

the BAYONET

Vol 5 // Issue 4



BEST SQUAD COMPETITION 2017

EMPHASIS ON TRAINING: FORWARD SUPPORT COMPANY

DISCIPLINED SOLDIER IS DISCIPLINED FIGHTER

CHANGE OF COMMANDS

**STANDING TOGETHER 2017:
NATIVE AMERICANS SERVING IN THE MAINE AIR GUARD**

MAINE MARKSMANSHIP TEAM RISES TO CHALLENGE

MEDEVAC COMPANY TRAINS AS THEY FIGHT



the BAYONET

The Maine National Guard Public Affairs Office is pleased to present the December 2017 edition of the Bayonet Magazine.

The Bayonet is the official magazine of the Maine National Guard and is made possible by Soldier and Airmen provided content and feedback.

This edition contains some highlights September until now, including our Best Squad competition, annual training for the Forward Support Company at Camp Dodge, a look at Native American heritage in the Air Guard and some significant changes in commands and the organization.

If you enjoy the content that is provided in the Bayonet and would like to see more of it, please consider "liking" the Maine National Guard on Facebook where you can keep up to date on Maine National Guard current events!

Would you like your training event highlighted in the Bayonet? Or do you know a service member that could be featured? We are always interested in sharing your story ideas and imagery. Please send them in to us for consideration for future editions of the Bayonet.

Thank you for your continued interest and unwavering support to your National Guard.

Always Ready! Always There!

-Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Norman Stickney



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A MESSAGE FROM BRIG. GEN. DOUGLAS FARNHAM

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, MAINE NATIONAL GUARD



December is a great time of reflection and a time to look forward.

As I look back over the last year, I am filled with a sense of accomplishment due to the outstanding work and achievements from our Airmen and Soldiers.

Here are some of the significant events from the Maine National Guard during 2017:

We sent Airmen to support the 2017 Presidential Inauguration.

We refocused our eye on training, with specific military specialty skills such as the Medical symposium where all of our state medics came together from all of the units and made sure they were up to date with technical and innovative training opportunities.

We took forward leaning initiatives to reinvigorate our NCO corps, including "Not in My Squad" training, and bringing back NCO induction ceremonies. It continues to be important that we make sure our NCOs are empowered to make educated decisions to properly lead our enlisted members.

We deployed two of our Army units and a significant portion of the Air Refueling Wing, while still supporting domestic missions at home, such as support to Puerto Rico in the wake of Hurricane Irma. Our Army Engineers conducted projects around the state that improved our own training grounds and helped local communities.

We excelled in national competitions, showcasing our top-notch service members.

Sgt. Max Nickerson took first place in the Small Arms Championship, with the rest of the team culminating with a podium finish against 35 other teams.

Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer Macgillivray earned a spot on the All Guard Biathlon team for the second year in a row and

Sgt. Sarah Myrick earning a spot on the All Guard Marathon team, also for the second year in a row.

We also excelled in our facilities and services, earning top awards for energy conservation and state medical readiness.

Our DEERS/ RAPIDS site was selected for excellence and our Air Refueling Wing was recognized as Air Guard Fire Station of the Year.

Our decade long partnership with Montenegro has reaped significant rewards for both our state and the nation of Montenegro, as the nation became an official member of NATO.

Outstanding NCOs and officers traveled to work with their forces on multiple occasions, from guidance on troop leading procedures, helping them execute their first national level emergency disaster plan and showing them how we work with our new recruits.

Continuing to work with our partner even after they have been accepted as a full

NATO member remains a top priority as it's mutually beneficial for both nations.

As we begin a new year, I want to again thank you for the commitment and dedication that you displayed during 2017 and use that as a starting point for our continued success. Last year's accomplishments sets the bar high for this coming year.

Throughout this year, we will continue our mission to staff, train, equip and deploy our units in support of our federal and state missions. If directed by the President of the United States or the Governor of Maine, we will be ready to fulfill our duty at home and around the world.

The stories in this magazine illustrate our dedication to duty and display our resolve and remind us that there is still so much more to accomplish. I know we will make 2018 another great year in the National Guard's 381-year history.

I know I speak for all levels of leadership when I say THANK YOU for your service and hard work. To the families and employers of Maine Guard members; THANK YOU for your support and sacrifice. We could not complete our mission if it was not for your unwavering support.

Sincerely,

*Brig. Gen. Doug Farnham
The Adjutant General
Maine National Guard*



Maine Air National Guard 2nd Lt. Shannon Stuart administers immunizations at the 101st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor, Nov. 4, 2017. Air National Guard Clinical Nurses are part of a unique team of trained health professionals — professionals working and training part time, getting ready to assist the Armed Forces in time of need (Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Travis Hill)

THE CHAPLAIN'S WORD

"The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and leopard shall lie down with the kid and calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them"
-Isaiah 11:6

"And the lion will lie down with the lamb, but the lamb won't get much sleep..."
~ Woody Allen

When it comes to authority, I would certainly place the Bible over Woody Allen! However, I cannot avoid the merit of what Woody has to say here.

All one has to do is look at the faith of Noah, building an ocean going ark in the middle of a desert; Abraham, being called from all that he knew to go to a place promised him by God; the call of Moses, whereby he had to stand up to the greatest power in the world and lead his people into an unknown wilderness; the faith of Jesus who prayed to God to avoid the cross, but none-the-less accepting that fate in faith to God, and one can see that many have faced the unknown before and have moved forward purely by faith.

And yet, we cannot avoid what we know. All of our experience tells us that if we enter a dangerous place, bad things are likely to happen; all of our experience tells us that going into an unknown future is fraught with fear at our lack of control.

Right now, as we move into the new year, the world seems faced with so many threats; so many changes. Perhaps even in our personal and/or National Guard lives we are hearing rumors upon rumors of change and an unsure future. It is normal to meet these

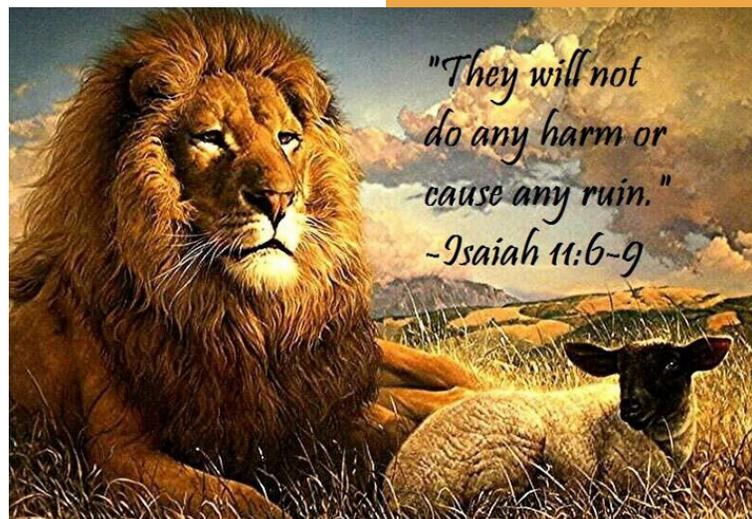
potential changes with anxiety, fear, apprehension, and sleeplessness, much like Woody Allen's lamb. However, notice, Woody's lamb continues to lie down anyway.

We remember how the Jewish Maccabees defeated a vastly superior force to free their homeland; 450 years later, the first Christian Roman Emperor, Constantine, defeated an insurmountable force at Milvian Bridge to establish his Emperorship. In both cases, the leaders did not sleep before the vital battle, in both cases they prevailed none-the-less due to their faith in God.

Fear of the unknown – or even the known – is normal, but we cannot let it keep us from action. If we move on and do what we know and we do what we have learned, we will prevail. And that is the essence of faith.

