

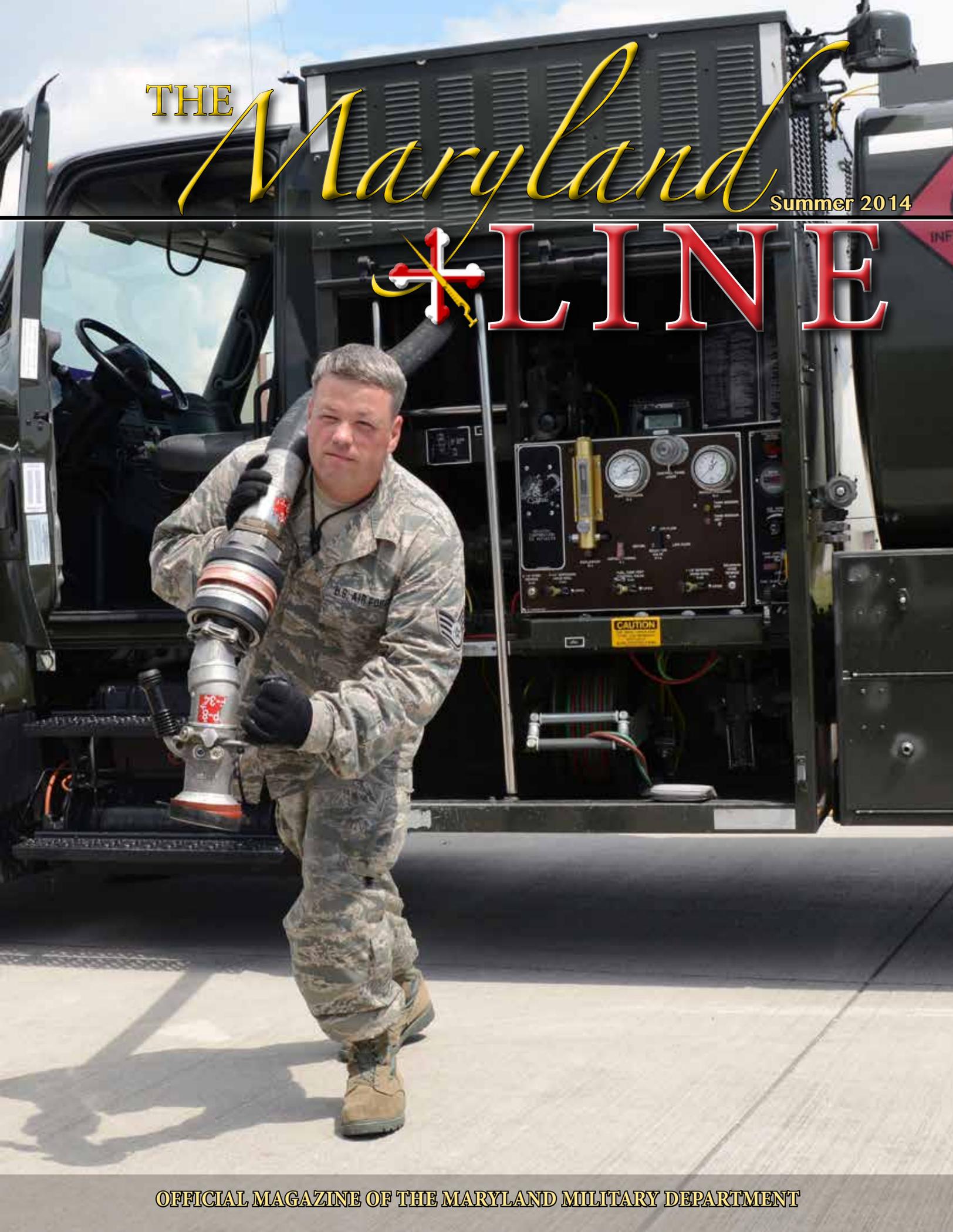
THE

Maryland

Summer 2014



LINE



OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT



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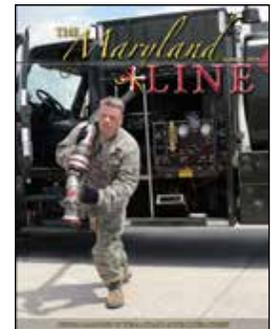
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On the cover:



Staff Sgt. Kelly Greer, from the 175th Fuel Management flight, prepares to refuel an F-16 Fighting Falcon, May 29, 2014 at Aviano Air Base, Italy. (National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Gareth Buckland/Released)





WORKING TOGETHER

Baltimore community partnered with the Maryland Guard

*By Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington,
Maryland National Guard Public Affair Office*

Just 15 minutes away from the historic 5th Regiment Armory in Baltimore, Maryland, is a struggling community. A community like many others in the city and nation. This Baltimore community is working towards revitalization and has a new partner, the Maryland National Guard.

Members of the Maryland Guard's Counterdrug Program have been on duty in the McElderry Park community since late July. These Service members are providing the administrative support and workforce needed to jumpstart efforts to reestablish the community resource center.

"You would not recognize this place - the before and after. We did a lot of work," said Staff Sgt. Derek Tucker.

The McElderry Park Revitalization Coalition has a nearly \$1 million grant through the Byrne Criminal Justice

Innovation Program funded by the U.S. Department of Justice and administered by the Baltimore City Mayor's Office on Criminal Justice. The BCJI launched in 2012 to develop and implement place-based, community-oriented strategies to transform distressed communities into communities of opportunity.

Home to 7,800 people, the 48-square block East Baltimore neighborhood is the spot for a disproportionate amount of crime. Like many other inner-city neighborhoods the community struggles with unemployment, distressed properties, and poverty.

In an effort to reach out to the Hispanic population in the community, the team used a Spanish-speaking team member to translate. Many Spanish-speaking residents did not know that the community resource center existed.

