THE Maryland LINE

Fall 2012

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OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT

Maryland is known as the "Old Line State." The name refers to the small group of Maryland patriots that fought in the Battle of Long Island, Aug. 27, 1776. Those brave Soldiers became known as "The Maryland 400."

The American Revolutionary War could have come to an end at that battle had it not been for the Maryland 400 who sacrificed themselves to allow the Colonial Army to get away.

***The Maryland Line* is a publication for the service members, civilian employees, volunteers, Families and friends of the Maryland Military Department, as well as community members across the state of Maryland.**

The editorial content of *The Maryland Line* is the responsibility of the Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Officer.

Submissions:

The Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office fully supports submissions for *The Maryland Line*.

Please send articles and high-resolution photos to: PAOMD@md.ngb.army.mil.

The articles should be in Microsoft Word format and include the author's name. Spell out all acronyms, abbreviations and full unit designations on the first reference; include caption information for photos - who is in the photo, what is happening, thelocation, when the photo was taken; and provide the name of the photographer.

MARYLAND
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Chaplain (Col.) Sean Lee helps load boxes filled with food at the Knox Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, Nov. 19. Christ Our King Presbyterian Church in Bel Air, Md., a participating congregation in the Partners in Care program, donated 30 holiday turkeys and food boxes to Maryland service members and delivered them to Knox Presbyterian for distribution to Families in need. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington)

MARYLAND
Military Department

3 January 2013

To all the members of the Maryland Military Department:

As we begin a new year, I want to again thank you for the commitment and dedication that you displayed during 2012 and use that as a starting point for our continued success. This issue of The Maryland Line highlights our recent achievements, honors our fallen and sets the bar high for accomplishing our goals in 2013.

Throughout this year, we will continue our mission to staff, train, equip and deploy our units in support of federal and state missions as directed by the president of the United States and the governor of Maryland. Our Guard members continue to fulfill our federal mission in Afghanistan and elsewhere around the world.

The Maryland Military Department's Soldiers, Airmen, emergency management professionals, civilian employees and volunteers are also responsible for coordinating and supporting state responses to any major emergency or disaster, supporting local governments, coordinating assistance from the federal government and responding to requests for assistance from other states. If the last several years are any indication, we will certainly be fulfilling our state mission as well. From snowstorms to hurricanes to damaging winds, we are always prepared to help our neighbors across Maryland.

Finally, the department stands tall in its role as one of the leading state agencies in caring for Maryland's service members and their Families. This is especially important during and after deployments. Our returning Soldiers and Airmen receive the finest advice and assistance from a range of experts including financial planners, mental and physical health professionals and employment specialists during the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program. As our service members continue to deploy and redeploy during the coming year, we will continue to ensure smooth transitions.

The stories in this magazine illustrate our dedication to duty and the sacrifice of our fallen comrades. They display our resolve and remind us that there is still so much more to accomplish. I know we will make 2013 another great year in the National Guard's 377-year history.

Respectfully,

JAMES A. ADKINS
Major General, MDARNG
The Adjutant General

Maryland National Guard honors fallen warriors during ceremony

Photos by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt, unless otherwise noted.

The Maryland National Guard conducted a wreath-laying ceremony at the Fallen Warrior Memorial at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation near Reisterstown, Md., Sept. 8, in honor of the Maryland National Guard warriors who paid the ultimate price defending freedom. Twelve Citizen-Soldiers, whose names are inscribed on the memorial, were remembered during the ceremony.

Photo by Sgt. Breeanna Pierce

As an underclassman, Cadet Alix Idrache, West Point freshman and former member of the Maryland Army National Guard's 231st Chemical Company, sets the table for breakfast at the U.S. Military Academy dining facility. Brig. Gen. Peter Hinz, assistant adjutant general-Army and other senior leaders of the MDARNG met with Idrache and Cadet Candidate Yongwoo 'Kevin' Han, U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School student and former member of the MDARNG 1st Battalion, 175th Infantry Regiment, Oct. 17.

Be persistent and thorough to join military academies

Story by Maj. Gary Arasin, National Guard Bureau

A bit of knowledge and some persistence from Guard members can go a long way toward securing what many might consider an incredible career opportunity.

The knowledge is that the Military Academy, more commonly known as West Point, and the Air Force Academy set aside 85 slots each year specifically for reserve component members. More importantly, the academies' National Guard liaison officers said, is the need for persistence toward the application process.