"Let the peace of God that passes all understanding guard your hearts and your minds." Philippians 4:7

CH Andy Gibson
Senior Army Chaplain





Lt. Col. Joshua E. Doscinski, the 133rd Engineer Battalion Commander and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Daniel S. Dubay Jr, commander of the 1035th Engineer Survey and Design Detachment participate in the 1035th Engineer Company's deactivation and flag folding Ceremony at the Brunswick Armed Forces Reserve Center Sunday, September 10, 2017. The company's lineage is the second oldest in the state. It was founded in 1810 in Norway as an infantry company, said 1st Lt. Jonathan D. Bratten, the Maine Army National Guard Command Historian. The lineage will be preserved by Maine's 251st Engineer Company to ensure that the heritage of the unit never disappears. (Maine ArmyNational Guard photo by Sgt. Sarah Myrick.)

MAINE NATIONAL GUARD

By Andrew Moore

RECYCLES

Do you know that every facility in MEARNG can recycle?

Did you know that it is a requirement for everyone to recycle?

The TAG's new Environmental Policy Statement (TAG 18-01) highlights soldiers and staff have a Personal Responsibility to recycle, conserve energy and prevent oil spills.

Multiple Executive Orders, DOD and Army policies set a minimum goal of recycling 50% of all Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). MSW is dumpster trash from offices and maintenance to include food wastes, paper, cardboard, glass metal, and plastic. The only way we can meet the goal is when you help to recycle!

In 2015 the Army recycled 51% and DOD recycled 46% of its MSW. The national average for recycling MSW in 2014 was 35%, and State of Maine's average recycling rate for 2011 was 37%. Based on a 2016 UMaine study MEARNG recycles about 38% of its trash. We have varied from a low of 23% to a high of 44% recycling rate.

Help us stay above the State, National and Army average.

So what can you do to help MEARNG meet its recycling goals? Recycle. Every facility has the ability to recycle.

Twenty MEARNG facilities have a comingled recycling dumpsters, three have cardboard recycling dumpsters and two recycle locally through the town. Comingled recycling is also known as Zero-Sort/ Single Stream.

These dumpsters can recycle almost every type of item possible, including paper plates with small amounts of food left on them and any type of plastic with the triangle arrow recycling symbol. The following signs show what can be recycled and may be located on your facility recycling dumpsters, or office recycling containers.

Recycling is Mainely a personal decision that you make throughout the day when no one is watching. It starts with you and your awareness and decision to recycle.

Help make the R in MEARNG stand for Recycling!

Recycling FAQs

Where do I get recycling containers?

From DFE supply. If your facility needs a special container let Andrew Moore know.

What can I recycle?

See the recycle list on DFE's Recycle page on GKO. If no sort is available at your location review the pictures.

Can I recycle used paper plates?

Yes, if all the food is gone it may still be recycled in the no sort dumpsters.

Do we make money on recycling?

Yes, on scrap metal roll offs located at Camp Keyes and FMS #3. We can also make money by sorting office paper and baling cardboard at Camp Keyes. Recycling dumpsters also cost less than trash dumpsters.

Can I get some of the money?

By regulation any money must first pay for the recycling program, then it may pay for pollution prevention projects, safety, energy saving and moral welfare programs. If you have an idea that you think meets one of these categories let your Chain of Command know.

Who do I contact for more info?

Contact your Facility Manager for facility specific recycling questions, Andrew Moore for general recycling questions, or Randy Bean at DFE for dumpster issues.



Single Stream Recycling [Reciclaje de un solo flujo]



Flattened Cardboard
(Cartón aplastado)



Magazines
(Revistas)



Office Paper
(Hojas de oficina)



Brown Paper Bags
(Bolsas de papel)



Newspapers
(Prensa)



Paperboard
(Cartón)



Paper Cardboard, Dairy
and Juice Containers
(Envases de cartón
de leche y jugos)



Junk Mail
(Correo no deseado)



Phone Books
(Directorios)



Plastic Bottles and
Containers #1-2
(Bottles de plástico
y recipientes #1-2)



Glass Bottles and Jars
(Botellas y frascos
de vidrio)



Aluminum Cans,
Aluminum Foil and Pie Tins
(Latas de aluminio, papel aluminio
y moldes para pizza)



Tin or Steel Cans
(Latas de hierro o hojalata)



SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING and ZERO SORT
are Trademarked terms that mean the same thing

GREEN THE OFFICE

ACCEPTABLE RECYCLING ITEMS



- Paper (shredded paper bagged)
- Newspapers & Junk Mail
- Catalogs, Magazines & Phone Books
- Cardboard
- Chipboard (Cereal Boxes, Shoe Boxes)
- Envelopes
- Aluminum Cans
- Glass Bottles & Jars (rinsed out)
- Plastic Bottles (rinsed out)
- Tin & Steel Cans (rinsed out)

NO GREEN WASTE OR FOOD SOILED WASTE ACCEPTED

NO GARBAGE, FOOD WRAPPERS, PAPER TOWELS , NAPKINS, FOOD WASTE, PLASTIC BAGS, FOAM CUPS.



reduce • repurpose • recycle
recover energy • dispose



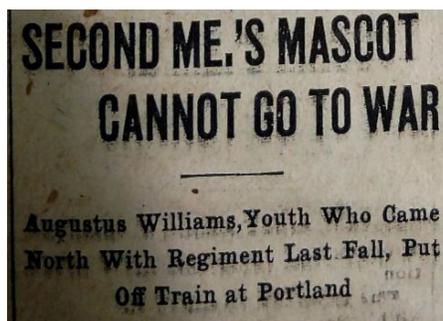
THINK GREEN.®

THE PECULIAR MASCOT OF THE SECOND MAINE

Article and Images Courtesy of 1st Lt. Jonathan Bratten

In September of 1917, readers of a Maine newspaper were greeted with this strange headline: "Second Maine's Mascot Cannot Go to War." Now, this was not to say that the any number of mascots the regiment had in its possession – something like fifteen dogs, two goats, a bear, and a monkey – could not accompany the men from Augusta down to Westfield, Massachusetts where their new camp was. No, this was a far more unusual case. One year prior, the Second Maine Infantry Regiment was just finishing up its tour of duty around Laredo, Texas on the Mexican Border. It was near Dolores, Texas that Company E of the Second Maine made a new friend: a fourteen year old orphan boy named Augustus Williams. The boy had crossed the river from Mexico looking to find a job.

The sympathetic Mainers took him under their wing, including Captains Roy Marston and Percy Hasty. Since the boy was fluent in Mexican, French, and English, the officers found him handy as an interpreter. In return, they paid him for his troubles. They eventually found out how he came to be wandering the riverbank alone. His father, an American, had been an officer for one faction of the Mexican civil war. When he switched sides, his former comrades had killed him. His mother was of French background and she was



killed not long after, leaving Augustus Williams to fend for himself. He headed directly for the border with the United States.

But with the American troops soon leaving, Williams was concerned that he would be left in Texas. Marston and Hasty intervened – Hasty going so far as to say he might adopt the young man. Even before leaving Laredo, the officers convinced their regimental commander, Col. Frank Hume, to allow the young man to accompany them. Hume then telegraphed the Adjutant General of the Maine National Guard, General George Mcl. Presson.

In turn, Presson made a phone call to the only person he could think of who might be able to assist: the Reverend George W. Hinckley who ran the Goodwill School and orphanage in Hinckley, Maine. Reverend Hinckley assured him that if the officers and chaplain vouched for the young man, there would be a home for him. If the general doubted the school, Reverend Hinckley said, they could ask the three men then serving in the Second Maine about it, including the bugler, Gerald McCarthy. McCarthy would be severely wounded on the last full day of the war in 1918.

It turned out well that the general had made this connection, for when the regiment arrived home at the end of October, Mrs. Hasty determined that "she feels they have all the children they can take care of." So it was that in the waning crisp days of October, Williams, accompanied by Captain Marston, made the trek from Augusta up to Hinckley to his new home.