"I've never done any translations on this level," said Spc. Christopher Sanchez. "I

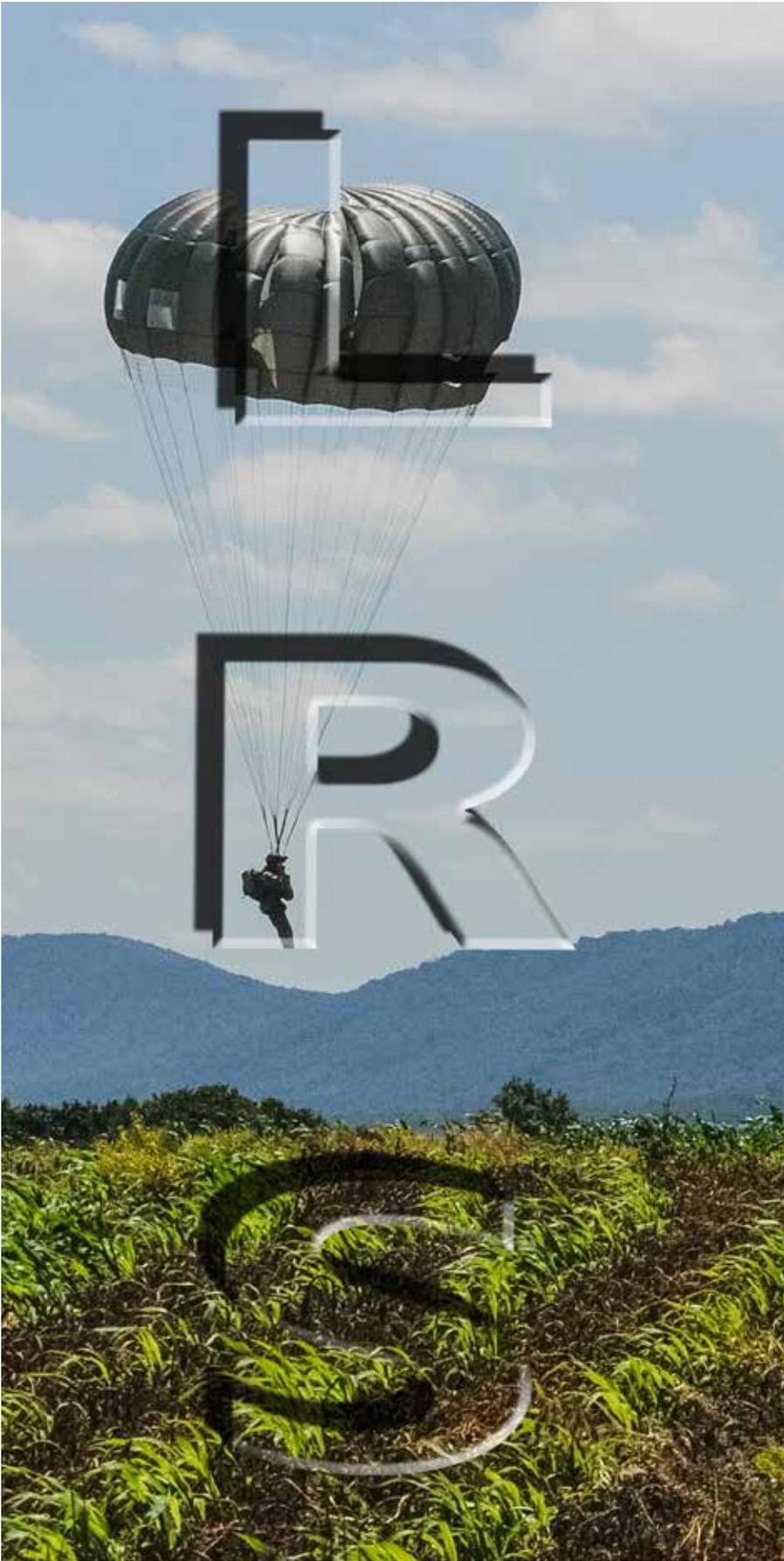
feel like a connection between the two parts of the community."

The community resource center will have workforce development programs that help the community such as computer training that could lead to Comp TIA A+ Certification, GED prep training, and instruction in 3D printing.

"They don't know this [resource center] is turning into a one-stop shop. They came here for one thing and they can leave here with much more," said Tucker.

The Counterdrug team even picked up the 500 laptops/tablets to be used in the Computers for Guns program that takes place on Sat., Aug. 9. This initiative aims to get guns off the streets and could narrow the digital divide.

"Meeting residents in the community and then seeing them in the office (resource center) is very fulfilling," said Staff Sgt. Maria Frazier. "I'm very grateful for doing what I'm doing."



MD LRS CHUTES from the SKIES



*By Staff Sgt. Michael E. Davis, Jr.,
29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment*

Soldiers with C Co., 1st Squadron, 158th Cavalry Regiment, Maryland Army National Guard, conducted a non-tactical jump from a CH-47 Chinook helicopter over Bitner Drop Zone in Little Orleans, Maryland, June 14.

The long-range surveillance (LRS) unit performed its quarterly routine airborne exercise and transitioned to a new parachute system, the MC-6.

“We’re an airborne company, and in order to be airborne, you have to maintain your proficiency,” said Staff Sgt. Eric Zubkus,





C Company's training noncommissioned officer.

Zubkus said they also wanted to try out the new parachute system during the quarterly exercise because they plan to perform airborne missions with it during their annual training (AT) next month at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

"We don't want the Soldiers to do their first combat equipment night jump with a chute they're not familiar with," Zubkus said. "So this is basically a familiarization jump and an airborne refresher so they can get familiar with their new chutes in order to successfully complete their mission at AT."

Although the training mission was meant to introduce everyone to the new parachutes, not everyone got a chance to



jump. The wind velocity increased during the second jump iteration, and then became too strong for the exercise to safely continue.

However, Zubkus said he would try his best to make sure those Soldiers who didn't get a chance to jump have an opportunity to practice before their combat equipment night jumps.

Pfc. Mackenzie Keck, who recently transferred to the Maryland Guard, said he was looking forward to his first jump with the unit on Saturday. He said he'd heard how 'high speed' the team was; their motivation and skill encouraged him to transfer.

Unfortunately, the weather got in the way, and Keck's first jump with his new teammates and the new parachute may not happen until AT at Fort Bragg.

Soldiers who have worked with the new MC-6, such as parachute rigger Staff Sgt. John Yarnall, say Keck and others who haven't experienced it yet have a good deal to look forward to.

