Des Roches ..... 152nd Ops Support Sqd  
 Lyle Smith ..... 152nd Ops Support Sqd  
 Paul Teska ..... 152nd Ops Support Sqd  
 Raymond Polson ..... 1859th Trans Co  
 Billy Jack Johnson ..... 192nd Airlift Sqd  
 Rita Middleton ..... 192nd Airlift Sqd  
 Nathan Owens ..... 240th Engineer Co  
 Paul Harvey ..... 421st RTI  
 Joshua Soriano ..... 72nd MP  
 Arameus Berkley .....JFHQ  
 Sonia Hernandez .....JFHQ  
 Russell Hottell .....JFHQ

## SSG/TSgt

Krystle Delpozo ..... 100th Quartermaster Co  
 Landon Smiley ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
 Francis Champa ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
 David Logan Jr ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
 Henry Grant Jr ..... 1-221st Cav D Co  
 Michael Halderman ..... 1-221st Cav D Co  
 Daniel Hancock ..... 1-221st Cav D Co  
 Christian Tijerina ..... 1-221st Cav D Co  
 Duncan Mayfield Jr ..... 150th Maint Co  
 Matthew Scarine ..... 150th Maint Co  
 Matthew Cunningham ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Logan Depue ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Alex Estrada ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Nathan Flint ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Lea Laney ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Cully Ruiz ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 William Willis ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 David Almada ..... 152nd Coms Flight  
 Cody Klingelhoets ..... 152nd Coms Flight  
 Britny Matteson ..... 152nd Coms Flight  
 Ty Reid ..... 152nd Coms Flight  
 Dirk Caldwell ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Markus Houge ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Andrew Mvecicars ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 James Stegmaier ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Jacqueline Isabella ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 Katherine Messinger ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 Kristopher Postma ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 Bryanna Richard ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 Cody Sharkey ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 Ashley Larson ..... 152nd Maint Group  
 David Balaam ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Michael Goldsworthy ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Andrew Marshall ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Danielle Delporto ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Nicholas Harvey ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Giovanna Libby ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Janalee Morris ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Simon Neugent ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Sarah Tucker ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Keith Trimble ..... 152nd Mission Support Group  
 Zachary Allen ..... 152nd Ops Support Sqd  
 Kathryn Hernandez ..... 152nd Ops Support Sqd  
 Robert Brown II ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqd  
 Jose Gutierrez ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqd  
 Marisa Moreno ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqd  
 Suzanne Ogrady ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqd  
 Kyle Freitas ..... 1859th Trans Co  
 Aaron Case ..... 1864th Trans Co  
 Benjamin Vance ..... 240th Engineer Co  
 Lenin Belalcazar ..... 421st RTI  
 Matthew Ruedas Jr ..... 421st RTI  
 Alexis Matute ..... 422nd ESB  
 Paul Schmidt ..... 422nd ESB  
 Christopher Thompson ..... 422nd ESB  
 Paige Timothy ..... 422nd ESB  
 Lilian Fraga ..... 593rd Trans Co  
 Jahel Moreno ..... 593rd Trans Co  
 Tyson Hawkins ..... 609th Engineer Co

Adlai Ceja .....JFHQ  
 Jacqueline Montano .....JFHQ  
 Jorge Wilsonperez ..... Recruiting & Retention

## SGT/SSgt

Brayden Anderson ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
 Dillon Gault ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
 Johan Hernandez ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
 Gannon Messerli ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 John Santacruz ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Malcolm Joshua Jacobe ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
 Andrew Scott ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
 Fabian Guerrero ..... 1-221st Cav D Co  
 Courtney Mckimmey ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
 David Newton ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
 Ashlee Dreher ..... 150th Maint Co  
 Belen Ramirez ..... 150th Maint Co  
 Bryan Vega ..... 150th Maint Co  
 Brennan Burns ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Shalee Meier ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Brendon Monette ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
 Austin Dutra ..... 152nd Force Support Sqd  
 Beata Meek ..... 152nd Force Support Sqd  
 Tyler Bickell ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Tyler Bickell ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Ryan Coleman ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Mackenzie Fitzpatrick ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Harley Gonzales ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Micah Schlink ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
 Cyrillfloyd Manse ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 Brittney Schierholt ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 David Zito ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
 Cody Betty ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Breanna Crisp ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Gannan Daugherty ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Conor Goetsch ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Miguel Santos ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Ethan Schoefer ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Joseph Sewell ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Victoria Stapledon ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 David Vong ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Shemar Wiggins ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
 Dawn Harris ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Naomi Munchlaclare ..... 152nd Medical Group  
 Bryan Reyes ..... 152nd Medical Group