By Thanksgiving, "Gus," as he was known at school, was settling in well. His grades had gotten off to a rocky start, as did his timeliness, but it was clear that he was a sharp young man.

Captain Marston had hoped to have him over for Thanksgiving in Skowhegan, but it was the school's policy that the students remain there over the holiday. Gus seemed to have been crestfallen, along with the news that another adoption had fallen through.

However, his grades improved into the spring, with history and spelling being his strong points. But then in April, something happened: the United States entered World War I and the Second Maine was again called into service, now mustering in Augusta.

Captain Marston's secretary Mildred received a letter from Gus dated May 27. In Gus's clean and neat handwriting, he talks about how he has improved since Christmas and that "I have got to go to Augusta to join the Co. E and it will be a good show to see you."

Mildred quickly wrote to Goodwill on

June 1, and said, "the Captain asked me to say to you that there was no place for Augustus down here with Company E and that he wanted him to remain where he is." Captain Marston urged that Gus be encouraged to join up with the Junior Volunteers, an effort then beginning to Maine to enlist young people in farm work to support the war effort.

However, Gus was not to be deterred.

In August, he paid a visit to the camp of the 2nd Maine during his summer vacation. When school resumed again, Gus failed to return. The school had hoped that he had taken a position with the Kennebec Lumber Company as the plans had been for him. On August 19, the Second Maine held its last review in Augusta and boarded trains the next morning to take them to Westfield, Massachusetts. Gus snuck on board the train with Headquarters Company and began the journey south, determined to "go to France with the regiment, or wherever it went," as he later told a reporter.

It was here that Colonel Frank Hume found the young man, asleep in one of the cars. Hume woke the boy up and firmly stated that he could not accompany the regiment to France. At the next stop south of Portland, Hume

turned him over to a police officer for safekeeping, with strict orders that he be seen safely back to Augusta.

It was here that a reporter ran into the young man, "dressed in the regulation uniform with a sombrero." Gus laid out his story to the sympathetic reporter; "I feel sorry to think the colonel wouldn't allow me to go on, but he wouldn't, and what could I do?" With that, he philosophically went back to sleep.

This might have been the last we knew of Augustus Williams, but Mrs. Roy Marston wrote to Good Will on December 14, 1917 to see if he were still there. Captain Roy Marston, in France with the Second Maine – now the 103rd Infantry Regiment – was wondering if the lad was okay. "Augustus Williams has not been at Good Will since August," came back the reply on December 17. "I think that a letter addressed to him in care of the Naval Reserve Corps, Portland, Maine, will reach him."

Denied the ability to go with his friends to France, Gus was determined to still serve: "Augustus had become so accustomed to living with soldiers that he was always restless here," continued the letter. Indeed, Gus had

enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve on November, serving in Portland until the Armistice. In one of the odd idiosyncrasies of Maine, when he told the recruiter that he was born in Mexico, the recruiter did not blink an eye and wrote down, "Mexico, Maine," because he assumed the lad was from that peculiarly named town in western Maine. He then served at the Headquarters, 1st Naval District in Boston until May 2, 1919.

From there, Augustus Williams disappeared into the fog that surrounded most World War I veterans. This generation faded from the limelight during the Great Depression and World War II and is often known as the forgotten generation of veterans. Spared of the horrors of war that he would have seen had he accompanied the 103rd Infantry through the Western Front, Gus vanished out of the history books. Census records show him living at various cities in southern California through the 1930s and 1940s. He died on January 16, 1989 and is buried in Riverside, California.

The story of this young man illustrates how war and conflict can drive disparate groups of people together.



SQUADS REVAMP THEIR SKILLS WITH COMPETITION

Story and photos by Spc. Jarod Dye



Maine Soldiers from every type of unit including infantry, military police, maintenance, engineers, and aviation traveled to the Bangor to compete in the state's Best Squad Competition, September 9-10, 2017.

The competition at the Armed Forces Reserve Center required the squads to demonstrate several basic and advanced Soldier skills that all National Guardsmen must know.

"It's an endurance competition," said Staff Sgt. Nicholas Stahl, a flight medic with Company G, 3rd Battalion of the 126th Aviation Regiment. "We go all through the day, into the night, and into the early morning the next day. It sees if we can keep our discipline and our energy up and accomplish the mission when the fatigue starts to become a factor."

The aviation squad, which is comprised of Soldiers from three different units, didn't know exactly what to expect as only one of their members had competed before. "It was a little bit of shock but that's what aviation does, we adapt and we overcome," said Stahl, the leader of the aviation squad in the competition. "We make it happen, we get it done."

Aviation is a highly technical field which often leaves units little time to get back to the basic Soldier skills.

"We don't get a chance to do these tasks very often," said Stahl. "It's good to see it. We can take the experience we get here and take it back to the unit."

These skills are essential to their mission. "It's important to master these skills so we'll be proficient if we ever have to do these tasks in a mission capacity, overseas or here for emergency relief," said Stahl.

Some of the tasks, such as the Humvee pull, three mile run, and ruck march were physically grueling.

"We're tired that's for sure," said Stahl. "They're pushing us to our limit, but spirits have been pretty high!"

Within the squad, the training has given individuals a chance to take charge and develop their leadership skills.

"The variety of tasks that we've done today have given everyone a chance to shine," said Stahl. "Pretty much everybody on the team will get a chance to be the subject matter expert on something we do today."

The organizers of the event specifically

designed the events to be well rounded and test every aspect of what a Soldier should be.

"I'm a firm believer that every Soldier is a rifleman first," said Sgt. Maj. John Brooks, the sergeant major for the 120th Regional Support Group. "The competition brings out the warrior spirit in all of the Soldiers and reminds them why they joined."

As the organizer of the event he is extremely impressed with the effort of the competitors. Most squads were forced to complete tasks outside of their normal range of operation.

Some of these events included changing Humvee tires, completing a stress shoot, searching for mock improvised explosive devices, carrying litters, or quickly setting up a large military tent.

"It gave leaders the chance to see Soldiers step up in a competition," said Brooks. "That can't always happen in a drill weekend."

The 488th Military Police Company took home a trophy for earning the most points during the competition and the squad competing are already planning to take the trophy away for next year.

Soldiers from the Maine Army National Guard discuss tactics while working their way through a lane testing their reaction to a mock IED September 9, 2017 as part of the state's Best Squad Competition. In this event Soldiers were required to find, react, and report the mock IED. Their performance was timed and graded for quality.



Soldiers from the Maine Army National Guard train on how to treat a casualty September 9, 2017 as part of the state's Best Squad Competition. In this event Soldiers were required to treat and evacuate a patient while being timed, after each squad completed the task, their times and performance were compared.

MEDEVAC COMPANY TRAINS AS THEY FIGHT



PHOTOS AND STORY BY SSG ANGELA PARADY

Soldiers from Company G, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment had the unique opportunity to provide medical evacuation support for more than 5,000 service members training together on over 147,000 acres of land outside of Camp Grayling, Michigan.

Northern Strike is a National Guard Bureau-sponsored exercise that brought together Army, Air Force, Marine and Special Forces service members from approximately 20 states and three coalition countries during the first few weeks of August 2017.

Maj. Nathan Arnold, the officer in charge for the 126th this mission, said that training such as this is invaluable to his team, providing experience mobilizing, real-time patient care and battle rhythms for a unique unit.

"This is a small mobilization," he said. They had to make a plan to get their forward support medical platoon, including the three helicopters, from Bangor, Maine to Grayling, Michigan. When they arrived in Michigan they set themselves up to respond to calls within 24 hours of arriving.

"We needed to set up our operations, get an idea of the battlefield we were working on," he continued. "We needed to go through all of our maps and identify hospitals, treatment centers and landing zones. These are all the same things we need to do if we were to deploy."