"The application process is long and very detailed," said Air Force Capt. Chris Goshorn, the Air Force Academy's Region 4 liaison and outreach director. "Many Airmen give up in the process, but those who finish are the only ones who have a chance of gaining an appointment to the Academy."

Army Maj. Brian Wire agreed.

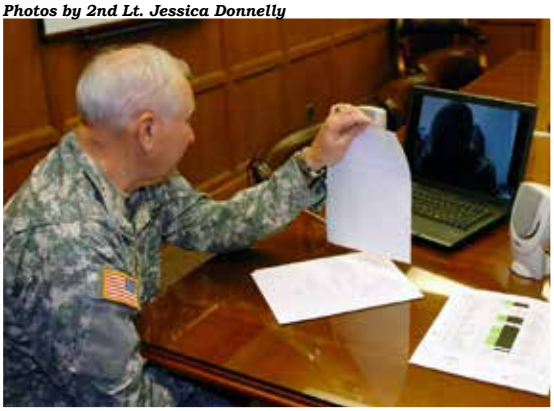
"We only see about 25 percent of all of the applicants finish their applications," said the West Point National Guard liaison. "Soldiers will be surprised on what they can accomplish if they just finish their application."

West Point had about 400 Guardsmen apply – approximately 30 were selected for the academy while another 25 were chosen for the Academy Preparatory School which is an intensive 10-month program designed to aid those applicants who may not be quite ready academically to enter the academy.

The Air Force Academy had about 450 total prior service applicants – active, reserve and guard – via the Leaders Encouraging Airmen Development Program –and the board selected 61.

Like many colleges, the academies have taken to the cyber community to streamline the application process. Guard members interested in West Point can go to www.usma.edu/applynow to start their application, while those interested in the Air Force Academy can start with a visit to http://www.academyadmissions.com.

Photos by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly



Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, presented Spc. Phillip Fluke, currently deployed with Company B, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation crew chief, with a Letter of Assurance, which guarantees his acceptance into the United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., for the class of 2017.

Both officers agree, however, before hitting the web, any potential cadet should start with their commander. Wire explained that when applicants get their commanders involved in the process early, the commanders can provide assistance. Command involvement is also crucial to the endorsement process.

There are common basic qualifications applicants must meet regardless of their academy choice – they must be a U.S. citizen, be at least 17 but not yet 23 years old on July 1 of the year they enter the academy, unmarried and have no legal obligation to support children.

The application for both schools is actually two-part – the first being a pre-screening to determine if the potential cadet meets the basic qualifications and could be competitive for an appointment. During this phase, applicants will need to ensure they have their high school and any college transcripts in order, as well as scores for the SAT or ACT with a writing score.

If they are determined to be eligible, applicants move to the second-phase where they will be asked to provide personal information related to school and extracurricular activities, a medical physical and physical fitness test scores.

"About 90 percent of all Soldiers who completed their second step kit were offered an appointment to West Point or West Point Prep School," Wire said.

But before potential cadets get the idea getting into the academies is easy, they should consider the following facts about the class of 2016:

- The average SAT verbal and math scores for the Air Force Academy were 643 and 674, respectively
- More than 90 percent of the West Point class were varsity athletics letter winners
- 12 percent of the Air Force Academy and 8.5 percent of West Point class were valedictorians of their high school
- Nearly half of the West Point class had earned the Boy Scout's highest award, the Eagle Scout, or the Girl Scout's highest award, the Gold Award

The presence of former Guard members in the academy classes only can enhance the cadet corps, said both liaisons. Wire explained that their operational experience and understanding of the military environment has a positive effect on cadets who attend the military academies right out of high school.

While the Guard loses the Soldier or Airmen to active-duty service, a significant number of officers choose to leave the service following their five-year service obligation, Wire said.

"Many of these officers leave the active Army to pursue civilian sector work and/or pursue their Masters degree and many of them want to keep serving," he explained. "They eventually migrate back to the Guard as it is a familiar place for them and once a big part of their lives."

Maryland Air National Guard breaks ground on new facility

Story by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly
Photos by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington

With a toss of dirt from a gilded shovel, the Maryland Air National Guard officially kicked-off the construction of the new wing headquarters, operations, medical and training facility, Oct. 2, at the Warfield Air National Guard Base in Middle River, Md.

