

# INDIANA GUARDSMAN

DEC 2015

An Indiana National Guard Publication



***Guardsmen shoot for Twenty Tab, page 8***

## In this Guardsman ...



Engineer homecoming, page 4  
*National Guardsmen with 1313th back home*

Troops raise money, page 5  
*Indiana National Guardsmen contribute to CFC*



Norwegian March, page 6  
*18.6-mile march tests troops, civilians*



TAG Match, page 8  
*Airmen, Soldiers hone shooting skills*

The Indiana National Guard's command team; Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr, Chief Warrant Office 5 Elizabeth Keene and Command Sgt. Maj. James Gordon, walk to greet Hoosier Guardsmen with the 1313th Engineer Company return from a Kuwait deployment, Saturday, Oct. 31, 2015, at the Indianapolis International Airport. Photo by Staff Sgt. Lorne W. Neff

## About the Guardsman

**The Adjutant General**  
Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr

**Public Affairs Officer**  
Lt. Col. Cathy Van Bree

**Editor**  
Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

**Layout and Design**  
Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

**Journalists**  
Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry  
Sgt. 1st Class Lasima O. Packett  
Staff Sgt. Daniel Bolinger  
Staff Sgt. Lorne W. Neff  
Les Newport  
Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Runser

**Contributing Writers and Staff**  
State Public Affairs Office  
120th Public Affairs Detachment  
Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center  
Muscatatuck Urban Training Center  
122nd Fighter Wing  
181st Intelligence Wing  
38th Infantry Division

The *Indiana Guardsman* is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1, and is published by the Joint Force Headquarters, Indiana National Guard. It is distributed without charge to the members of the Indiana Army and Air National Guard. All material submitted for publication should be addressed to:

Joint Force Headquarters Indiana  
Public Affairs Office  
ATTN: Guardsman Magazine  
2002 South Holt Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46241-4839

Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Joint Force Headquarters of Indiana, the Department of the Army and the Department of the Air Force.

If you have information to contribute to the *Indiana Guardsman*, please contact the editor by calling 1-800-237-2850 ext 3222 or emailing Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry at [ng.in.inarnng.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:ng.in.inarnng.list.pao@mail.mil)

Visit the Indiana National Guard at [www.in.ng.mil](http://www.in.ng.mil) and search "Indiana Guardsman" on Facebook and "@INGuardsman" on Twitter.

## Message from The Adjutant General ...

# Happy Hoosier Holidays

With another year quickly approaching, we are already in the midst of the holiday season.

For most, the holidays begin with Thanksgiving, and I am thankful for so many things. I'm thankful, like you, for my friends and family. I could not do what I do, don the uniform day in and day out, serve you, the Hoosier State and our great nation, without their unwavering support. I know you probably feel the same. I am also so thankful for YOU. Thank you for your hard work, dedication and professionalism throughout the year. It's an honor and a privilege to serve you as your adjutant general.

The holidays are a time of year that are filled with great traditions and celebrations.

As we enjoy the festivities be mindful of potential hazards like poor driving conditions and drinking and driving. Accidents go up this time of year, so take precautions, be careful and be safe. The safety and welfare of our Guardsmen, civilian employees and families is my greatest concern.

The end of the holidays also marks the end of one year and the beginning of another. So it's also a time to reflect on the past and look forward to the future. For me it's been a remarkable year. I remain humbled and honored that Gov. Mike Pence appointed me as your adjutant general. It's a great privilege to serve you, to lead you and to stand with you shoulder to shoulder in defense of this great state and great nation.

Yet the new year is also a time to look forward and to make resolutions. The future is always uncertain and always in motion. The best we can do as National Guard is be prepared and ever vigilant. My task as adjutant general is to guide and mentor our team, and to shape this organization on the way ahead. We are an indispensable partner in a joint interagency, intergovernmental and multinational environment. We must be a ready, responsive, adaptable, resilient and relevant military force for our state and nation. To do that we must be ready individually and as an organization. Keep that in mind in the coming year.

Thank you again, and have a wonderful, joyous and happy holiday season.

## Indianapolis Colts' Salute to Service



The Adjutant General of Indiana, Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr, right, oversees the festivities of the Indianapolis Colts' Salute to Service during the halftime of Colts, Denver Broncos game, Sunday, Nov. 8, 2015. The Indiana National Guard provided Soldiers and Airmen for the joint-service color guard, left, the 38th Infantry Division Band and five Soldiers who rappelled from the rafters of the Lucas Oil Stadium. Prior to the game service members of all branches displayed the U.S. flag during the national anthem. The Colts won the game, 27-24.