Lt. Col. Raymond Stemitz, the assistant deputy director of training for the Michigan National Guard said that this year was the first year that the exercise incorporated the military medevac asset into their operation. According to Stemitz, the exercise has expanded over the years and the needs of the exercise exceed the capabilities of the local civilian community.

"We went through multiple rehearsals and table top exercises," he said. "We brought in the local community resources and all the medical providers in the northern Michigan area and we talked about this. Bringing in our medevac assets was the best option. We have all of the right equipment, we have all the trained people."

Both Stemitz and Arnold agreed that medevac support for Northern Strike has expedited care to the patients who need it and helps the Soldiers take pride in a job they signed up to do. Now they see themselves helping their fellow service members.

Sgt. 1st Class Tom Thibodeau, the unit movement coordinator and noncommissioned officer in charge of the unit for this exercise said that Northern Strike provided valuable and tangible experience while also developing comradery and teamwork.

"When we are deployed, it is just like this," he said. "That always surprises even the most experienced of us. You spend a lot of time sitting and waiting and learning to manage that waiting time, break the boredom, because just when you think you are off the hook, a call comes in. When that call comes in it is zero to a hundred, all hands on and you have to be able to make that adjustment like that."

Thibodeau said the team they had for this mission did an outstanding job.

"We really scrubbed the volunteer list. We wanted a good mix of experienced people, but also wanted to be able to bring in a lot of inexperienced people to get them trained up, so we paid close attention to who we brought with us."

Many of the crew chiefs and newer flight medics were able to experience their first real life medevac mission.

Sgt. Stefan Emery, a flight medic for the 126th responded to a medevac call for a patient with multiple finger amputations. Unlike a simulated experience, this patient was truly having one of the worst days of his life.

"As soon as we got the call, all I thought about was what I could do for the patient based on the information I had been given," said Emery. "I tried to evaluate all the treatments the individual may or may not need and how to most effectively provide the best care."

Emery's role included informing the patient of the plan to get him to a hospital and continue to assess and reassess the situation at hand. Responding to this call not only shaved precious time off getting the patient to the hospital where his fingers could be reattached by a surgeon, but it also provided invaluable experience to Emery and other members on board the helicopter.

"Being able to go run a true medevac call has been essential in making me feel more comfortable working in the helicopter, as well as with other crew members as a whole," he said. "I hope with more calls in the future I will continue to fine tune my treatments to provide faster and more efficient care."

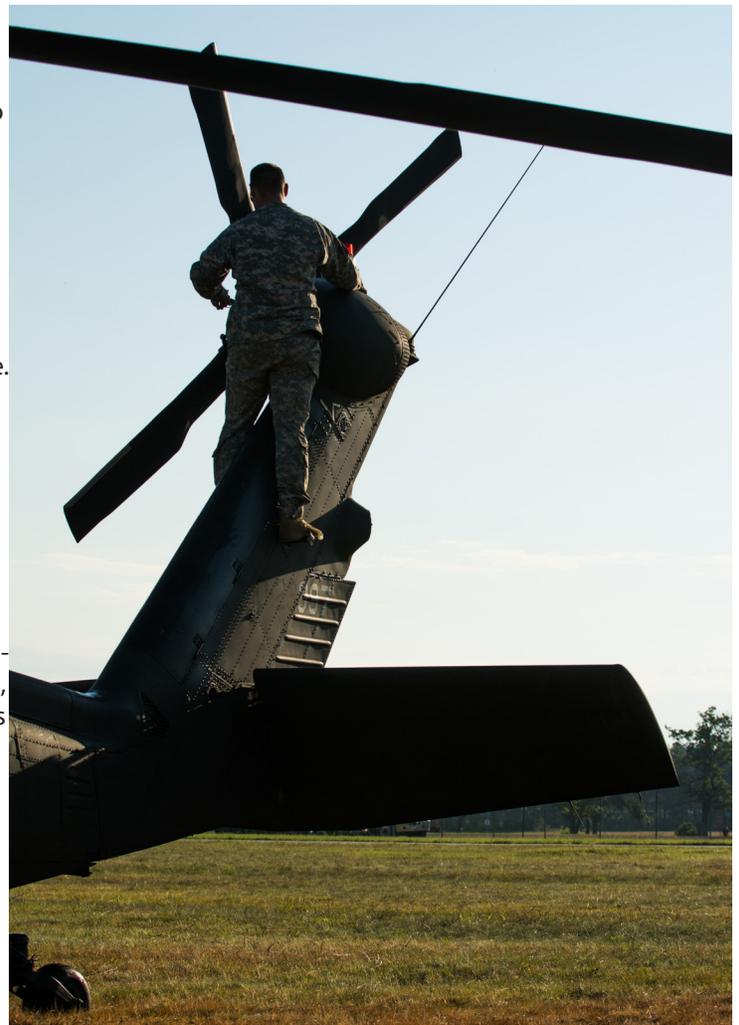
Sgt. Levi Swan echoed the sentiment. For the crew chief, his role is centered on making sure everything in the back of the helicopter is under control, handle any airlifts and are often making sure that the aircraft is running properly.

"Responding to a call here was a massive difference," said Swan. "Everything at home is staged, so you get the call and everything is controlled, orderly. You get the 9-line and all the information is there and it's clear and you have perfect instruction. Out here we had to work through different controlling agencies. We had limited patient information. We didn't really know what we were working with until we got out to the pick-up location, but that is when all the training we have had kicks in. We have trained for this so many times, that regardless of the situation, we were able to adapt and overcome and get that patient where he needed to be."

Arnold said that missing or incomplete information prior to a pick-up was part of the value this exercise provided the less experienced members of his team.

"A person that has just witnessed a catastrophic incident and is trying to call in a 9-line, perhaps from memory, it's challenging. To see that in a combat scenario like this, where people are really getting hurt, people's adrenaline is higher and you don't get the whole picture, or you get a different picture or sometimes a much worse picture than it really is because people aren't used to seeing blood all over the place or someone pass out other than in training."

Reacting to real life emergencies and managing those adrenaline spikes from a resting phase to an action phase can be mentally and physically exhausting. That is one thing that leaders need to keep in mind when



they are preparing for these missions. Arnold says to keep things running smoothly it is all about the fatigue management. "How do I sustain a crew that is alert, awake and ready to go on a 2 week cycle," he said. "How do you get people to relax? You get to know your Soldiers. Whatever it takes, managing that medevac lifestyle where you have to be ready all the time, but actively resting all the time and that is a skill."

It is a lifestyle that takes getting used to, whether at home or in theatre. Both Arnold and Thibodeau compared the day-to-day experiences of Northern Strike to what a medevac unit may face in Kuwait or Iraq.

"You go from zero to 100, you just do it," said Arnold. "There are no mortars here, no one shooting at you, but the 9-line comes in at random times throughout the night. You are either awake or you aren't and you have to be able to put your game face on, receive the mission, analyze the mission quickly, figure out where you are going, figure out what you need for equipment and or narcotics and go."

That alertness has to be carefully balanced, because safety needs to remain a top priority.

"You have to be off the ground in 15 minutes," said Thibodeau. "And you need to do it all safely. If you turn their emergency into your emergency and you get hurt, you aren't gaining anything. That is hard, you have to tell these guys slow down, don't run. You can walk fast, but don't run. If you fall and break your ankle trying to get to the helo because you are excited, we just failed the mission. You aren't helping anyone."





CHADBOURNE

Pfc. Carl Chadborne, a culinary specialist of the Maine Army National Guard's Forward Support Company, 133rd Engineer Battalion conducts sling load training with a UH-60L Blackhawk Helicopter as part of the company's annual training at Camp Dodge, Iowa in September. Practicing sling loading cargo was especially important for the culinary specialists who would need to utilize this procedure to drop Utilized Group Rations, MREs and other supplies to an assault kitchen in remote locations. This was the first time most soldiers were able to conduct this valuable training exercise. (Maine Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Sarah Myrick.)