The groundbreaking ceremony recognized the 31,500 square-foot building that will consolidate the location of the 175th Wing Headquarters personnel, Mission Support Group and the Medical Group. The facility will give the Airmen an energy-efficient work space that, with its multiple green roofs and numerous other energy enhancements, is expected to achieve certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design silver status upon its completion.

Brig. Gen. Allyson Solomon and Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly, along with two civilian representatives, toss a scoop of dirt, officially kicking off the construction of the new wing headquarters, operations, medical and training facility.

"We'll have what we need to be good stewards of the community and the environment," said Brig. Gen. Allyson Solomon, assistant adjutant general – Air.

The new building will offer more office space, medical and dental examination and treatment spaces, classrooms, administration space, a command section, conference rooms, and a telephone switching/data automation center.

Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly, 175th Wing commander, explained that the old buildings were costly to maintain, and the new building will bring technology and a better work environment to the Airmen that will not only be an improvement for training, but also for morale.

"We're really looking forward to the ribbon-cutting ceremony when it's complete," added Kelly.

The anticipated completion of the facility is June 2014.

"Let the work begin!" exclaimed Solomon.

Candidates claim gold bar

Officer Candidate School graduation ceremony

The Maryland Army National Guard officially welcomed nine members into the officer corps during the Class 53 Officer Candidate School graduation ceremony, Oct. 13, at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation.

The lieutenants include: 2nd Lt. George Barbarena, 1229th Transportation Company; 2nd Lt. Kir-shenq Chen, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 175th Infantry Regiment; 2nd Lt. Richard Fenati, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 158th Cavalry Regiment; 2nd Lt. Henry Geer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment; 2nd Lt. Scott McCrillis, 629th Signal Company; 2nd Lt. Mark Reed, 200th Military Police Company; 2nd Lt. Nicholas Riesett, Bravo Troop, 1st Squadron, 158th Cavalry Regiment; 2nd Lt. Benjamin Smith, Alpha Troop, 1st Squadron, 158th Cavalry Regiment; and 2nd Lt. John Villanueva, Charlie Troop, 1st Squadron, 158th Cavalry Regiment.

Photos by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly

(Left) 2nd Lt. Benjamin Smith was presented the Distinguished Honor Graduate award for his hard work and dedication throughout the program.
(Above) Officer candidates raise their right hand and repeat the Oath of Office during the Officer Candidate School graduation ceremony.

(Below) The newly promoted second lieutenants.

Partners in Care goes nationwide

Story by 1st Lt. Kristofer Baumgartner

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"The proximity of support is the strength of the Guard. ...[Partners in Care] increases the capacity of support to rural and dispersed populations."

-Chaplain (Col.) Sean Lee

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1 ***Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Hayes loads boxes filled with food at the Knox Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, Nov. 19. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington)***

2 ***Christ Our King Presbyterian Church in Bel Air, Md., a participating congregation in the Partners in Care program, donated 30 holiday turkeys and food boxes to Maryland service members and delivered them to Knox Presbyterian for distribution to Families in need. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington)***

3 ***The Christ Episcopal Church in Clinton, Md., officially became a Partner in Care congregation, Sept. 30, with the signing of the memorandum of understanding by Chaplain (Col.) Sean Lee, Maryland National Guard state chaplain, Reverend Cassandra Burton, and Mr. H. Art Taylor, senior warden. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly)***

A faith-based program started by a Maryland National Guard chaplain is gaining momentum and expanding nationwide as part of a Defense Department initiative to meet the needs of service members in all branches of the military.

The Maryland National Guard's Partners in Care initiative matches Maryland National Guard members, in need of support, with local religious congregations and will now lend spiritual support to a multi-faceted assistance initiative helping the DoD to aid service members in need.

The giving of the holiday season was in full swing as a Maryland National Guard Partners in Care congregation donated food to needy families on Dec. 15, in Ellicott City, Md. Every Christmas, for more than 30 years, the members of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church have coordinated a food drive. This year, they identified 144 families in need. Twelve of them are from the Guard. (Photo by Lt. Col. Charles Kohler)

"If a service member finds one more source of support, that makes them more resilient," said Chaplain (Col.) Sean Lee, Maryland National Guard state chaplain and Partners in Care creator.