# ACCESSIONS

Includes: New enlistments, transfers from other states/active duty and newly commissioned officers.

Hannah Fleming ..... 1/189th Aviation Co  
 Jeremy Laine ..... 1/189th Aviation Co  
 Katelyn Mulligan ..... 1/189th Aviation Co  
 Zia Zarah Ariston ..... 100th Quartermaster Co  
 Dieudonne Benice ..... 100th Quartermaster Co  
 Michael Gamonal ..... 100th Quartermaster Co  
 Megan Hartzler ..... 100th Quartermaster Co  
 Joanna Ontiveros Vazquez ..... 100th Quartermaster Co  
 Jake Smith ..... 100th Quartermaster Co  
 William Clemons ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
 Alexander Deyro ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
 Ivan Osorio Murrieta ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
 Carter Rix ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
 Andre Williams ..... 1-221st Cav A Troop  
 Jose Aguayo Saldivar ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Donald Ball ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Brenden Cervantes Martinesi ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Jonathan Cosio ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Leonardo Garduno ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Benjamin Janes ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Justin Morales ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Jonathon Nipper Collins ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Brandon Portillo ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Timothy Ravelo ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Cody Roman ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Luis Sicairos ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Dyllan Story ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 John Templeton ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 David Torres ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Alejandro Vences ..... 1-221st Cav B Troop  
 Brian Chung ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
 Kainalu Davis ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
 Jesus Delgadillo ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop

Oscar Garcia Martinez ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
Alejandro Macias Castillo ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
Jhonson Pestanas ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
Ronnell Willis ..... 1-221st Cav C Troop  
Jonathan Carrillo ..... 1-221st Cav D Troop  
Kyle Pulvermacher ..... 1-221st Cav D Troop  
Carlos Rivas ..... 1-221st Cav D Troop  
Rosa Aguilera ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Kai Aricayos ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Cody Chapman ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Kimberly Corralrodriguez ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Darius Dunson ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Alicia Flores Campos ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Samuel Gonzalez ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Dominique James ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Zachary Murray ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Ricardo Solorzano Obregon ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Miguel Twigg ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Alicia Varona ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Coben Villa ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
Jonah Budyach ..... 137th MP  
Jacob Martin ..... 137th MP  
Nathaniel Mccrea ..... 137th MP  
Melanie Smith ..... 137th MP  
Ryan Wood ..... 137th MP  
Krichel Aleiah Baldonado ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
Glenn Cabillo ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
Anyelly Fuentes-Arellanos ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
Luis Melchor ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
Antonio Rodriguez Gomez ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
Destiny Talbert ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
Kiet Tong ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
Alyssa Torres ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
Ashley Ruk Yukee ..... 145th Forward Support Co  
Angel Carranco Muller ..... 150th Maint Co  
Kailey Ayleen Gomez Marquez ..... 150th Maint Co  
Hunter Harrington ..... 150th Maint Co  
Esperanza Martinez ..... 150th Maint Co  
Veronica Perez ..... 150th Maint Co  
Paul Scott ..... 150th Maint Co  
Moises Zuno Flores ..... 150th Maint Co  
Desiree Broussard ..... 152nd Airlift Wing  
Jessica Moreno ..... 152nd Airlift Wing  
Jade White ..... 152nd Avn. Maint. Sqd  
Ricardo Diaz ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
Antonio Edmon ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
Justin Tucker ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
Jordan Yurmanovic ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
Gisselle Martinez ..... 152nd Comproller flight  
Erik Corcoran ..... 152nd Coms Flight  
Roslynn Johnson ..... 152nd Coms Flight  
Aidan Sawyer ..... 152nd Coms Flight  
Dennis Ankrah ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
Erick Hendrixson ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
Genesis Torres ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
Alex Arcadia ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
Meagan Beattie ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
Rhovic Cinco ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
Zackary Combs ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
Seth Davis ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
Jacqueline Isabella ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
Bowman Olivas ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
Austin Smith ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
Davionte Stewart ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
Shayla Thornton ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
Noel Cullen ..... 152nd Maint Group  
Tanner Kowatch ..... 152nd Maint Ops Flight  
Mary Cruz Tellez ..... 152nd Maint Ops Flight  
Sean Correa ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
McKenna Fletcher ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
Henry Gonzalez-Pinto ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
Michelle Guadarrama ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
Mark Hansen ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
Meghan Lamp ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
Kyle Matrese ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
Ronald Saunders ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
Alain Agbadje ..... 152nd Medical Group  
Dawn East ..... 152nd Medical Group  
Evan Fox ..... 152nd Medical Group  
Timothy Howes ..... 152nd Medical Group  
Joshua Keltner ..... 152nd Medical Group  
Miguel Quiroz Munz ..... 152nd Medical Group  
Timothy Glover ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqd  
Ricky Meno ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqd  
David Oosting ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqd  
Alexandra Arellano ..... 17th SB  
Zacary Evenson ..... 17th SB  
Dondi James ..... 17th SB  
Jasmine Kay ..... 17th SB