"Personally, I like [the MC-6 parachutes] a lot better," said Yarnall, who played a major part in the training. "They fly a lot better, you can slow down better, you can pick a spot where you want



to land and have a better chance [of landing there]. They also have a braking system in it so you can land a little bit softer."

Some of the other Soldiers like Spc. Joe Crist and Spc. Sam McQuaid, who didn't get a chance to experience the finer flying, the smooth steering and the softer landing with the new parachutes, are looking forward to their training at Fort Bragg.

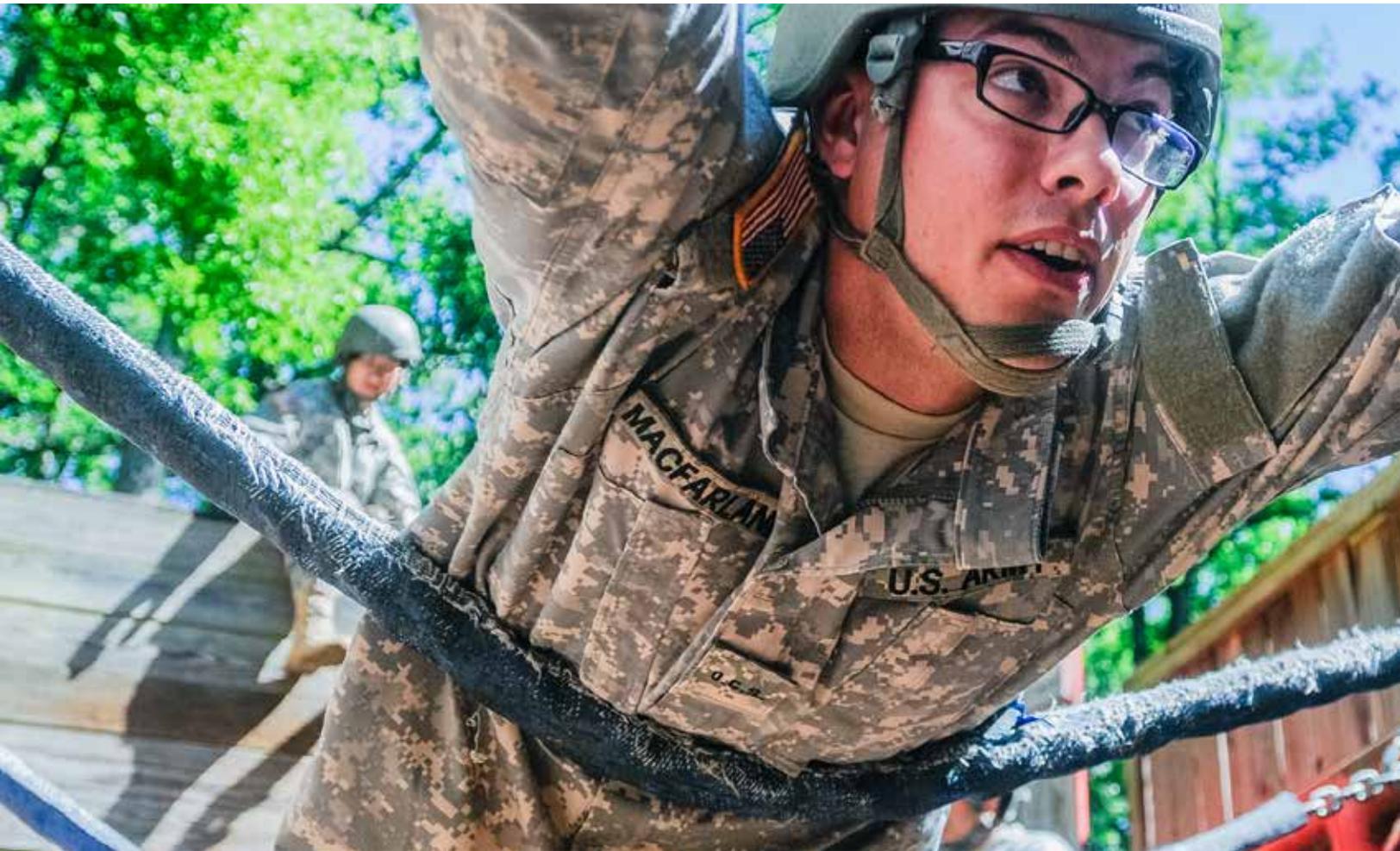
The main purpose of the jumps isn't just to break in the new gear; it's to craft a skillful airborne team capable of adapting to any situation.

"Every jump is different one way or another," said Spc. Joe Crist. "You can never treat it like, 'I've done a hundred jumps so I'm an expert.' We actually jump for proficiency; we actually get better at it."





70th Regt. trains new leaders



*By Staff Sgt. Michael E. Davis Jr.,
Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office*

The 1st Battalion, 70th Regiment (LDR) Regional Training Institute, Maryland Army National Guard, conducted its first phase III training of the Officer Candidate School (OCS) in Edgewood, Maryland, June 13-27, 2014.

The training concluded with a graduation ceremony for Maryland's eight new 2nd lieutenants from OCS class 55 at the Edgewood Conference Center on June 28, 2014.

The OCS is usually completed in three phases; an initial two-week phase, a year of one weekend per month battle assemblies, and a final two-week phase.

The 70th Regiment's mission is to train future leaders of the MDARNG. It was given the opportunity to train more than 90 candidates from 13 states in the final phase of OCS.

"By conducting all three phases of OCS here in Maryland, we have expanded our mission," said Lt. Col. Craig A. Weedon, commander of the OCS Battalion. "It's been part of our long term plan and we're able to do this with our new facilities here at Edgewood."

- Jonathan M. Phillips

“Phase I and phase II were tough, a lot of work, a lot of physical efforts, but I think it paid off in phase III.”





Weedon has been in command since January and said the work is very demanding because they are running all three phases and moving to a new location at the same time. The 70th Regt. moved into a new space on the 4200 block of Edgewood in May. Maryland had conducted OCS at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation from 1990 until this year.