Pvt. Dustin Zimmerman, an allied trades specialist mechanic with the Maine Army National Guard's Forward Support Company, 133rd Engineer Battalion welds a tool designed to help replace a large fan assembly in a M88 track vehicle as part of the company's annual training at Camp Dodge, Iowa September 9-22, 2017. The welders were also able to complete a few projects, including a tool designed to help replace a large fan assembly in an M88 track vehicle, using state of the art equipment they'd never used before. (Maine Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Sarah Myrick.)

EMPHASIS ON TRAINING: FORWARD SUPPORT COMPANY



PHOTOS AND STORY BY SGT. SARAH MYRICK

Soldiers from the Maine Army National Guard's Forward Support Company, 133rd Engineer Battalion travelled to Camp Dodge, Iowa to master their skill sets using the experts and state of the art equipment available at the Sustainment Training Center, September 9-22.

Forward support companies are unique because they have at least 10 different job specialties within them, like small arms repair, welding, track vehicle repair and radio/communications security.

Valuable job specific training for all skill sets is possible at the Sustainment Training Center located there, which is designed for these maintenance specialties. The training center is also well equip with instructors able to support unit rotations.

"Soldiers of the FSC are increasing their technical abilities that are related to their job skills," said Lt. Col. Joshua Doscinski, the commander of the 133rd Engineer Battalion. "Doing this has a positive effect on our unit's readiness."

Training focused on refreshing knowledge, utilizing new and exciting equipment and honing the skills of often overlooked job specialties.

"This training offers the Soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and commissioned officers of the FSC some innovative, motivational, and

efficient techniques for training the low density job specialties of the unit," said Doscinski. "My hope is that they take some of the training techniques they used at Camp Dodge back to Maine with them, improve upon them, and replicate them over the coming years."

"Camp Dodge is perfect for maintenance," said Sgt. 1st Class David Lane, the maintenance platoon leader. "They have all the training capabilities for the lesser known specialties."

The motor transport operators, responsible for transporting personnel and cargo, conducted daily tactical convoys to practice driving different vehicles, radio communication and water and fuel refilling procedures.

The distributions platoon and culinary specialists utilized the airfield on Camp Dodge to conduct sling load training with a UH 60L Blackhawk Helicopter, in which cargo is suspended underneath the helicopter for transporting external loads during flight. Practicing sling loading cargo was especially important for the culinary specialists who would need to utilize this procedure to drop Utilized Group Rations meals, Meals Ready to Eat meals and other supplies to an assault kitchen in remote locations. This was the first time most soldiers were able to conduct this valuable training exercise.

The small arms repairers performed maintenance, ordered new parts,



and disassembled and reassembled a variety of firearms their specialty is responsible for maintaining.

"Iowa has a lot more resources than the state of Maine," said Spc. Tyler Hish, a small arms/artillery repairer with the 133rd Engineer Battalion. "They have weapons that we don't normally see and proper electronic technical manuals that we don't always have access to."

Hish said he trained on weapons and tools at Camp Dodge that he'd never even seen before like the M110 sniper rifle, M321 sub-machine gun and the assembly tools of the 777 Howitzer.

"Usually on drill weekends I'm helping mechanics or doing tasks around the armory," said Hish. "This training has been quite a treat."

"Soldiers join the Army because they want to do the job that they joined to do, and that's our goal," said Command Sgt. Maj. Carl Sticht, the battalion command sergeant major. "I think it's awesome that they get to hone their skills and learn a lot of new things."

Sticht said Soldiers can utilize what they've learned at Camp Dodge to train at home. They can develop the subject matter experts that they already have, enforce what they learned and request materials for training on weapons and welding.

"There's a lot of smiles out there," said Sticht. "Everyone seems really happy with what's going on and I think it's something we should sustain."

NOs and Soldiers both said they felt like moral was high and they could see a change.

"I'd love to see us come back here," said Sgt. 1st Class David Lane, the maintenance platoon sergeant.

The track vehicle mechanics performed maintenance on multiple, tracked vehicles at the same time. Maine has one only tracked vehicle in the entire state due to cost of equipment.

"The track mechanics are able to pull the engine out, do a service on it and put it back in. That's something we haven't done back home in a long time," said Lane. "A lot of these vehicle repairs can't be done during a two-day drill weekend, because some of them may take up to a week."

The welders were also able to complete a few projects, including a tool designed to help replace a large fan assembly in a M88 track vehicle, using state of the art equipment they'd never used before.

Sgt. Daniel Wittnebel, the section leader of the allied trades welders said he'd never gotten a chance to work with a lot of the equipment, such as the computer numerical controls, a process in manufacturing that involves the use of computers to control machine tools.

"I've always wondered how it worked and now I know," said Wittnebel.



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DISCIPLINED SOLDIER, DISCIPLINED FIGHTER

The fighter stares across the cage. Lights stream down from overhead, blue and white splashing across the sweat already building on her forehead like she's on stage. The mat is soft under her bare feet.

Her cornrows are pulled tightly against her scalp. Her opponent is young, blonde and muscular with fierce eyes staring back over the top of her gloves. The crowd roars around them as the referee steps back, the bell dings and they step toward each other, fists raised.

She's ready. The grueling hours spent at the gym, sweaty, bruised, beaten and beyond muscle fatigue, she trained for this.

In the army and in the ring, discipline defines success for Danae Dostie, a specialist in the Maine Army National Guard 488th Military Police Company in Waterville. Dostie made her mixed martial arts debut against the youngest MMA fighter in New England Fights history at Aura nightclub in Portland, November 3rd in an amateur bantamweight (135-pound) contest against Jayda Bailey.

"I have always loved watching fights and sparring with friends," said Dostie, a Fryeberg native. "Now it's my turn to be in the ring."

MMA is a full-contact, combat sport that allows striking and grappling, both standing and on the ground, using techniques from other combat sports and martial arts.

Dostie has just three months of training under her belt, but the rookie felt confident and ready for her first fight. She said the goal is to learn.

"My main focus, especially for this fight has been boxing tech-

niques," said Dostie, "With a focus on standing and low kicks. I didn't want to go too high because I knew Bailey was going to take me to the ground."

Dostie emphasized the importance of commitment for those who want to start fighting.

"If you want it you have to go out and get it," said Dostie. "It's definitely not a walk in the park. You will need drive and motivation."

Dostie trains at Kenney's MMA gym in Lisbon. In preparation for her first fight she spent her time studying a combination of boxing, kick boxing, Jiu-Jitsu, wrestling and MMA grappling. She also worked on endurance and stamina through sprinting, stair climbing, biking and circuits focusing on pushups and sit-ups.

"I usually trained four to six days a week for at least two hours, but sometimes up to four," said Dostie.

"The hardest part was training even though I'd worked a long week," said Dostie. "I really enjoy learning MMA so for the most part it was easy for me to want to train, but it can be hard balancing my civilian job, my military job and training. There were times I wouldn't get a day off for a couple weeks."

Dostie said her favorite part of training was sparring. Her least favorite part was having to cut weight.

"It takes a lot of discipline and willpower to train to be a fighter," said Dostie. "Discipline is what a Soldier should be about. This is helping me become the best Soldier I can be. It is also training me to stay in shape and be able to be

more equipped to fight for this country when I am needed."

Dostie credits her background in combatives training through the Army as preparation for ground fighting. She said it's what helped her hang on during the fight.

"As an MP you need to know how to defend yourself and others, training for the fight has me ready for those moments," said Dostie.

Sgt. Daniel Ojeda, who has served with Dostie for the past four years in the 488th said she is a very hard working, dependable Soldier.