Gabriella Maki ..... 17th SB  
Lacyana Mcnealey ..... 17th SB  
Stephania Mirelesarroyo ..... 17th SB  
Jacob Mulligan ..... 17th SB  
Chanel Nacua ..... 17th SB  
Eithan Neiman ..... 17th SB  
Robert Reyes ..... 17th SB  
Jessica Rodriguez ..... 17th SB  
Michael Salazar ..... 17th SB  
Trinity Trujillo ..... 17th SB  
George Walker ..... 17th SB  
Nathan Anderson ..... 1859th Trans Co  
Carter Brunsvold ..... 1859th Trans Co  
Daniel Cline ..... 1859th Trans Co  
Yaya Diallo ..... 1859th Trans Co  
Godwin Igbekoyi ..... 1859th Trans Co  
Madelyn Mikulak ..... 1859th Trans Co  
Arnold Salto Cortez ..... 1859th Trans Co  
Margaret Patricia York ..... 1859th Trans Co  
Naomi Carpenter ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Abigail Ruby Clinger ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Marcileno Demian ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Jonathan Francis ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Amiya Gordon ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Gabriel Griebel ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Tristan Gutierrez ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Julio Guzman Naula ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Jelhadz Julain ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Bryce Khounsavat ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Irenko Lagodiuk De La Torre ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Isaias Machado ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Matthew Mcdonald ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Andre Megowan ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Tracy Rarick ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Giovanni Retana ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Jacob Spath ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Tyler Thoen ..... 1864th Trans Co  
David Tyler ..... 1864th Trans Co  
Boyan Alexandrov ..... 192nd Airlift Sqd  
Matthew Hallock ..... 192nd Airlift Sqd  
Nathan Otto ..... 192nd Airlift Sqd  
Timothy Parker ..... 192nd Airlift Sqd  
Benjamin Prevedelli ..... 192nd Airlift Sqd  
Logan Bass ..... 2/238th Aviation Det  
Justin Edwards ..... 2/238th Aviation Det  
Jonathan Burns ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Kaisiang Chang ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Darin Flowers ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Brendin Hoffman ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Arleth Morales ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Tristan Roehm ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Jonathan Singian ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Melissa Stark ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Marco Torres ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Carlos Vazquez ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Yanitzza Viorato Perez ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Austin Zepeda ..... 240th Engineer Co  
Zachary Aceret ..... 3/140th Aviation Det  
Dillon Hougaard ..... 3/140th Aviation Det  
Fernando Cantu ..... 3665th Ordnance Co (EOD)  
Jadon Lopez ..... 3665th Ordnance Co (EOD)  
Adamari Alcantar ..... 422nd ESB  
Javaughn Allen ..... 422nd ESB  
Miguelangelo Araos ..... 422nd ESB  
William Auflik ..... 422nd ESB  
Sarelia Benitez ..... 422nd ESB  
Sebastian Bonham ..... 422nd ESB  
Adrian Elrod ..... 422nd ESB  
Rommel Fejeran ..... 422nd ESB  
Katie Felton ..... 422nd ESB  
Ashley Franco Salgado ..... 422nd ESB  
Angel Gonzalez ..... 422nd ESB  
Noah Griego ..... 422nd ESB  
Sarah Jackson ..... 422nd ESB  
Troy Olsen ..... 422nd ESB  
Emily Pearson ..... 422nd ESB  
Daniel Perez ..... 422nd ESB  
Scienn Publico ..... 422nd ESB  
Ashton Pultz ..... 422nd ESB  
Allen Rios ..... 422nd ESB  
Alexier Rodriguez ..... 422nd ESB  
Adam Stewart ..... 422nd ESB  
Derek Stone ..... 422nd ESB  
Lorin Tseu ..... 422nd ESB  
Chibuzo Umeh ..... 422nd ESB  
Angelina Vargas ..... 422nd ESB  
Geraldito Gendy Villoriente ..... 422nd ESB  
Patrick Wilburn ..... 422nd ESB  
Esma Cheno Salcido ..... 593rd Trans Co