Sgt. Dillon Sutton holds his son, Rylan, as his wife, Tori, left, and his parents, Amy and Scott, watch during the 1313th Engineer Company's homecoming ceremony in Indianapolis at the Cyclone Division Armory, Oct. 31, 2015. Sutton, with the 1313th, returned home after a nine-month deployment to Kuwait.

## 1313th Engineers return from Kuwait deployment

**Staff Report**  
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

Approximately 160 National Guardsmen with the 81st Troop Command's 1313th Engineer Company returned to the Hoosier State during a ceremony in Indianapolis in October. During the troops' nine-month deployment to Kuwait they conducted numerous operations detailed below.

- 100+ construction projects completed
- Operated a battalion-level demolitions range
- Trained 100+ service members
- Expended more than 5,000+ lbs of explosives
- Taught breaching techniques, demolition operations & mine clearing



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Lasima O. Packett



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Lasima O. Packett

Indiana Army National Guard 1st Lt. Timothy Mantsch, 1313th Engineer Company executive officer, leads his fellow troops into the Cyclone Division Armory in Indianapolis.

Family members wait for their Indiana Guardsman to return home at the 38th Infantry Division Armory in Indianapolis.

# Hoosier Guardsmen reach new heights

## Charity donation passes goals and sets records

By Staff Sgt. Lorne W. Neff  
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

The Indiana National Guard Combined Federal Campaign surpassed its goals and set new records this year.

The CFC raised \$56,000 by the beginning of November, surpassing the goal of \$35,000 that had been set.

"I was pleasantly surprised," said Maj. Jeffery Coomler, CFC coordinator for the Indiana Guard. "With the economy being the way it is, with people's budgets being stretched the way they are, I was surprised to see that at an increased level."

Coomler said he hopes the organization can reach \$70,000 by the end of the year and expects to reach at least \$65,000. He attributed the increase to several factors.

"The last two years we have changed the way we do business," said Coomler.

Coomler said the CFC moved toward a paperless system where donations are made from regular payroll deductions.

"Another thing we did is increase the

number of key workers, people at the lower level, so that there are people at every directorate and every armory talking to people about CFC and making sure they had the opportunity to donate," said Coomler.

"We have some great people who help us out with the CFC, Chief Master Sgt. Anna Snyder from the Air Guard and Marlene Reed from the J3 (Operations Directorate). They are crucial to the success of the program," said Coomler.

The CFC volunteers at the Joint Force Headquarters in Indianapolis also held a chili cook-off and bake sale to help raise awareness and money.

"It makes me feel like I'm making a difference in our community and overall internationally," said Sgt. Kelsie Gephart, a CFC volunteer and chili cook-off coordinator. "A lot of people get into it, and it's good to see people doing good for each other."

Gephart said \$750 were raised for charity. "I saw how much of an impact this was making, even the few dollars that we donate help a lot more than you think it does," said Gephart of the headquarters' cook-off.

The CFC has been around since the 1940s

and permanent guidelines for fundraising in the federal workplace were established in 1961. Employees can make donations to their favorite charities. This year, there were more than 20,000 eligible charities.

The CFC is broken into regions with the Indiana National Guard in the Indiana, Kentucky, and southwestern Ohio region.

The Indiana National Guard, as one of the seven largest federal employers in the region, helps govern a board. Coomler sits as the head of the board this year.

"I love working with the charities," said Coomler. "I love watching the involvement of Guardsmen and giving back to the organization they care about."

Coomler said there are still opportunities to get involved this year and next year, and he welcomes new volunteers.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Lasima O. Packett

Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr, presents Capt. Amber Anderson with her awards, including a golden ladle, for winning the Indiana National Guard Joint Force Headquarter's annual chili cook-off, Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015. The event raised more than \$750 dollars for the Combined Federal Campaign general fund.



# Evansville's Norwegian Road March tests troops, civilians

By Pfc. Hannah Clifton  
120th Public Affairs Detachment

More than 600 participants of the Norwegian Road March eagerly gathered on the University of Southern Indiana campus waiting to begin their trek through the Evansville area, Nov. 7.

After weighing their rucksacks and receiving a safety brief, the marchers assembled at the start point. By the fire of the cannon at 7:30 am, the first heat stepped off to begin their haul.

The Norwegian Road March is an 18.6-mile test of endurance. Marchers must carry 24 pounds. Male participants 34 years and younger must finish in at least 4.5 hours. The time limit increases for female marchers and male marchers 35 years and older.

Participants who finish in the allotted time are awarded the Norwegian Road March badge.