"She's the type that you can always count on being where she needs to be when she needs to be there," said Ojeda.

"She's someone that I would trust my life with in a battlefield and know that she would always try to watch out for me."

Ojeda said that Dostie is a great contribution to the 488th MP company.

"She has the ability to retain knowledge, perform tasks or duties that correspond with what was taught to her and is able to teach others what she has learned," said Ojeda.

"She has always been a helping hand, not just in first platoon but in the company as a whole."

Dostie's unit, family and friends are supportive of her MMA training and competition.

A technical knockout in the first round led to a victory for Bailey, not Dostie but the rookie was not discouraged.

"I've got a lot of emotions running through me right now, but I'm pumped," said Dostie. "I want to get back in that ring and fight again. I think there are things I could have done differently."

Dostie said that she learned a lot and now knows a little more of what to expect after her first time going in the ring.

She said it was definitely a good learning experience and overall it went pretty well.

Dostie said she didn't underestimate Bailey at all, she knew her opponent had a lot of training, but she overthought her opponents MMA knowledge.

"I should have gone in there not thinking so much about her training, but focused more on how I can take her on," said Dostie. "I want to be a little bit more balanced between standing and the ground because it's MMA and you don't know where the fight will end up."

Dostie plans to get back in the cage in April or maybe as soon as February.

"If I can get more training under my belt I know I'll be a lot more experienced and have a little better head on my shoulders going into the ring."







Soldiers of the Maine Army National Guard's distribution platoon and culinary specialists of the Forward Support Company, 133rd Engineer Battalion conduct sling load training with a UH 60L Blackhawk Helicopter as part of the company's annual training at Camp Dodge, Iowa September 9-22, 2017. Practicing sling loading cargo was especially important for the culinary specialists who would need to utilize this procedure to drop Utilized Group Rations, MREs and other supplies to an assault kitchen in remote locations. This was the first time most soldiers were able to conduct this valuable training exercise. (Maine Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Sarah Myrick.)

CHANGE OF COMMAND & RESPONSIBILITY: 286TH COMBAT SUPPORT SUSTAINMENT BATTALION



Maj. John T. Wilmot, the new commander of the 286th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion makes his first remarks to his new soldiers.



Command Sgt. Maj. Karri L. Bennett holds the 286th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion noncommissioned officer sword as she takes responsibility for the battalion

Col. Dean Preston, Commander of 52nd Troop Command, passes the 286th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion colors to the new commander Maj. John T. Wilmot at a change of responsibility and command ceremony at the aviation facilities in Bangor. This ceremony officially handed over command and responsibility of the 286th to Wilmot and Command Sgt. Maj. Karri L. Bennett. "I'm most looking forward to working with the Soldiers, they have a very diverse skill set and they bring a lot to the state, the governor, and the United States Army," said Wilmot.



Outgoing commander Lt. Col. James E. Young III and Command Sgt. Maj. Alexander L. Clifford of the 286th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion hold plaques recognizing their dedication and commitment to the 286th while serving the battalion over the last 20 months in their respective positions.



PERSONNEL SECURITY MANAGEMENT: SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

Tactics our enemies use.

Although "enemy" is a strong term, until you realize that local thieves, terrorists and foreign states are targeting our military spouses and children, you can never address the threats against you, your family and our mission.

Secureworks Counter Threat Unit conducted a recent study on the spear phishing attacks specific to the 2016 presidential campaign and the U.S. Democratic National Committee email breach.

What they found was that more than 1 in 5 targets that were on-line authors were also military spouses. The data certainly suggested Russian based actors, but Secure Works also noted that:

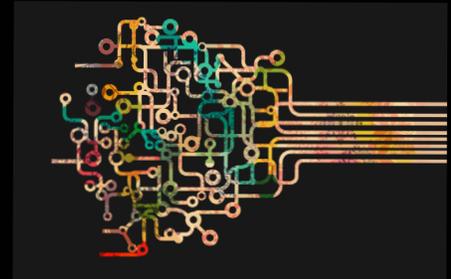
"The threat actors may have been attempt-

ing to learn about broader military issues in the U.S., or gain operational insight into the military activity of the target's spouse."

This is just one more reminder. We must do a better job of not only getting the OPSEC training out to our personnel, but also to the spouses and children. Be careful what you post. Don't fall victim to spear phishing. Stay current on trends and threats. Keep your antivirus software up to date, and all the other cyber related best practices.

Get OPSEC level 1 training regularly. If you have any questions, contact your unit OPSEC manager, or contact me:

Sgt. 1st Class Knobloch
Maine Army National Guard
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STANDING TOGETHER - NATIVE AMERICAN SERVICE IN THE MAINE AIR NATIONAL GUARD

BY MAJ. DEVIN ROBINSON

On October 31, 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed a proclamation designating the month of November 2017 as "National Native American Heritage Month." The slogan for this year's remembrance is "Standing Together", and in his statement, the President thanked Native American and Alaskan Natives for their service to and sacrifice for our nation, and encouraged community and engagement amongst Americans of all cultures and backgrounds.

"Native Americans are a testament to the deep importance of culture and vibrancy of traditions, passed down throughout generations," President Trump said. "This month, I encourage all of our citizens to learn about the rich history and culture of the Native American people."

The state of Maine has been recognized around the world for our contribution to military efforts in conflicts dating back more than 240 years, but the stories of Maine Native American military service have often been overlooked.

This month, we honor and share the stories of two Airmen from the 101st Air Refueling Wing: an NCO from the Penobscot Tribe and an Airman from the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

Technical Sgt. Gary J. Fearon, Penobscot Tribe

Technical Sgt. Gary J. Fearon was born in Bangor, Maine, and grew up in Old Town. His mother's family come from Indian Island near Old Town, and he is a member of the Penobscot Tribe.

"It was a very big part of my background and growing up. I grew up learning the language and the culture. In school they taught us the Penobscot language, Penobscot history and culture. After school I participated in a drumming group and also in natural medicinal remedies from plants local to the area. My grandfather used to take me around to powwows and ceremonies around the country."

Sergeant Fearon was 16-years-old when he first thought about pursuing a career in the military. "A Boys and Girls Club youth worker from Indian Island, named Jose Alicea-Santiago who was a sergeant in the

Maine Army National Guard had told me about his military experiences and how much he enjoyed it, which sparked my interest in the Guard."

Fearon comes from a family that has a strong history of military and law enforcement, and were supportive of his decision to enlist from the beginning.

"My paternal grandfather was active duty in the Army 101st Airborne Division shortly after WWII, my maternal grandfather was Active Duty Air Force and was aircraft mechanic," Fearon said. My mother's brother served on Active Duty in the Navy, and one of my cousins served as an infantryman in the Marine Corps Reserves."

Fearon is passionate about the military, and feels a double responsibility to serve and protect.

"It's a very important part of our heritage and legacy. Native Americans have been involved with our wars since the founding of our country," Fearon said. "For us it's our homeland and we are very passionate about protecting our land and our people. I feel that our culture and our background leads to our success in the military."

There are four Native American tribes in Maine today: the Penobscots, Passamaquoddys, Micmaq and Maliset. Fearon hopes that through his service he can help to educate more people about Native Americans in Maine.

"People I have spoken with sometimes haven't even met a Native American before and didn't realize there are still Native Americans in the state and still going strong," Fearon said. "I also feel that there are a lot of stereotypes of Native Americans. Like that we live in teepees, drink 'firewater' and are 'savages'. These stereotypes just aren't true. I would like people to know that we are still a strong people who take great pride in our heritage and have a lot to offer."

After graduating from college, Fearon moved away from Indian Island and hasn't had an opportunity to be as active as he would like in the tribe, but credit the beliefs and teachings he learned as a young man as being a critical part of his daily life.