Despite the hard work put into the operation of all three phases of OCS for the first time, the medical officer on board, Col. Eric B. Allely said he thinks the 70th Regt. has done an outstanding job in making sure the candidates get trained properly.

“The staff has done a great job setting everything up and getting the students through,” said Allely. It’s been safe, it’s been productive, and it’s been a good learning experience for everybody.”

Weedon and Allely were able to share their experience developing and sustaining phase III with Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, during his visit with the Soldiers, June 18.

Adkins recognized a few of the staff members and shared with some of the students his personal experiences from when he went through OCS.

Newly commissioned 2nd Lt. Jonathan M. Phillips, said his OCS experience was great and he aspired to become an officer because he wanted more leadership skills and thought he could give more to the MDARNG.

“Phase I and phase II were tough, a lot of work, a lot of physical efforts, but I think it paid off in phase III,” said Phillips, just minutes after completing the confidence course.

In the end, the 70th Regt. accomplished a new mission and in return developed new leaders within the MDARNG.

“You are not just becoming an officer and a leader in the Maryland Army National Guard, you’re becoming an officer and a leader with a family that is almost 5,000 strong,” said Brig. Gen. Linda L. Singh, commander of the MDARNG, during the graduation ceremony.



- Brig. Gen. Linda L. Singh

“You are not just becoming an officer and a leader in the Maryland Army National Guard, you’re becoming an officer and a leader with a family that is almost 5,000 strong.”



TROOPER of the QUARTER

*By Staff Sgt. Michael E. Davis, Jr.,
29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment*



SSG RAQUEL T. REED

Guard Status:

Affiliation: Maryland Army National Guard
Unit: 70th Regiment (LDR) Regional Training Institute
Military Occupational Specialty: 68W - Combat Medic
Years of service: 10

Citizen Status

Career(s): Civil Engineer/Teacher
Affiliation: Maryland State Highway Administration
Education: Mass Communication

The Maryland National Guard takes great pleasure in recognizing its citizen-Soldiers and Airmen who have gone above and beyond their call of duty. This quarter, the MDNG would like to acknowledge Army Staff Sgt. Raquel T. Reed for her outstanding work as a combat medic instructor with the 70th Regiment and as a civil engineer with the Maryland State Highway Administration.

Q&A

PAO: "Tell me something about you, something unique?"

SSG Reed: "I'm currently a combat medic instructor for the 70th Regiment. I always wanted to be an Army nurse and have been with them since August 2013.

The 'T' for my middle initial does not stand for anything, my mom was unique. T as in Tango, T as in Tiffany, yeah, she couldn't think of anything. It can cause trouble during an application process when they want your full middle name."



PAO: "How did you begin as a combat medic instructor?"

SSG Reed: "Well, they don't just throw you on the podium. I had to go to ABIC, the Army Basic Instructor Course. On the reserve side it's three months – three drill weekends. Once you pass that you are cleared to instruct. They also let me do the Small Group Instructor Training Course. That too, was a three-drill weekend course. So I've been in school a lot and I finally got on the podium in March. That was our big course for the 68 whiskeys who need to be recertified. In this MOS, you have to keep your recertification or you'll lose it. This field changes a lot; medicine changes all of the time so we have to keep up.

SSG REED, SGT. BAQUET, PFC REED



PAO: Tell me about a memorable training mission as a combat medic?

Ssg Reed: I will never forget this. Two other medics and myself were going to train with the 1st Battalion, 175th Infantry. I was the only female and I didn't know how they were going to accept me, but I had the best training. Those medics know what they're doing. The infantry is interesting. They're out in the woods; something is going to happen, so the medics are needed. I learned so much! I thought to myself, 'what in this environment would Soldiers be the most afflicted with, besides heat casualties? How about knee and ankles sprains?' So these Soldiers [medics] were showing me how to properly wrap a knee and an ankle and I learned so much!



PAO: So tell me about your civilian career?

Ssg Reed: I work downtown here [Baltimore] at the Maryland State Highway Administration. I'm a civil engineer and design bridges for a living. I'm not a nurse in active duty Army, but I'm a combat medic in the Maryland Army National Guard; and being an instructor is even more exciting. I like teaching, I like people and I am very pleased at what I'm doing.



PAO: Who made a positive impression on you in the Maryland National Guard?

SSG Reed: Chief Master Sgt. Glenn Hart (Air National Guard Senior Enlisted Leader). He's a very nice man. We met when I first joined the 70th. He was talking to me about a mentorship program he was trying to develop – Senior Soldiers mentoring junior Soldiers; and I agreed that that should happen. The National Guard has changed a lot since I was in years ago, and I would say that it changed for the better.



Two Maryland Guard members honored for rescuing girl from blazing house



*By Staff Sgt. Michael E. Davis Jr.,
Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office*

Two Maryland Army National Guard Soldiers, Sgt. Maj. Merle L. Bragg Jr. with the 29th infantry division, and Sgt. Edward L. Carmean with the 290th Military Police Company, both senior police officers with the Berlin Police Department, were presented with the Life Saving Award on Aug. 11, 2014, at the Council Chambers - Berlin Town Hall in Berlin, Maryland.

- Arnold R. Downing, Berlin chief of police

“When they made it to the house and saw the fire coming out of the front door, the officers fiercely went around the house to find possible entry points.”



Bragg and Carmean heroically rescued a six-year-old girl, Mia McKenzie, from a residential house fire on April 17, 2014.

The two-story home was filled with heavy smoke and fire vented from the front of the house. Bragg and Carmean were dispatched to the fire and were close enough to the scene to take action before the fire department's arrival.

“When they made it to the house and saw the fire coming out of the front door, the officers fiercely went around the house to find possible entry points,” said Arnold R. Downing, chief of the Berlin Police Department. “What they found and what they saw was a small hand from a rear window.”

Bragg used his fist to break the window and Carmean used his baton to break and rake the remainder of the glass. They pulled Mia out of the window and safely brought her to a neighbor. Mia then told them that her mother was still in the house.

Bragg and Carmean ran back to the house along with the firefighters, who by then arrived on the scene, in attempt to save Mia's mother. The fire firefighters were able to rescue her and she is now doing fine.