The first Norwegian Road March took place 14 years ago on the USI campus when Dr. Nils I. Johansen, a retired professor from USI and retired field artillery Norwegian Army second lieutenant, chose to sponsor the event. When the event first began, only 25 people participated. The numbers have grown to more than 600 people, military personnel and civilians alike, representing 35 different states including the Indiana National Guard.

"I would like to see the participants have a good time and challenge themselves and enjoy an athletic competition," said Johansen. "It's very personal. It's a 'Yes, I did it, and, yes, I have a badge to prove it.'"

Maj. Christopher M. Dalrymple, assistant professor of military science at USI, and the USI ROTC cadets, organized the event.

"It is a tremendous test of mettle, both the mental game and the physical game," said Dalrymple. "I want the participants to



Photo by Pfc. Hannah Clifton

Participants in the Norwegian Road March begin their march on the University of Southern Indiana campus in Evansville, Ind., Saturday, Nov. 7, 2015.



Photo by Pfc. Hannah Clifton

Soldiers push to the finish line of the Norwegian Road March in Evansville, Ind.



Photo by Pfc. Hannah Clifton

The cannon fires at 7:30 a.m. to signify the start of the Norwegian Road March.



Photo by Pfc. Hannah Clifton

Soldiers jog to the halfway point during the Norwegian Road March in Evansville.

