

The

RAILSPLITTER



Illinois National Guard

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Illinois Promotes First Female General



Maj. Gen. Daniel M. Krumrei of Springfield, Illinois, Illinois National Guard Adjutant General swears in newly promoted Brig. Gen. Alicia Tate-Nadeau, formerly of Delavan, Illinois, now Chicago, Illinois, Saturday, March 7 at the Illinois Military Academy in Springfield. Tate-Nadeau is the first female in Illinois National Guard history to be promoted as a general officer. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Jason Dorsey, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs.)

By Capt. April M. Hawes
Illinois National Guard Public Affairs Office

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – Col. Alicia A. Tate-Nadeau made history when she was promoted to brigadier general March 7, the first female in the Illinois National Guard to earn the rank. However, to her it is not about gender; it is about being the best.

“Being a leader transcends gender and everything else,” she said. “I never wanted to be the best female officer. I wanted to be the best officer.”

Maj. Gen. Daniel Krumrei, Illinois National Guard Adjutant General, promoted Tate-Nadeau of Chicago and formerly of Delavan, Illinois. She was joined by her family, friends and approximately 200 Illinois National Guard Soldiers and Airmen during the ceremony at Camp Lincoln’s Illinois Military Academy in Springfield, Illinois. Tate-Nadeau’s children, Lindsey and Gavin, and retired Maj. Gen. Randal Thomas, former Illinois National Guard Adjutant General, joined Krumrei to pin on her new rank.

Her goal of being the best officer looked a little different more than 30 years ago when Tate-Nadeau was enjoying her college years at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in 1984. At the time, she was studying business and was busy with her sorority when the Dean of Women recommended she take a Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) course to improve her grade point average.

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Airmen Cook in Korea

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea - Members of the 183rd Fighter Wing, Force Support Squadron in Springfield, Illinois, deployed in support of Exercise Key Resolve 2015. The Airmen supported the exercise by cooking various meals, including wings for “Wing Wednesday” on March 4, at the Pacific House Dining Facility, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea.

Key Resolve is a combined U.S.-South Korea training exercise held annually in the Republic of Korea to ensure the operational readiness of air, space and cyberspace operations in the Korean theater of operations.

Unit members were deployed as augmentees to the Pacific House Dining Facility staff, as the base numbers swelled to over 1,500.

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Senior Leader’s Corner

A Warm Weather Safety Message

After a long and cold winter, spring finally arrived on March 20! I don’t know about you, but I am looking forward to the warmer weather and summer-time activities.

With the arrival of spring, many of us become more active outside. We play sports, go boating, ride bikes or motorcycles, and work outside. Spring and Summer are also times of increased annual training periods, deployments, and exercises. With all these activities in the spring and summer, we must remind ourselves to think “Safety.”



Maj. Gen. William D. Cobetto
Assitant Adjutant General - Air

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VISION:

The Premier State Joint Force within the National Guard

MISSION:

The Illinois National Guard is a Joint Team of Citizen Soldiers and Airmen Ready to Help our Neighbors, Protect our State and Defend our Nation.

KEY TENETS:

Personal -- Professional
Organizational -- Ready
Responsive -- Accountable
Resilient -- Relevant



Maj. Gen. Miller retires after 32 years

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – The sound of gunfire ripped through the fog as Soldiers ducked for cover while everything around them was pelted with bullets. Their commanding officer (CO) was injured and stranded out in the open. The Soldiers were ordered not to break ranks, but one Soldier could not leave his CO in harm's way. Under fire, Sgt. Paul Wehrenburg grabbed his CO by the collar and drug him to a foxhole. The CO recovered from his wounds, but put Wehrenburg on report for not following orders. Eventually, the CO dropped the charges and instead put Wehrenburg in for the Bronze Star.

Maj. Gen. Johnny Ray Miller of Tamms, Illinois, the Assistant Adjutant General-Army, is Wehrenburg's great nephew. It was stories Wehrenburg told that turned Miller toward a future in the military and gave the Illinois Army National Guard one of its storied

leaders.

Miller retired Feb. 28 after more than 32 years of service to the Illinois Army National Guard and the Army.