After Bragg and Carmean were presented with their award, Mia and her family thanked them both for their brave actions.



On the +LINE



MDNG Equal Opportunity Leaders

The Maryland Army National Guard's Equal Opportunity Office conducted its first 60-hour Equal Opportunity Leaders Course at Camp Fretterd near Reisterstown, Md., from Aug. 10-15, 2014. Eighteen Soldiers are now trained Equal Opportunity Leaders and will now assist their unit commanders with their Equal Opportunity program and serve as a resource person for EO matters. The purpose of the EO program is to train and assign EO Leaders to every unit to assist commanders with the implementation of the Army's EO policies. The class was conducted in order to obtain trained and ready Equal Opportunity Leaders at the unit level.



Opportunity for women to join the Guard and serve in Cheltenham, Md.

The Maryland National Guard's 1729th Field Support Maintenance Company established a new platoon size detachment and hosted an open house at the armory in Cheltenham, Md., on Saturday, Aug. 16. The 1729th detachment is a dual-gendered unit with nearly 40 full-time and traditional part-time members. This will give more opportunities for both men and women to serve in the Guard in Prince George's County.





Adjutant general visits troops at Ft. Bragg

Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, visits the 58th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade troops as well as troops from Bosnia and Herzegovina and the United Kingdom during annual training at Fort Bragg, N.C., on July 31, 2014. The Soldiers trained in their military occupational specialties from infantry tactics and airborne operation to water purification and network support operations. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington, Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office)



110th Information Operations Battalion Freedom Salute

Welcome home members of the 110th Information Operations Battalion which has deployed 7 teams to Afghanistan and 4 teams to the Horn of Africa to conduct Information Operations planning and integration in support of SOCOM and USAFRICOM. The ceremony was held on July 12, 2014. (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt, Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office)



Maryland Soldiers re-enlist from a helicopter

Soldiers from the 58th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade take their re-enlistment oath from the rappel tower at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation on July 29. Spc. Alice Philippe-Auguste and Spc. Darius Underwood from the S1 section were sworn in by Maj. Matt Deener while hanging from a converted UH 1 helicopter.



Fire suppression training

175th Civil Engineer Fire Department personnel, Martin State Airport Firefighters participated in fire suppression training conducted at Maryland Fire Rescue Institute training site in Edgewood, Md., on July 10, 2014. This is a mandatory annual requirement.



2-224th's sling load and more during AT

Members of Company C, 2-224th Aviation Regiment worked on their mission essential task list (METL) during annual training in June at Weide Army Heliport, Edgewood, Md., to increase unit operational readiness. Annual training events consisted of air assault mission planning and execution, aviation support to other units, a personnel recovery exercise, day sling load and waterbucket operations and shallow water egress training. The primary focus of the annual training was to increase individual readiness of unit members while also planning and conducting collective training exercises.

Brig. Gen. Singh visits OCS phase I candidates

Brig. Gen. Linda L. Singh, commander of the Maryland Army National Guard, visits candidates and staff during phase I of Officer Candidate School in the Edgewood area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., on Aug. 6, 2014. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael E. Davis Jr., Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office)



I-169th hoist training

Members of C Co., 1st Battalion, 169th General Support Aviation Battalion were requested by the Connecticut National Guard's 2/169th Regional Training Institute to conduct integrated MEDEVAC training in support of the combat medic sustainment program at Camp Niantic, Ct. Program of instruction included MEDEVAC operations, g-line request, UH-60 Blackhawk aircraft familiarization and aerial hoist extraction to include a live demonstration and ground support.





Medical symposium

The Maryland National Guard hosted a symposium for medical first responders at the Edgewood Conference Center of Aberdeen Proving Ground on Aug. 9, 2014. More than 70 military and civilian medical professionals discussed disaster planning, response, legal ramifications, emergency services and lessons learned from Super Storm Sandy. The keynote speaker was Dr. Sheri Fink, author of the bestselling book, *Five Days at Memorial: Live and Death in a Storm-Ravaged Hospital*.

The 229th Army Band's father & son duo will end on a positive note

Staff Sgt. and 1st Sgt. Hirschmann performed their last concert together as father and son in Crisfield, Md., July 19, 2014. The duo performed and worked together for the last 10 years. 1st Sgt. Hirschmann will retire this fall with 32 and a 1/2 years of service to the Maryland National Guard. He was fortunate enough to spend his entire career with the 229th. Job well done!



200th MP Company Freedom Salute

The Maryland National Guard hosted a Freedom Salute ceremony on July 20, 2014, at the Naval Support Activity Annapolis, Md., to officially welcome home approximately 90 members of the 200th Military Police Company from their nearly yearlong deployment to Afghanistan. The Catonsville based unit can trace its lineage back 90 years as a company in the 29th Infantry Division. The unit was mobilized into federal service for World War II, Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, and to guard the Pentagon after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington, Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office)

Maryland's Army commander visits 29th ID Detachment

Brig. Gen. Linda L. Singh, assistant adjutant general for the Maryland Army National Guard, visited Soldiers from the 29th Infantry Division Detachment during their two-week annual training at Fort A.P. Hill, Va., June 18, 2014. During the visit she spoke with the officers, observed training, presented coins to deserving Soldiers, and had lunch with the troops. This annual training was a chance for the detachment Soldiers from Maryland and Virginia to train together. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington, Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office)





Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

Col. Marcus L. Brown, superintendent with the Maryland State Police, signs a statement of support with Jean M. Hulet, Maryland State chair for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, on July 15, 2014. More than 20 Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, Sailors and State Troopers were on hand to represent "Maryland's Finest" dual citizens that serve the State and Nation. The statement of support is the cornerstone of ESGR's effort to gain and maintain employer support for the Guard and Reserve. The intent of the program is to increase employer support by encouraging employers to act as advocates for employee participation in the military. Supportive employers like the Maryland State Police are critical to maintaining the strength and readiness of the nation's Guard and Reserve units.