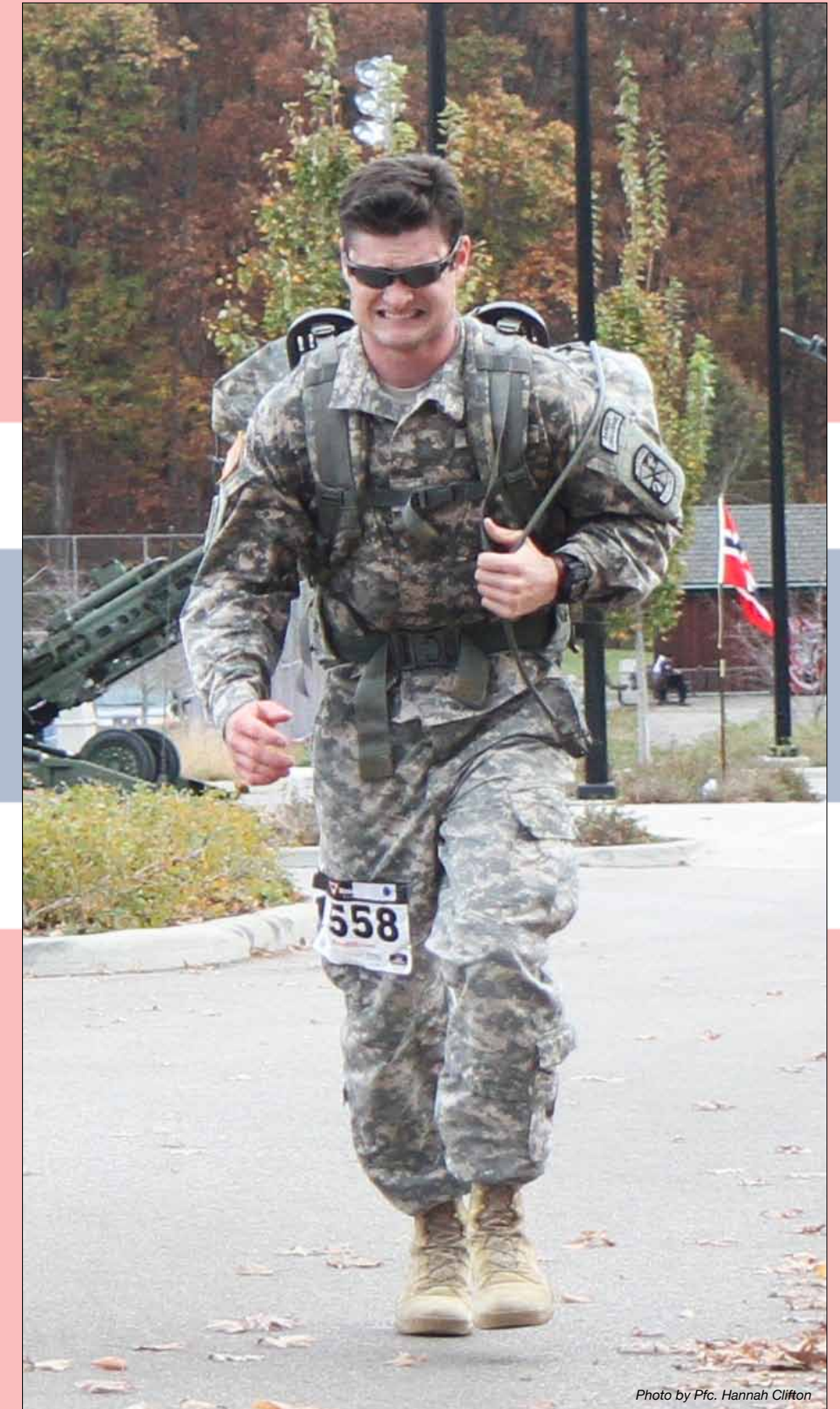


Photo by Pfc. Hannah Clifton

U.S. Army Reserve Pfc. Nicholas A. Wilkins, with the 461st Human Resources Company of Starkville, Miss., pushes himself across the finish line of the Norwegian Road March, Nov. 7.

See March, page 14



# Hoosier Guardsmen aim for marksmanship mastery

## TAG MATCH Earning the Governor's Twenty Tab

By Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Runser  
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

The Adjutant General's Match is an annual competition aimed to promote exceptional marksmanship training with four separate events – the combined arms combat team, the M240 machine gun team, the individual rifle competition and the individual pistol competition.

“This competition allows us to reward our top shooters in the state with a tab very few soldiers get the chance to wear.” said Staff Sgt. Adam Stephenson, an instructor at the 138th Regional Training Institute.

This type of marksmanship championship offered service members from across the Indiana National Guard, Army and Air, an opportunity to test their marksmanship skills and weapon systems in a battle-focused environment.

One of the major benefits to this event is the opportunity to earn the Governor's Twenty tab, which is awarded to the top 20 percent of shooters in the rifle and pistol competition.

“There are quite a few Soldiers and Airmen that don't even know this is an option to them, let alone that there is a tab awarded for it,” said Sgt. Andy Thompson.

Soldiers and Airmen competing for the Governor's Twenty Tab, can earn points toward Excellence in Competition badges. These points count towards the state-, regional- and national-level matches.

The competition is about more than just a tab though.

The ability to shoot timely and accurately is a basic combat skill, fundamental to every National Guard Soldier and Airman.

Indiana National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Ben Hammond traverses between targets during the pistol competition.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Runser

Two Indiana National Guard Soldiers compete in the M240 machine gun portion of the competition.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Runser



Indiana National Guard Spc. Robert Pickel counts the number of hits he has on target during the pistol competition. Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Runser



# Norwegian

Continued from page 6

walk away from a little place called Evansville, Indiana, and take it upon their heart to love this area, love this country and love this community.”

Finishing in 3 hours, 29 minutes, Pfc. Nicholas A. Wilkins, a Soldier with the 461st Human Resources Company of Starkville, Mississippi, was one of the first Soldiers to cross the finish line.

“My muscles are incredibly fatigued but I have felt worse before,” said Wilkins. “I came from mile marker to mile marker, from pole to pole to cross the finish line.” Wilkins had to overcome his own tribulations in order to finish strong.

“The last four miles were really bad ... especially the last mile,” said Wilkins. “Your muscles become incredibly fatigued. You want to quit. You don’t want to do it anymore. You want to fall out, but you just have to stay mentally tough and fight through the pain.”

Earning the Norwegian Road March badge represents the physical and mental challenge that each participant fights to overcome. It proves not only to others but also to themselves that they are capable of pushing the limits of their bodies and their minds.