Miller said Wehrenburg, who fought during D-Day and across the European theater earning two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star for Valor, inspired him to join the military.

"He had some unbelievable stories," said Miller. "

Miller enlisted in the Missouri National Guard in 1982 where he attended Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Missouri as a simultaneous membership program cadet.

"The 9-11 attacks changed how I felt about my service to the National Guard"

~ Maj Gen. Johnny Ray Miller

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Illinois Troops Participate in Cyber Shield Exercise

CAMPATTERBURY, Indiana – Illinois National Guard Soldiers and Airmen participated in the 2015 Cyber Shield Exercise March 9-20 in Edinburg, Indiana. The exercise is part of the National Guard's initiative to improve its readiness and ability to respond to cyber threats.

The 15-person team from Illinois was one of 24 teams from 42 states and territories to participate in the exercise. During the first week of the exercise, participants were trained in a "cyber city," a working scale model of a city.

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Cold Weather Doesn't Stop Airman's Flight

By Tech. Sgt. Todd Pendleton
182nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

PEORIA, Illinois -- It's early in the morning and the sun is shining. That doesn't matter to the resilient crew chief standing outside on the tarmac and visually inspecting a C-130 Hercules. He will tell anyone the sunshine doesn't really help when it's five degrees Fahrenheit and a stiff wind is blowing. Weather is a factor, but not a deterrent to his mission supporting flight preparation.

Master Sgt. Thomas Drummond of Cordova, Illinois, 182nd Airlift Wing in Peoria, Illinois, is the crew chief on this cold morning. Drummond explains everything he does during a pre-flight inspection and he doesn't complain about the weather. He's focused on his job.

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Freedom Salute Ceremony for BEST A13 and 1965th CCT

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – Two teams of Soldiers were recognized March 8 by the National Guard Bureau Freedom Salute Campaign for their sacrifice and service in support of Operation Enduring Freedom

Approximately 20 Soldiers were recognized at Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois.

The Freedom Salute Campaign program is a small way to show these patriotic citizen-Soldiers, their families and employers how much their sacrifice is appreciated.

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106th Cavalry Repeats as Top in the Nation

BLOOMINGTON, Illinois - 2nd Squadron, 106th Cavalry Regiment in Pontiac, Illinois won the Draper Armor Leadership Award this year making it the second year in a row that a troop from the battalion has won the award. Last year it was Troop B of Dixon, Illinois. Troop A was presented the award during the annual 106th Cavalry Ball in Bloomington, Illinois March 21.

The award was established in 1924 by Lt. Col. Wickliffe P. Draper to test the leadership of small cavalry units. For the National Guard, the award is divided into six regions. Troop A falls into region five, where it competes against cavalry units from four other brigades.

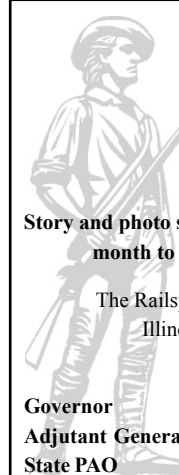
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Hanging up their boots after 20+ years of service

- **Senior Master Sgt. Jack Taylor**
182nd Airlift Wing
- **Master Sgt. Stephen Bernhardt**
182nd Airlift Wing
- **Tech. Sgt. James Berger**
182nd Airlift Wing
- **Tech. Sgt. Jean Budwig**
182nd Airlift Wing
- **Sgt. Jason Blunck**
Co. A 766th Brigade Engineer Battalion
- **Master Sgt Terry Martin**
Headquarters, 129th Regional Training Institute
- **Sgt. Major David Hultquist**
108th Sustainment Brigade

PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

- **Women's History Month Panel held at Illinois State Military Museum**
- **106th Cavalry Repeats as Top in the Nation**
- **Delavan Soldier Retires after 29 years**
- **Illinois National Guard recognized for property, construction management**
- **Illinois National Guard Officer Becomes First Female General**
- **Illinois Air National Guard Airmen cook in Korea**
- **566th Air Force Band at NY St. Patrick's Day Parade**
- **Illinois Emergency Management Agency Director visits Camp Lincoln**



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DEADLINES

Story and photo submissions are due the 1st of each month to ng.il.ilarng.list.staff-pao@mail.mil

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