290th MP Company Freedom Salute Ceremony

The Maryland National Guard hosted a Freedom Salute ceremony to officially welcome home approximately 90 members of the 290th Military Police Company on July 13, 2014, from their nearly yearlong deployment to Afghanistan. The Parkville based unit was deployed to Bagram Airfield working with the NATO lead International Security Assistance Force to help grow the capacity and capability of the Afghan National Security Forces in order to provide a secure environment for the people of Afghanistan. This was the unit's fourth federal deployment since 9/11 along with several state emergency activations to assist fellow Marylanders. (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt, Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office)

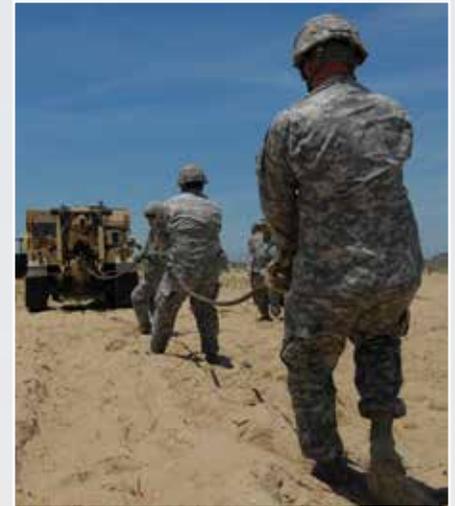
2014 HOMEFRONT Challenge Camp

Children of the Maryland National Guard's Family Program Child and Youth Program enjoy fun activities at the Rocks State Park on July 30, 2014, for the eighth HOMEFRONT Challenge Camp. This camp is unique to the Maryland National Guard, only children and youth with a parent in the MDNG can participate. Nearly 65 campers between the ages of 7-12 arrived for the five-day residential camp. The camp is held from July 27- Aug. 1, 2014. The highlights of this year's camp was a visit by Miss Teen Maryland Hannah Brewer and the Stand Strength Team, a national group reaching to youth to encourage them to make positive choices. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Davis Jr., Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office)



Flag Day celebration

The Maryland National Guard was well represented during the 35th Annual National Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance on Flag Day, Saturday, June 14, 2014, at Fort McHenry - home of the Star-Spangled Banner. Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, received the American Flag Foundation's Patriotism Award. The Maryland Army National Guard's 229th Army Band played for the crowd, Chaplain (Col.) Sean Lee gave the invocation, and the Honor Guard presented the colors escorted by Cavalry Troop A of the Maryland Defense Force. (Photo by Col. Charles Kohler, Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Officer)



1297th CSSB Annual Training

Brig. Gen. Linda L. Singh, assistant adjutant general for the Maryland Army National Guard, visited Soldiers from the 1297th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (CSSB) during their two-week annual training at Camp Pendleton, Virginia. During the June 8 visit, she presented awards, answered questions during a town hall meeting, and observed training, including wrecker recovery operations and medical evacuations. (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt, Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office)



Mission BBQ visit to Warfield ANG Base

Team members from Mission BBQ in Perry Hall were on base for an A-10 Thunderbolt II briefing and to see the A-10 up close, on July 7, 2014, at Warfield Air National Guard Base. The Mission BBQ Corporation has donated \$166,813 to the Wounded Warrior Project.



175th Wing flies Alaskan skies

A pilot from the 104th Fighter Squadron, Warfield Air National Guard Base, Baltimore, Md., taxis past the observation tower overlooking the airfield at Eielson Air Force Base, Ak., during Exercise Red Flag - Alaska 14-3. Exercise Red Flag is a 10 day exercise that is a series of Pacific Air Forces commander-directed field training exercises for U.S. forces, provides joint offensive counter-air, interdiction, close air support, and large force employment training in a simulated combat environment.



Cannon training with the Old Guard

The Maryland National Guard brought in the pros June 7-8 for ceremonial cannon salute training. Soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry Salute Guns Platoon or “The Presidential Salute Battery” traveled to Camp Fretterd, north of Baltimore, to train Maryland Guard Soldiers from the 58th Troop Command on everything related to the ceremonial Howitzer Cannon. Twelve Maryland Guard Soldiers teamed up with three mentor Soldiers from the Old Guard for the two-day training, which covered everything from drill and ceremony to fire and misfire procedures.



2014 Antietam Salute

Salute Battery rendering honors to the nation during the National Anthem.





Cyber Guard 2014: Maryland Guard Forms a Joint Cyber Team

By the Unit Public Affairs Representative

Maryland Guardsmen from the Air's 175th Network Warfare Squadron, the Army's 110th Information Operations Battalion, and the Maryland Defense Force participated here in a two-week exercise called Cyber Guard from Jun. 16 -Jul. 2, as one joint team to help prepare the state to defend from a cyber attack.

The joint Maryland cyber team had the opportunity to practice tactical level cyberspace operations utilizing a simulated network to test their tools and internal tactics, techniques, and procedures against a world-class opposing force.

"Working with our Air Guard colleagues were definitely one of the highlights of this training. Learning about their capabilities, tools and techniques is critical as we become force multipliers for each other's team," said Capt. Eric Ruiz, the Maryland Army team lead, describing the benefit of working jointly.

Cyber Guard 14-1 focused on the joint and interagency response to a cyber attack on the homeland. The relationships between the National Guard, the active component, and several other agencies and organizations, such as Department of Homeland Security and the FBI were all exercised.

There were over 550 participants, to include more than 20 states role-playing in a "Title 32" status with a command

and control structure under each state's Governor or a multi-state scenario. In addition, there were newly formed "Title 10" status cyber protection teams, a team from the Army Reserve, and an international reserve team from the United Kingdom participating.

Ruiz explained how this type of exercise can be difficult from a command and control perspective. "One of the challenges for a major exercise like Cyber Guard is that you have multiple partners and leadership echelons that are seeking information during the incident. Teams learn how to communicate efficiently and effectively to accomplish the mission and help others who might need mission critical information."

More strategic levels of cyber were played out in preparation and during the exercise, which led to the eligibility of "joint credit" for participants. However, the cyber warriors on this Maryland team think the tactical and technical levels are just as important. Sgt. First Class Timothy Byrd and Staff Sgt. William Zimmerman described how they benefited from the forensics analysis training, the exposure to certain tools, and working in the simulated network. According to the team members, these pieces were critical to mission accomplishment during the exercise, for future training, and for real-world situations.