The Office of the Secretary of Defense became aware of the unique National Guard program through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, which used Partners in Care as a pilot program in 2011. SAMHSA provides suicide prevention training to different groups including clergy and proposed starting Partners in Care programs in Oregon, Minnesota, Virginia, Missouri and Arizona to help combat suicide rates in those states.

Based on the success in the initial five states, the DoD's Suicide Prevention Office began adapting Partners in Care for use across all the services earlier this year.

"They are taking the idea [of Partners in Care] and adapting it to the active duty and Reserve, as well as National Guard now," said Lee.

With more than 32 years in the National Guard, Lee thoroughly understands the nature of the National Guard and wanted to find a way to apply the Guard's organizational concept to this network of faith-based congregations. The Guard is a community-based organization with 39 National Guard readiness centers located throughout the state, and Lee knew that this wide distribution allows service members to more efficiently serve their neighbors in times of emergency.

That model works well for Guard members supporting their neighbors, and it also works for communities to support the Soldiers and Airmen, he explained.

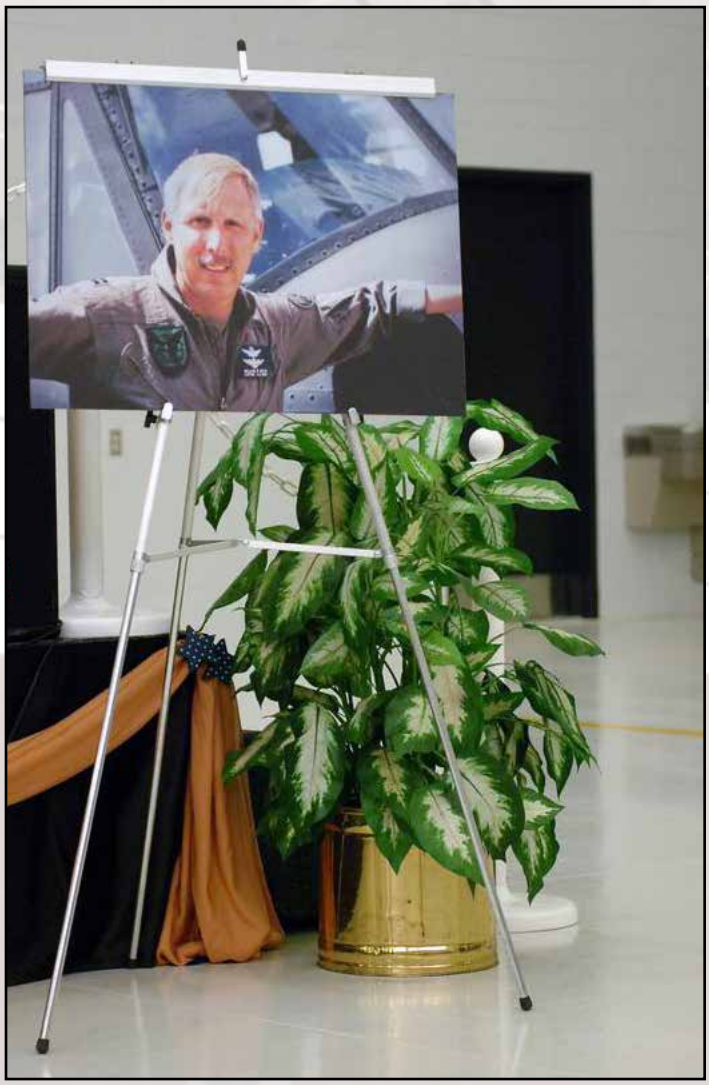
"The proximity of support is the strength of the Guard," said Lee. "[Partners in Care] increases the capacity of support to rural and dispersed populations."

From its inception in 2005, Partners in Care has created a network of local congregations, which agreed to support to Maryland National Guard members and their Families according to the congregation's ability. Services have included counseling, childcare, youth support groups and basic auto repair. Service members can be referred to their nearest congregation, free of charge and without regard to any religious affiliation.

The Maryland Partners in Care initiative started with four pilot congregations and has grown to 90, as of December 2012. All 23 Maryland counties and Baltimore City have at least one Partners in Care congregation providing support to the state's approximately 6,500 Guard members.

"Some have never had a referral, but they're willing to be there when we need them," said Lee.