Fearon is a traditional Air Guardsman, and during the month works as the Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator at Camp Keyes in Augusta. He has seen how alcohol and drugs has ruined Airmen and Soldiers lives and ended promising careers. Fearon has also seen how these very same issues have affected his tribe and the Native



American community in Maine.

"I do see higher rates of substance abuse amongst Native Americans...especially opiates and alcohol," Fearon said. "Its worse with those who grew up on the reservations; many of them used it as a coping mechanism to deal with how poorly they have been treated."

Fearon also points to higher rates of poverty as being another contributing factor, but believes that education and increased opportunities can bring about change.

"There is a still a lot of poverty on the reservations, and Native Americans still have the highest poverty rates of any race in the country," Fearon said. "I do feel that awareness and education can help reduce those trends, but there still is a high rate compared with the rest of the population."

Airman 1st Class Victoria Dore, Passamaquoddy Tribe
Airman 1st Class Victoria Dore was born in Machias, Maine, and grew up in the town of Perry near the Passamaquoddy Pleasant Point Sipayik Reservation. She credits her mother for instilling in her a love and respect for Passamaquoddy culture and heritage.

"My mother Barbara Dore is the culture and arts teacher at the Beatrice Rafferty School on Pleasant Point Reservation and she has exposed me to the culture my entire life," Dore said. "My mother speaks fluent Passamaquoddy, and my father owns a guide business, so learning the language and traditions through Elders and my family is very important to me."

While Dore was enrolled at the University of Maine at Machias, she found herself looking to get involved with something a little different. Her father encouraged her to consider the Maine Air National Guard, and shortly after turning 20 years old, Dore enlisted.

"My family was extremely supportive, and I have a lot of family members who were or still are in the military," Dore said. "It really is quite a long list."

That list includes Dore's grandfather Cliv Dore, who also served as the tribal governor for a time, her grandfather Michael Donahe, her brother Damon Dore, her uncle Dammar Dore, and her cousin Senior Master Sgt. Robert Socomah who currently serves with the 101ARW.

Dore values to opportunity to represent her tribe in the Maine Air National Guard.

"I am very proud of the legacy my ancestors have made, and our tribe honors our veterans past and present with a veterans dance at almost every celebration," Dore said. "The history of our ancestors in the military is something to be extremely proud of."

Dore enjoys the opportunity to talk to others about her culture and heritage, and relishes the opportunities to share knowledge and dispel stereotypes.

"What a lot of people don't realize is, aside from all the stereotypes about Native Americans in Maine and especially in Washington county, our culture and traditions are a major part of our life and community," Dore said. "Reservations are built on families and our Elders are the center of our community and highly honored and respected. They have the knowledge of our language and traditions. Through them is where our younger generation learns the culture. Not through books but through the stories they tell and the knowledge they pass down."

Dore is a traditional Air Guardsman, and works as a personnelist at the 101st FSS. She enjoys the opportunity to work with current members as well as veterans and their dependants to ensure that they get the benefits they are entitled to. During the month she holds a variety of jobs while still focusing on her education.

"I currently work at a factory picking bones out of fish," Dore said. "But I also work with my father when things get busy during hunting and wreath season. I want to go back to school to get my degree in Adventure Recreation and Tourism, and I hope to someday help develop and expand my father's guide business."

For more information about the National Native American Heritage Month visit: <https://www.indianaffairs.gov/as-ia/opa/national-native-american-heritage-month>.



Photos:

Opposite page from top to bottom:

Fearon's cousin, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Sage Nequtahtahwet-Rapp served with the Marine Corps Reserve before taking his own life in February 2017. Fearon values the opportunity he has through his work as the Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator to impact the lives of people who are struggling.

Fearon's grandfather U.S. Army Sergeant Darrell Fearon served with the 101st Airborne during World War 2.

Fearon and (then) Senior Master Sgt. David W. Stevens. Stevens is currently serving as the Command Chief Master Sergeant for the 167th Wing of the West Virginia Air National Guard.

This Page, clockwise:

Dore and her father Robert bear hunting with their company Wabanaki Wilderness in Perry.

Dore wearing traditional Passamaquoddy regalia that she hand made by herself.

Airman 1st Class Victoria Dore.

All photos courtesy of the individuals depicted and family.

MAINE AIR GUARD HOLDS GRADUATION CEREMONY



Brig. Gen. Douglas A. Farnham, The Adjutant General, presided over the largest Community College of the Air Force graduating class in the state of Maine, November 4, at the 240th Regional Training Institute.

The CCAF has two graduating classes each year: Spring and Fall. The Maine Air National Guard had a CCAF graduating class of 28 for Spring 2017 which at the time was the largest graduating class Maine had ever seen. That record mark only lasted until Fall 2017, when a new record was set with a graduating class of 46 Airmen.

"I think there are a number of reasons for this spike and graduates, but the main one is access to free college tuition at local colleges," said Master Sgt. Bradley Hand, 101st Air Refueling base education and training noncommissioned officer. "This is our second year with the Maine State Tuition Waiver and many of our members are taking full advantage of that opportunity."

Of the 46 graduates, 31 of these Airmen were able to attend the ceremony and receive their diplomas from General Farnham. Among the graduates were Airmen who were earning their first college degree, those who hold multiple CCAF degrees, associate's degrees from other institutions, bachelor's degrees and master's degrees. They come from unit across that Maine Air National Guard and range in rank from Senior

Airman to Chief Master Sergeant.

"The one thing that has changed the most since I've been putting the uniform on is the education and training required to be an Airman in today's Air Force and Air National Guard," General Farnham said. "Somebody along the way lit a fire under you to go through this effort and get this done, and this a big deal and something we must do to continue to be competitive going forward."

Unique to all the armed services, Community College of the Air Force is the only federal institution that awards degrees exclusively for the enlisted force.

These members are enrolled in the college upon enlistment in the Air Force an assignment to a specific career field. The college then begins to award academic credit for the education and training that a member receives during their career.

This begins with Basic Military Training and continues on with the various technical schools the member will attend, as well as the professional military education the member must complete as they advance in their career. The member must then complete coursework in speech, math, English, social science, and humanities through accredited civilian institutions of higher education. Upon successful completion of their specific degree program the member is awarded an associate in applied science degree.





Fall 2017 Graduates

2LT DANA R. AUBE
 SSGT JUSTIN M. BELANGER
 SMSGT DOUGLAS A. BRAZZ
 SSGT JOSHUA D. COLSDEN
 TSGT DOUGLAS G. CONNOLLY
 SSGT REBECCA M. COUSINS
 SSGT BENJAMIN R. CROWLEY
 TSGT AARON M. DAVIS
 SSGT DANIEL J. DAY
 TSGT CHRISTIEN A. DEARBORN
 SSGT ALLISON C. DESROCHERS
 MSGT DAVID D. DESROCHERS
 MSGT ERIK L. DOW
 SSGT BENJAMIN J. DUMONT
 SSGT MARK S. DUNTON
 TSGT KYLE T. EATON
 MSGT ERICK M. EMERY
 MSGT JAMIE N. FANNING
 TSGT GARY J. FEARON
 SSGT JOHN A. FIKUS
 TSGT RYAN W. FREEMAN
 TSGT WILLIAM C. GUSOSKI
 MSGT BRADLEY B. HAND

MSGT CHARLES L. HARDING
 MSGT JOHN W. HARRIS
 SSGT ALEX M. HART
 SSGT BRANDON M. HINKLEY
 SSGT TYLER W. ISHERWOOD
 TSGT RACHEL K. JOHNSON
 SSGT ROBERTJOHN D. JUBINSKY
 TSGT ERIC C. KELLEY
 MSGT JOSEPH A. KOLCZYNSKI
 SSGT MICHAL KRYSINSKI
 TSGT RICHARD S. LAWRENCE
 SSGT SAMANTHA D. MAQUILLAN
 SSGT BRANDON M. MASTERS
 MSGT SCOTT D. MERCIER
 SMSGT ANNTINA D. MICHAUD
 TSGT MATTHEW L. MORNEAULT
 SRA KATELYN D. MOSLEY
 MSGT NICHOLAS R. MOULTON
 MSGT MELISSA T. MOUTRIA
 SRA EAGAN J. NADEAU
 SSGT ALYSSA R. NELSON
 MSGT KENNETH L. NELSON
 SSGT KYLE J. OCONNELL