The Maryland Guard joint cyber team

held a unique role from the other state teams, according to Air Force Maj. Andrew Wonpat, a cyberspace operations officer in charge of the Maryland scenario build. Most of the other state teams were strictly conducting cyber network defense tasks. The Maryland Team built in forensics analysis tasks to the training plan, said Wonpat, a first for this exercise.

This Maryland Guard joint cyber team also brings different levels of experience from the civilian sector. Ruiz and his Air Guard counterpart relied heavily on the elite civilian cyber expertise and leadership of the Maryland Defense Force brought to the fight during the exercise.

In addition to the Cyber Guard exercise, the Maryland Guard participated in several other training events this year, to include supporting a state agency event and playing on the blue team against local college students at a cyber college challenge event sponsored by Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. The Maryland Army Guard also sent a Computer Network Defense team to Cyber Shield 2014 in Little Rock, Arkansas, in April.

"There are many uncertainties and different philosophies when describing cyberspace and cyberspace operations; however, one thing is certain, this type of cyber forces training must continue," said Staff Sgt. David Barnhart. "I look forward to future cyber training exercises."



MARYLAND

HART

The Maryland Army National Guard and the Maryland Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team conducts swift water rescue training with the Baltimore County Police and Fire Department on July 30, 2014, at Essex Skypark, Essex Md.

The MD-HART has developed standard operating procedures and guidelines for helicopter hoist/rescue operations with fire department helicopter rescue technicians and other personnel, who are deployed from helicopters. The HART training is performed quarterly, and prepares responders for emergency situations such as hurricanes and floods.

*Photos by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington,
Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office*



244th engineers



Story by Sgt. Margaret Taylor and photos by Staff Sgt. Nancy Spicer, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Soldiers from 2nd platoon, 244th Engineer Company, Maryland Army National Guard, broke out the hammers and circular saws to repair the Leadership Reaction Course at Gunpowder Military Reservation in Glen Arm, Maryland, Aug. 3-11, 2014.

Sgt. 1st Class Charles Brubaker, the platoon sergeant and a Baltimore resident, said work on the LRC allowed his soldiers to practice their carpentry and masonry skills.

“Many of my soldiers don’t have a lot of experience with this kind of work,” Brubaker said. “They do other stuff on the civilian side,

and [training] weekends and [annual training] are really the only time they get to focus on this.”

The LRC is a course where soldiers work in teams to navigate physically and mentally challenging obstacles. The wooden course has seen a lot of wear and tear over the years, and 2nd platoon made sure their handiwork would serve future teams well.

They came up with new designs to break larger structural sections into smaller ones,

Brubaker said. This relieves tension on the longer beams, prevents warping, and enables easier repair work in the future.

They also tried to reuse as much of the old materials as possible; the 244th managed to recycle more than half.



hammer out repairs



“We’re trying to be environmentally friendly and fiscally responsible by not buying all brand new materials,” said Brubaker.

Fiscal responsibility was not the only motivator; the engineers also focused their efforts to serve their fellow Soldiers.

“We treat this as if we are building our own house,” said Spc. Dayvone Mason, a carpenter. “We don’t want it to look all jacked up.”

Mason, who is from Temple Hills, Maryland, said the desire to do a good job meant he and his teammates redid some of their work from earlier in the week when it didn’t meet their high standards.

Renovating the LRC is one of several projects the 244th Engineers are working on right now. Others include repairing plumbing at the 5th Regiment Armory in Baltimore and installing acoustic paneling for the 229th Army Band in Parkville, Maryland.

With a week of hands-on carpentry and masonry training under their belts, the Soldiers in 2nd platoon are confident they can face whatever challenges come their way.

“It’s been a learning experience for some things, a relearning for others,” Brubaker said, “but everyone’s enjoying it [as well as] working together as a team.”



Traveling exhibit gives Marylanders a taste of history

*By Staff Sgt. Michael E. Davis Jr.,
Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office*

“When freemen shall stand,” is the title and theme of a new traveling exhibit of the War of 1812 that stands tall on display, for the month of August, at the Kent County Public Library to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Star-Spangled Banner.

The Maryland Military Historical Society (MDMHS), a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, is using the fourth verse of Francis Scott Key’s poem to explain the personal experience of real people—great leaders and common Soldiers of both sides—who participated in the events.