Ajay Flinn ..... 593rd Trans Co  
Cade Myres ..... 593rd Trans Co  
Sara Ngo ..... 593rd Trans Co  
James Patterson ..... 593rd Trans Co  
Alina Rendon ..... 593rd Trans Co  
Darrein Smith Carothers ..... 593rd Trans Co  
Taylor Thompson ..... 593rd Trans Co  
Ameera Vardi ..... 593rd Trans Co  
Christopher Andrews ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Jonathan Barbosa Virgen ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Gabriella Chopper ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Jake Dennis ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Deana Espinoza ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Corey Francis ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Julian Goodman ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Mason Keeling ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Michael Kiger ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Wade Meddles ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Matthew Pendleton ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Seth Plants ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Nathaniel Schmitt ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Zachary Squires ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Nicolas Stevens ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Edward Stoddard ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Kristofer Van Brunt ..... 609th Engineer Co  
Je Saun Brown ..... 72nd MP  
Emily Calabria ..... 72nd MP  
Hannah Desormier ..... 72nd MP  
Juan Manuel Duran Gomez ..... 72nd MP  
Justice Ewing ..... 72nd MP  
Brady Fischer ..... 72nd MP  
Naethan Guerrero ..... 72nd MP  
Alain Gumarang ..... 72nd MP  
Jaden Lo ..... 72nd MP  
Phylene Marquez ..... 72nd MP  
Anthony Munoz ..... 72nd MP  
Chestermar Rihh ..... 72nd MP  
Kailee Scaturro ..... 72nd MP  
Koi Shieh ..... 72nd MP  
Benjamin Stover ..... 72nd MP  
Alissa Huebner ..... Air Guard HQ  
Joseph Cole ..... Camp Stead  
Laura Cowart ..... Med Det  
Jacob Evans ..... Med Det  
Grace Laudencia ..... Med Det  
Joey Lopez ..... Med Det  
Ivana Cathlene Parong ..... Med Det  
Jessica Reyes-Avendano ..... Med Det  
Alissa Huebner ..... JFHQ  
Genesis Torres ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
Erick Hendrixson ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
Dennis Ankrah ..... 152nd Intel Sqd

