



Illinois National Guard

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183rd Airmen build homes for less fortunate

Story by Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD – The U.S. Department of Defense has approved an Innovative Readiness Training project that will allow the Airmen of the 183rd Civil Engineer Squadron, 183rd Fighter Wing to build affordable, safe and decent housing with Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County in local low-income neighborhoods.

183rd Fighter Wing Commander Col. Michael Meyer announced the partnership with representatives from Habitat for Humanity and the Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association at the site of the first project, a two-story townhouse that will be built at 1137 North 5th Street, Springfield.

“This is a win-win for both the Illinois Air National Guard, Habitat for Humanity, and – most importantly - local low-income families,” said Assistant Adjutant General – Air Brig. Gen. William Cobetto. “Our Airmen practice the skills they need to perform their military missions and, through Habitat for Humanity, local families get decent safe housing.”

The project is scheduled for three years and the 183rd CES will help build as many as 12 homes in Sangamon County.



Photo by U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Kassidy L. Snyder, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

(Left to right) Tech. Sgt. Steven Greenleaf of Waverly, and Staff Sgt. Mitchell Shelton of Petersburg, both members of the 183rd Civil Engineer Squadron, 183rd Fighter Wing apply a piece of siding to a house being built in partnership with Habit for Humanity in Springfield, Oct. 13.

Aviation mechanics receive civilian training

Story and photo by Sgt. Michael Camacho
Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD - Six Soldiers with aviation units in the Illinois Army National Guard completed Lincoln Land Community College's Airframe and Power Plant Technician course Oct. 18 at the school's aviation facility in Springfield.

The four-week course prepares the mechanics for the certification to support and maintain the four new UH-72A Lakotas the Illinois Army National Guard



will receive September 2013, said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Norman Brooks of Clinton with Detachment 1, Company B, 1st Battalion, 376th Aviation Regiment.

This is the first course of its type with other classes to follow in 2013.

“The UH-72A is a civilian off-the-shelf aircraft,” said Brooks. “As military helicopter mechanics, we are

not qualified to perform maintenance on the UH-72A. The UH-72A must be maintained to civilian standards with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations.”

Firefighters return

Story by Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPARTA – Seven firefighters from the Illinois Army National Guard's 662nd Engineer Firefighting Detachment who served in Afghanistan for approximately six months returned home Oct. 10.



Airman selected for international course

Story by Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

Furstenfeldbruck, Germany – For one intense week in September, more than 40 junior officers from seven countries participated in the International Junior Officer Leadership Development Course (IJOLD) 2012 at the German Air Force Officer School to enhance and refine their leadership skills, cultural understanding and military officership.

Capt. Stacey Rieger of San Jose, Ill., with the Illinois Air National Guard's 183rd Air Mobility Operations Squadron in Springfield was among four Air National Guard members selected by National Guard Bureau to participate in IJOLD 2012.

“There are not many leadership development programs available for junior officers,” said Rieger. “This was an incredible opportunity to broaden my management and leadership skills with other company grade officers in a multi-national setting.”

Encampment portrays Great War



Photo by U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Cassidy L. Snyder, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

Living historians re-enact the 1918 trench raid during the Great War Encampment at the Illinois State Military Museum adjacent to Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Oct 10.

Hangin up their boots after 20+ years of service

■ Maj. Monty Hodge

HHC, 404th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade

■ Sgt. 1st Class Melvin Berndt

FSC, 766th Engineer Battalion

■ 1st Sgt. John Sury

Company D, 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry Regiment

■ Master Sgt. Kimyada

Wellington

HHC, 108th Sustainment Brigade

■ Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Kelley

Company D, 634th Brigade Support Battalion

■ Staff Sgt. Dennis Tarr

HHC, 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry Regiment

■ Staff Sgt. Lee Braun

444th Chemical Company

■ Staff Sgt. Jason Perez

Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 123rd Field Artillery

Photos from the field

■ Highway named for Sgt. Schuyler Patch

■ Gold Star Mothers honored in Chicago

■ ILNG runners compete in treadmill marathon

■ Chaplains partner with community

In Memory



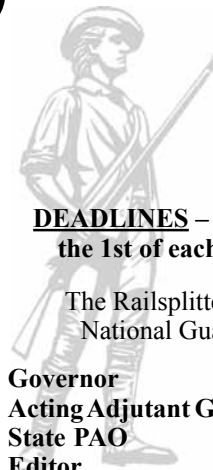
Spc. Lee S. Atkins

Company B, 1st Battalion, 178th Infantry Regiment



Spc. Lawrence F. Thornton, III

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry Regiment



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DEADLINES – Story and photo submissions are due the 1st of each month to ngilstaffpao@ng.army.mil

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