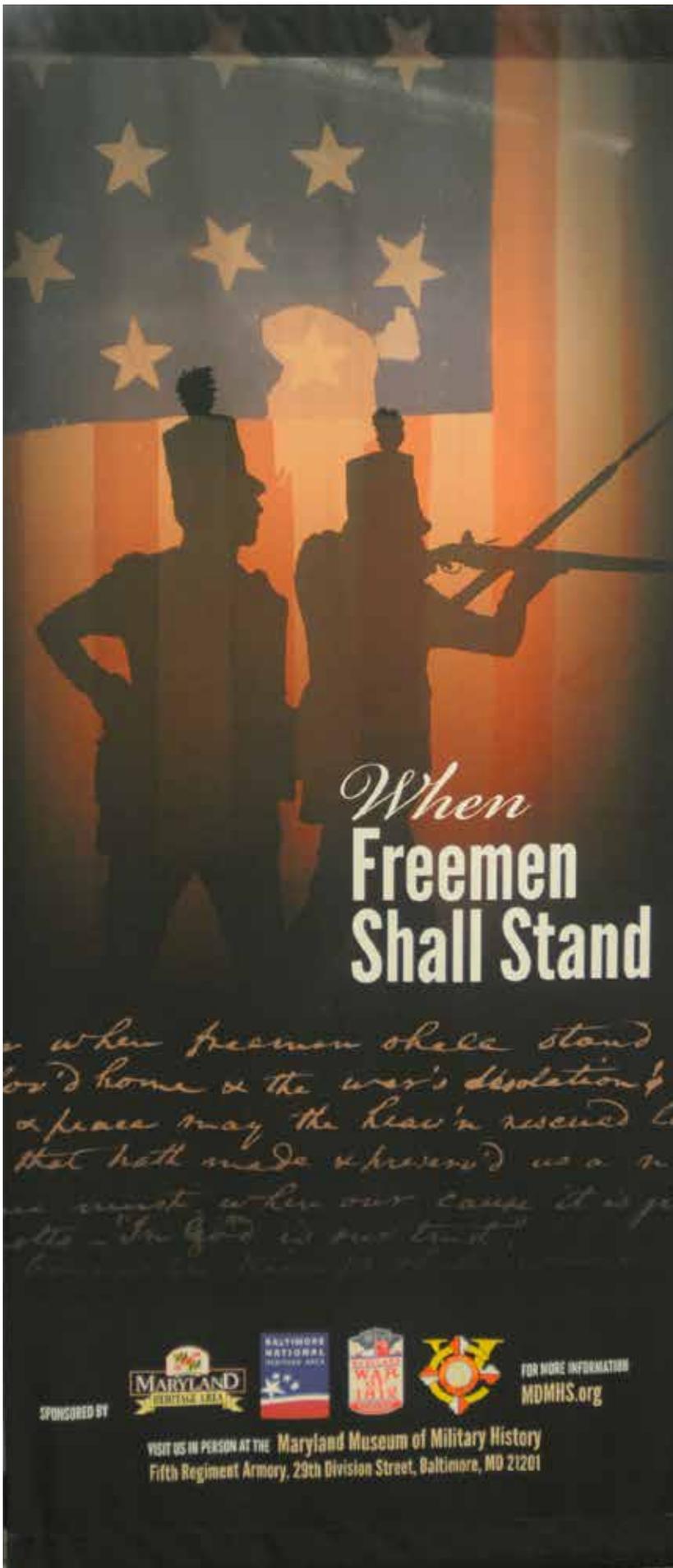
“We believe the title captures most clearly the spirit of the militia,” said retired Lt. Col. Kerry M. McIntyre, a board member in the MDMHS and project manager for the War of 1812 traveling exhibit. “It moves beyond the specific time and place, and speaks more broadly to the idea that people, working together, can achieve great things. To us, it also serves as a reminder that each of us bears some responsibility to work together for the preservation and defense of the things we cherish most.”

McIntyre said the intent of the traveling exhibit is to educate and inform Marylanders of their history.

The traveling exhibit was made possible because \$150,000 was raised in grants last year.

“We can bring the exhibit to the people,” exclaimed McIntyre, elaborating on making the exhibit available for Marylanders.

Another exhibit was installed at a public library in the city of Odenton as well, and a third one will be placed at the Glenn L. Martin State Airport Aviation Museum in September.





The traveling exhibits include two fabric-on-frame 4-panel display towers; each panel contains a wealth of historical information, using images and written content, conveying the major themes and stories of the fixed museum exhibit.

The traveling exhibit will soon be a portion of what you can experience at the Maryland Museum of Military History at the Fifth Regiment Armory as part of a grand opening on Sept. 3 from 6-8 p.m.

The traveling exhibit is just part of the major new exhibit within the museum that is near completion. The new exhibit will celebrate and interpret the role of Maryland's militia forces in the War of 1812.

The project coincides with the bicentennial of the Battle of Baltimore in September 2014, bringing added public interest and emphasis to the exhibit. However, the exhibit will be a permanent addition to the museum.

The development includes fixed museum displays, a counterpart digital display within the museum's webpage, and a traveling display that will bring the themes and stories of the museum exhibit to audiences across the state.

The project also includes a significant education support plan in keeping with the MDMHS' role as an institution dedicated to educating the public about Maryland's military heritage.

The project will exceed \$250,000 in total value when completed through a combination of grants and volunteer service.

The Baltimore National Heritage Area, the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, the 5th Regiment Veterans' Corps, and the National Guard Association of Maryland have contributed this project.

The MDMHS main goals are to preserve the history, heritage, and memory of Maryland's organized militia.

Visit the grand opening
Maryland Museum of Military History
 Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore on Sept. 3 from 6-8 p.m.



Estonian Air Force pilots receive highest MDNG state award



*By Staff Sgt. Michael E. Davis Jr.,
Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office*

Capt. Rene Kallis and Capt Martin Noorsalu, both members of the Estonian Air Force and previous Estonian exchange officers in the Maryland Army National Guard's 29th Combat Aviation Brigade, were presented with the Maryland National Guard Distinguished Service Cross. They also conducted their last flight with the Maryland Army National Guard at Weide Army Air Field in the Edgewood area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, on Aug. 12, 2014.

The MDDSC is the highest MDNG state award and was presented to Kallis and Noorsalu for their loyal and distinguished service with the 29th CAB. They have been assigned to the 29th CAB for the past three years and will return back to Estonia next month.

Over the course of the three years of service with the MDNG and the 29th CAB, Kallis and Noorsalu accomplished many notable achievements.

They quickly gained the knowledge and skills to serve as UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter pilots in preparation, then later deployment, with C Co., 1st Battalion, 169th General Support Aviation Battalion (Air Ambulance) to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. They participated in every major 29th CAB training event serving as UH-60 pilots flying support missions.

They also became the first Estonian Air Force pilots to deploy as aviators with a U.S. Army unit to a combat theater. They deployed with C Co., 1-169th GSAB on its historic deployment supporting OEF, the Helmand Province in Afghanistan where they flew over 28 combat hours. They personally flew or were part of the aircrew on more than 20 medical evacuation missions, saving the lives of U.S., Afghan, and other coalition forces in a hostile combat environment.

Kallis and Noorsalu flew over 230 UH-60 hours with the Maryland Army National Guard. They interacted daily with members of the 29th CAB and overwhelmingly broadened each and every Soldier's appreciation of Estonia and our ability to work with other NATO partners.





Final Frame

By Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington

The 32nd Civil Support Team (Weapons of Mass Destruction) participated in EXERCISE Operation Occupy at North Locust Point Marine Terminal in Baltimore, Md., June 26, 2014. Service members of the 32nd CST donned protective gear and collected samples of unknown-potentially-hazardous material for analysis. Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high-yield explosives specialists from the Bosnia and Herzegovina armed forces participated in the exercise. This joint exercise included the Maryland Transportation Authority, the Howard County Fire Department, and the Maryland Port Administration.