Maryland Army National Guard dedicates newly



(Left) A photo of Chief Warrant Officer 4 William R. Ruth. (Top Right) Brig. Gen. Timothy Gowen and Chief Warrant Officer 4 William R. Ruth's wife unveil the plaque for the Ruth Army Aviation Maintenance Facility. (Bottom Right) Ruth's Family came out for the dedication of the newly expanded aviation facility. (Photos by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly)

Story by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly

The Maryland Army National Guard dedicated a newly expanded aviation facility, Dec. 13, to a highly decorated aviator, who was killed during the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The Guard named the Ruth Army Aviation Maintenance Facility in honor of Chief Warrant Officer 4 William R. Ruth, during a ceremony at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

"It is a great day to honor a great American," said Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Alberto Jimenez, former assistant adjutant general-Army. "This is not a moment of sadness; this is a moment of celebration. … This is a moment that we want to enjoy who [Ruth] was."

Ruth served as a military aviator for more than 36 years in the U.S. Marine Corps and the Maryland Army National Guard. He spent more than 25 of those years assigned to the original aviation facility at the Edgewood Area. During his military career, he served as an enlisted service member, warrant officer and commissioned officer, and he completed more than 800 combat aviation missions in Vietnam and Operation Desert Storm. Ruth served in multiple positions throughout his career, with his final assignment working for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel at the Pentagon.

"He made a career of sacrificing for others… until the day he made the ultimate sacrifice," said Brig. Gen. Timothy Gowen, 29th Infantry Division deputy commander. "We as Guardsmen, Family members,

expanded aviation facility to fallen Soldier

The Maryland National Guard officially recognized the expansion and renovation of the aviation facility with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, Sept. 25. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington)

employees, employers, citizens and especially Americans, should forevermore dedicate ourselves to this example."

The Maryland National Guard officially recognized the expansion and renovation of the aviation facility with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, Sept. 25.

The expansion added nearly 100,000 square feet to the original structure, allowing for six additional CH-47 Chinook parking points, increased storage and office space, classrooms, a physical fitness area, and modernized shops to support Army aviation and maintenance. The project also renovated more than 38,000 square feet of the existing building. The upgrades created a first-class facility that is better able to support the training and operational needs of the Maryland Army National Guard aircrew members, ground crews and other aviation support personnel, explained Maj. Aaron Harding, 29th Combat Aviation Brigade executive officer. The expansion also supports the Guardsmen's ability to respond, if needed, during a state emergency.

"Ruth emulated everything that is great in the United States military, United States Army aviation, and particularly, the Maryland National Guard," said Gowen. "[This] will serve to remind the Soldiers who work here, and all the Soldiers who pass through here, and everyone else who flies here... what a model aviator CW4 Ruth was, and what we all should strive to be."

The Ruth Army Aviation Maintenance Facility houses the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 29th CAB, headquarters of the 1100th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group, Headquarters and Headquarters and Alpha Companies of the 1st Security and Support Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment, C Company of the 2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment, C Company of the 1st General Support Aviation Battalion (MEDEVAC) 169th Aviation Regiment, B Company of the 3rd General Support Aviation Battalion (lift), 126th Aviation Regiment, F Company of the 1st General Support Aviation Battalion (Air Traffic Services), 111th GSAB (Air Traffic Services), and Detachment B of the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion.

Story and photos by Sgt. Breeanna Pierce

Maryland's 'Dandy Fifth' celebrates 238th anniversary

The Maryland National Guard's 1st Battalion, 175th Infantry Regiment held its annual Pass in Review ceremony, concurrently celebrating the regiment's 238th anniversary, at the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore, Dec. 1.

The Pass in Review is a long-standing military tradition that began as a way for a newly assigned commander to inspect the troops. Through a display of drill and ceremony, a unit illustrates its professionalism before an audience of leadership and peers.

"The Pass in Review is designed to present the command to the reviewing officers," said Lt. Col. (Ret.) Delbert R. Parks III, outgoing honorary colonel of the regiment. "It has always been a way to 'strut your stuff.'"

Current and former members of the 175th, also known as "The Dandy Fifth of Maryland," attended and paid their respects to the unit's historic legacy.