## Division HQ battalion changes leaders



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

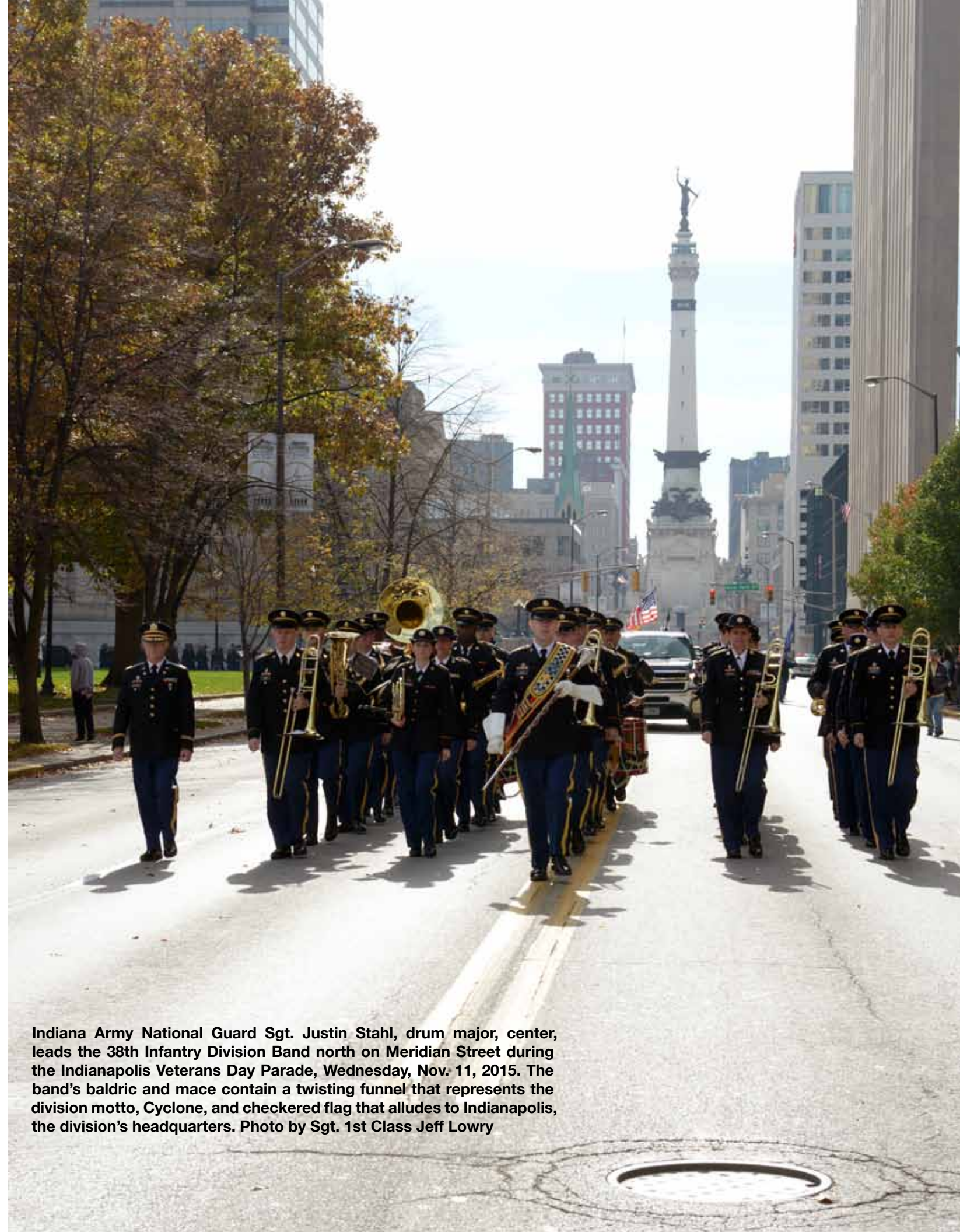
Indiana Army National Guard Lt. Col. David Skalon, right, took command of the 38th Infantry Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion during a ceremony at the Cyclone Division Army in Indianapolis, Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015. Skalon replaced Lt. Col. Walt Finney, who retired later that day, as the leader of the division's headquarters battalion based in Indianapolis.

## 38th Sustainment Brigade Guardsmen welcome new leader



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Lasima O. Packett

Indiana Army National Guard Lt. Col. Kimberly Martindale passes the 38th Sustainment Brigade colors to Command Sgt. Maj. Brenda Simmons, the brigade's senior enlisted advisor, during the brigade's change of command ceremony, Saturday, Nov. 7, 2015, in Kokomo, Ind. Martindale replaced Col. Troy Joslin, who moved to become the 38th Infantry Division's chief of staff. “We must be adaptable and flexible with our thinking to important solutions. It is my honor and pleasure to be here today and to work with you in the future,” said Martindale during her speech. The 38th Infantry Division Commander, Maj. Gen. David C. Wood reviewed the ceremony and praised Martindale. “I am looking forward to her leadership as she builds readiness, prepares for command post and warfighter exercises, provides logistical support throughout the entire division and takes the sustainment brigade to the next level,” said Wood.



Indiana Army National Guard Sgt. Justin Stahl, drum major, center, leads the 38th Infantry Division Band north on Meridian Street during the Indianapolis Veterans Day Parade, Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2015. The band's baldric and mace contain a twisting funnel that represents the division motto, Cyclone, and checkered flag that alludes to Indianapolis, the division's headquarters. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry





An Indiana National Guard Soldier with the 219th Engineer Brigade rappels from the Lucas Oil Stadium rafters in Indianapolis during the Colts, Broncos game Sunday, Nov. 8, 2015. The Colts honored veterans of all service branches at halftime. Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Runser