## RETIREMENTS

BG Zachary Doser ..... JFHQ  
MAJ Bryan Schuster ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
SGT Brian Maehler ..... 150th Maint Co  
CMSgt Kevin Bandoni ..... 152nd Civil Eng. Sqd  
CMSgt James Ross ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
CMSgt Terrance Hunt ..... 152nd Maint Sqd  
SGM Shane Jensen ..... JFHQ  
SMSgt Dean Long ..... 152nd Airlift Wing  
SMSgt Mandeville Mandeville ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
MSG Alfredo Hernandez ..... 17th SB  
SMSgt Timothy Mader ..... 232nd Ops Sqd  
1SG Kyle Stucki ..... JFHQ  
MSGt Michael Shafer ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
MSGt Linden Maples ..... 152nd Maint Group  
MSGt Christina Sweat ..... 152nd Maint Group  
MSGt Mark Lediard ..... 152nd Security Forces Sqd  
SFC Israel Vazquez ..... 422nd ESB  
SFC Luther Thompson ..... 991st Aviation Troop Com  
SFC Timothy Beghtol ..... JFHQ  
SFC Teresa Dennington ..... Med Det  
SSG Michael Frazer ..... 1/189th Aviation Co  
SSG Markjason Avila ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
SSG Michael Raviart ..... 1-221st Cav HHT  
TSGt Charles Noland ..... 152nd Intel Sqd  
TSGt Shirley Logan ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
TSGt Timothy Larson ..... 152nd Medical Group  
SSG Steven Wilkes ..... 3665th Ordnance Co (EOD)  
SSG David Beachler ..... 593rd Trans Co  
SSGt Bryce Miller ..... 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqd  
SPC Isaac Ross ..... 17th SB

# CALENDAR



Federal Holiday



Nevada Holiday and History








Other Events and Functions

## July 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 1964: The Civil Rights Act of 1964 is signed into law by President Johnson.	3
4 Independence Day 	5	6	7 1930: Construction begins on the Hoover Dam in the Black Canyon of the Colorado River.	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 1969: Apollo 11 astronauts launch into space on a Saturn 5 rocket. 	17
18	19 1923: Insulin Introduced. 	20 1969: The Apollo 11 astronauts made history when the first man is landed on the moon. 	21	22	23	24 1969: Apollo 11 safely returns to Earth. 
25 1952: Puerto Rico becomes a self-governing commonwealth of the United States 	26	27	28	29 1945: Japanese sub sinks the Indianapolis, killing 883 sailors in the worst loss in the history of the U.S. Navy..	30	31

## August 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 1981: MTV Debuts.	2	3	4 1989: The U.S. Savings and Loan Crisis begins.	5	6 1965: Voting Rights Act signed into law.	7
8 1974: President Richard Nixon Announces his resignation following the Watergate Scandal During a nationally televised broadcast.	9	10 1945: President Harry Truman announces Japanese Surrender.	11	12 1981: IBM Releases its First Personal Computer.	13	14 1935: Social Security Bill Signed Into Law Providing Unemployment Benefit.
15 1969: Woodstock Music Festival starts. 	16	17 1969: Woodstock Music Festival ends. 	18	19	20	21 1959: Hawaii becomes the 50th state in the United States.
22	23	24	25 2005: Hurricane Katrina Makes Landfall In Florida four days before striking New Orleans. 	26 1920: The 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote, is formally adopted.	27	28 1963: Martin Luther King, Jr. Gives "I Have A Dream" speech. 
29 2005: Hurricane Katrina Strikes New Orleans. 	30	31				

## September 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 1945: Japan formally surrenders to the Allied Powers.	3	4
5	6 Labor day	7	8	9 1956: Elvis Presley appears on the Ed Sullivan Show.	10	11 Patriot Day 
12	13 2006: E. Coli outbreak begins in U.S. 	14 1920: Wall Street Bombing.	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 1908: First factory-built Ford Model T completed. 	25
26	27	28 1928: Alexander Fleming discovers Penicillin. 	29	30 1981: Sandra Day O'Connor becomes first female U.S. Supreme Court justice in history.		

Photo by Tech Sgt. Garrett Wake, 152nd Airlift Wing  
**RARE SIGHTING:** For the first time since 2013, the Nevada Air Guard's 152nd's Airlift Wing had six of its C-130 cargo aircraft aloft simultaneously in mid-April for mass flight training. The photo was taken from the sixth plane in the formation.



# Battle Born