"We do the Pass in Review on the first Saturday in December every year because that is the anniversary of when the regiment was formed back in 1774 by a merchant named Mordecai Gist," said Parks. "In 1776, [the regiment] marched up to Brooklyn to participate in the Battle of Long Island. The Maryland regiment was the only regiment in the Revolutionary War that fought in both the Northern battles and the Southern theater."

Parks, a former 175th commander, has participated in the annual Pass in Review since 1983. Nearly two decades later, he still takes pride in sharing the regimental heritage with aspiring junior members of the unit.

Special appointees holding the position of HCOR are charged with a mission to carry on the legacy of a regiment or corps to strengthen unit morale.

"As the honorary colonel, it is my job to make sure that the traditions and the history of the regiment get passed down to the younger Soldiers," said Parks. "Going back to Mordecai Gist [and] the Battle of Brooklyn, up through present-day deployments into Iraq, it's a very significant and noteworthy organization."

The ceremony was Parks' last as the regiment's honorary colonel, as he participated in an exchange of unit colors, transferring his role and responsibilities to Lt. Col. (Ret.) Cecil Philips, the incoming honorary colonel.

The "Dandy Fifth of Maryland" not only honored past accomplishments but highlighted several current Soldiers for their hard work and dedication to the Maryland Army National Guard.

During the event, Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Magnum, command sergeant major of 1-175th, publicly recognized Spc. Travis H. Smith, a javelin gunner with the battalion's B Company, for his selection as 2012 Battalion Best Warrior.

As a Guardsman with active-duty Army roots, Smith, who has been with the battalion for two years, takes pride in being a part of its heritage.

"It felt good coming to a unit that [places] such a value on tradition and upholding the names of those who came before us," he said. "Because we have such a history, it gives us a responsibility to perform."

As another year comes to a close, Maryland's "Dandy Fifth" continues to protect and serve the Maryland National Guard, as an example of a regiment that never forgets to pay tribute to the forefathers who shaped its historic legacy.

The Maryland National Guard's 1st Battalion, 175th Infantry Regiment held its annual Pass in Review ceremony, concurrently celebrating the regiment's 238th anniversary, at the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore, Dec. 1.

Baltimore salutes veterans, past and present, with annual downtown celebration

Story and photots by Sgt. Crystal Hudson

Veterans and their Families were honored for their military service during an annual parade held in downtown Baltimore, Nov. 12.

During the procession, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake led retired and currently serving veterans in a march from the Washington Monument to the War Memorial Plaza.

"Veterans Day is a special day for all Americans," said Maryland Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown, who is also a U.S. Army Reserve veteran. “But I am particularly proud of the 30,000 active duty [service members] and 460,000 veterans who call Maryland home."

Brown addressed the crowd on keeping the "sacred obligation" to veterans returning home from combat and stressed the importance of helping service members integrate back into their lives, Families and the community.

Alongside the many veterans in attendance, hundreds of high school cadets from around the city, in various Army and Air Force Junior ROTC programs, participated in the parade.

Darriaus Johnson, a sophomore at Northwestern High School and an Air Force JROTC cadet, expressed his pride for veterans’ sacrifices.

"It means a lot to me,” said Johnson. “The people that died, what they did [in service to their country] was a great thing."

Johnson said he does not personally know any veterans and will be the first in his family to serve when he goes on to join the Air Force after high school.

Although many who gathered at the event were unknown to one another, the presence of insignia and patches evoked memories and provided a common bond.

"It is not a black or white issue,” said James Biss, a veteran of the U.S. Army’s 3rd Armored Division in Germany during the 1980s. “It is the people that you served with who you can trust in life."

The parade-goers had been strangers until some of them recognized a unit crest and began to share their military experiences. Often, these conversations touched on the present value of those past contributions.

"If it wasn't for the things that we did—whether it was peacetime or war—we wouldn't have the things we have," said Biss.

A similar sentiment of gratitude echoed in the crowd and throughout the words of the speeches.

"No matter where people live—Baghdad or Baltimore—mothers and fathers want the same things for their families," said Brown. "...safe neighborhoods, decent schools, access to health care, and the opportunity to earn a living and raise a family. ...Whether here or abroad, that's what our veterans have fought for, a fair way of life for each of us as Americans and our neighbors around the world."

The Maryland Defense Force band plays during a Veterans Day parade in Baltimore City, Nov. 11, to honor men and women retired and currently serving in the armed forces.

Members from all services and their Families came out to celebrate Veterans Day in downtown Baltimore.

Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake addresses a crowd of service members, veterans and their Families during the annual Veterans Day celebration.

Remembering Pearl Harbor

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington

A Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony took place on the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Taney in Baltimore's Inner Harbor Dec. 7. The Taney is the last remaining vessel afloat that survived the attack on Pearl Harbor 71 years ago.

"Many of the units of today's Maryland Army National Guard trace their honors and lineage from the Maryland regiments that served in World War II and other wars throughout our country's history," said Maj. Gen. James Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland and keynote speaker for the event.

The USCGC Taney was named for Roger B. Taney, a Marylander who rose to become the secretary of the treasury then later chief justice of the United States.

The 327-foot Treasury-class, also referred to as the Secretary-class, cutter emerged during the Prohibition era and helped the Coast Guard curtail narcotics smuggling. The Coast Guard built seven Treasury-class cutters all named for former secretaries of the Treasury Department. Constructed in Navy shipbuilding yards and based on the Erie-class Navy gunboat, each cutter cost about $2.5 million in mid-1930s dollars and would cost over $40 million in today's dollar.

Many of the Secretary-class cutters served the U.S. for more than 40 years. Only the USCGC Hamilton was sunk in combat against a German U-boat in 1942.

Commissioned Oct. 24, 1936, and decommissioned Dec. 7, 1986, the Taney was transferred to the city of Baltimore and is now a museum ship. The ship once housed more than 200 service members and one Grumman JF-2, a single-engine amphibious biplane.

"I still have dreams about that day," said Thomas Talbott, a veteran who served in the Marine Corps in Hawaii during the attacks and attended the memorial ceremony for almost 30 years. "Thank you God. I'm reporting for duty."

Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins was the keynote speaker during the Pearl Harbor Memorial ceremony in Baltimore's Inner Harbor, Dec. 7.

On The LINE

1 ***The University of Maryland's ROTC conducted its rehearsal for the 2012 Ranger Challenge Competition Oct. 19, at the Maryland National Guard's Gunpowder Military Reservation in Glen Arm, Md. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington)***

2 ***Sgt. John Vanmatre, B Company, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, visited Joppa View Elementary School in Perry Hall, Md., Dec. 6, to pick up candy and cards donated by the students to be sent to deployed Soldiers with the 126th Aviation Regiment and present the school with a certificate of appreciation for thinking of the troops. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly)***

3 ***Members of the Maryland National Guard Special Operations Detachment-Joint (Airborne) performed static line and High Altitude Low Opening jumps from a C-23 Sherpa, Sept. 27, as part of their mobilization training at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center, Miss. While deployed, the unit members will work to mentor and train Afghan National Army special forces. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly)***

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4 ***Maryland Defense Force Warrant Officer Scott Schenker, a K-9 trainer for the MDDF, escorts Shelby, a Dutch Shepherd that has been with the MDDF K-9 unit for six years, during a security check of the area before the Fallen Warrior Memorial wreath-laying ceremony at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation near Reisterstown, Md., Sept. 8. (Photo by Sgt. Breeanna Pierce)***

5 ***Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Annette Deener performed the coin toss before the football game between the Allegany Campers and Fort Hill Sentinels Nov. 3, at the Greenway Avenue Stadium in Cumberland, Md. (Courtesy Photo)***

6 ***Ready, set, go! Master Sgt. Marie-Elana Carroll gives students the go-ahead to race through the Maryland National Guard Counterdrug obstacle course at the National Above the Influence Day, an Office of the National Drug Control Policy youth anti-drug media campaign, Oct. 18, at the Boys and Girls Club of Harford County in Aberdeen, Md. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly)***

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7 ***The Maryland Army National Guard hosted a graduation ceremony, Sept. 28, at the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore to recognize Warrant Officers Brett Benham, Tomas Garcia, Ronnie Harmon, Shawnette Lawson, Kindra Owens and Robert Tate as newly commissioned warrant officers as they were pinned to their new rank and received their first salute as commissioned officers. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly)***

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FINAL FRAME

Thirty Maryland Army National Guard Soldiers, from units across the state, formally reenlisted Dec. 16 during a ceremony on the field at M&T Bank Stadium prior to the Baltimore Ravens' game against the Denver Broncos. (Photo by 1st Lt. Kristofer Baumgartner)