TSGT J. C. OTTO
 MSGT GARY P. PARADIS
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 SSGT MARY L. PELLETIER
 SSGT QASEY M. PERRY
 SSGT ZACHARY A. PHILLIPS
 MSGT ZACHARY J. POULIN
 SSGT CARIN E. ROMERO
 TSGT NOAH M. ROWLAND
 MSGT SHANNON E. SINFORD
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 SSGT TYLER A. STANLEY
 TSGT TRAVIS R. STEWART
 MSGT CHRISTOPHER E. THOMPSON
 CMSGT CATHERINE L. VAJDA
 TSGT MICHAEL A. VIGUE
 CMSGT STEPHANIE A. WARE
 SRA PETER R. WELLS
 TSGT BENJAMIN R. WESTON
 SRA LAUREN M. WILLETTE
 TSGT NICHOLAS A. WRIGHT



PARTNERSHIP PROMOTES READINESS AND SHARED LEARNING

BY STAFF SGT. ANGELA PARADY

Seven members of the Maine Army National Guard traveled to Podgorica in November to train alongside Montenegrins during an emergency management preparedness exercise.

These Soldiers served as observers, selected for their experience and knowledge in training, general operations, and emergency operations, assisting and evaluating over 15 different agencies, departments and ministries in the country's first inter-ministerial emergency disaster exercise.

"For us, this validates our own knowledge and experience with incident command and responding to Maine disasters," said Sgt. 1st Class John Knobloch, the disaster management operator who organized the exercise with Montenegrin input and support from the Civil Military Emergency Preparedness Program.

"At the same time, we are getting a unique look at preparedness. When we review how other people do something, as we help them plan their procedures and review best practices we may identify shortcomings we have ourselves. We find we see things a little differently. Many folks who come here, or travel internationally go back and have a renewed motivation to look at their own plans and refine them."

The exercise featured a devastating earthquake in the Boca Bay, a popular tourist destination along Montenegro's coastline. It tested the ability of the Ministry of Interior



to respond, control and manage over 40 situations that called for communications breakdowns, flooding, evacuations, civilian chaos and the need for medical and search and rescue response.

"We can imagine this happening here," said Lt. Col. Igor Knezevic. "We have a history of terrible earthquakes. The last one was in 1979 and left over 100 casualties, and hundreds of thousands homeless, and entire towns devastated. We cannot forget this recent past, and we want to be ready in the case of a possible future earthquake."

Knezevic, the operations officer for Armed Forces of Montenegro remembers the destruction of the 1979 earthquake and knows that it could happen again. "Earthquakes can come in at any time, and they happen without any kind of warning signs," he said. "This region is susceptible to earthquakes. In July, we had several minor, small earthquakes here in Podgorica. Albania has also had earthquakes this past year, and last year hundreds of people died in an earthquake in Italy. That could have happened here."

This exercise put the emphasis on civilian leadership for disaster management, a shift that Knobloch said is happening internationally. While Knezevic was present and ready and able to provide military support, his mission was to wait for direction from the incident commander, the Ministry of the Interior.

"We have been working for a few years, incorporating our Defense Support Civilian Authority mission," he said. "Ten years ago, we were the response, but now we are the support. The experience we get here and in Maine is precious to us. It shows us a wider picture and gives us some ideas of other ways we can work together to reach a common goal. Sharing information is very

important.”

In addition to physical similarities between Montenegro and Maine, there are political similarities. The different ministries are akin our different departments and agencies in how they work together. If they are unable to communicate, there are additional challenges that are thrown in the way and can distract from the goal of trying to save lives in a disaster, said Knoblach.

Being able to work together and communicate amongst one another helps them find their own ways to overcome challenges and be better positioned to protect their own population.

Among other initiatives, disaster preparedness has remained a top priority for Montenegro since officially declaring independence. They began working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer’s CMEP program almost immediately according to Diane Acurio, program manager for Interagency and International Support for the region.

A few years later, the Maine National Guard sent Knoblach to start working the same project as part of the state’s partnership program initiatives.

“We sat down with them multiple times throughout the last two years as the principal agencies were challenged to create an upcoming exercise,” said Knoblach.

“They followed a planning conference framework to develop the plan, and we are taking on a more observing role to witness their very first exercise that is inter-ministerial, where one ministry, the Ministry of the Interior is the lead agency, and will remain the lead agency the entire event.”

Both Acurio and Knoblach focus on connecting subject matter experts between the two countries to develop capabilities with the mission of making disaster response the responsibility of the civilian authorities.

Maine hosted select individuals from Montenegro to come to Maine and work directly with such agencies. Most recently they worked with the Maine National Guard Emergency Operations Center, the local Maine Emergency Operations Center, and a regional center. Knezevic attended.

“It is a good experience,” he said. “It is nice to be able to see and speak with people doing this kind of job on regular basis. We are amateurs in this line of work. We are military, but we do not deal with this kind of emergency often. In Maine, we were speaking with real professionals who shared information. That is very useful for us to see how other people are doing the same or similar things.”



Knezevic's said the exercise was a success but needs to be expanded, a thought shared by many of the partners during the after-action review. Common themes: more people, more equipment, more time and more money to train.

Maj. Paul Bosse, the State Partnership Program Coordinator, Maine National Guard said that more involvement should be a next step.

"The more they continue to do these sorts of exercises here, the more people in all of these agencies involved will see the benefits and the value of this training," he said. "This is only the first step on the road to disaster preparedness."

Bosse said the exercise went really well, particularly in the amount of agencies and participation that he saw.

"This gave all involved a better understanding of all of the different agencies that work in the disaster preparedness realm," he said. "I think that just like in

Maine, when they can meet and work together before an emergency situation, so that when they are out for that actual event, they already have those connections."

The partnership with the Maine National Guard is not focused solely on disaster preparedness. There are several other initiatives and partnerships between the two entities to grow and strengthen one another. All of the effort lies in strengthening the new NATO country, and in promoting the partnership between the two allied countries.

Bosse coordinates many of the events between the two countries. He said the program has a much larger impact than just Maine and Montenegro.

"This is mutually beneficial because it allows us to share our best practices with our partner, and at the same time it allows for us to reexamine and refine our procedures at the same time," he said.

"This program also helps us to under-

stand where our partner stands in some of these areas and to share with different defense organizations what the capabilities and limitations are so that we know how to help each other if and when the time comes."

It also doesn't hurt that Maine and Montenegro are building a relationship that extends beyond just militaries, but includes civilian agencies and government entities as well. There is a lot that can be learned from each other as they share many commonalities.

"We are so very similar to Maine, because we both have a lot of tourists, we have forest, mountains, a sea," said the Montenegrin officer, Knezevic. "There are a lot of similarities and we face many of the same concerns. We can learn from one another. We can use each other's experiences and other ways to implement in our own militaries and do our jobs better."





A Soldier from the Maine Army National Guard does pull-ups while his squad cheers him on September 9, 2017 as part of the state's Best Squad Competition. In this event Soldiers were required to perform as many pull-ups and sit-ups as they could as a squad in a given amount of time. Their performance was measured against the other competing squads. (Maine Army National Guard Photo by Spc. Jarod Dye)



MAINE AIR NATIONAL GUARD CHANGE OF COMMAND

Brig. Gen. Douglas A. Farnham, The Adjutant General of the Maine National Guard, presided over a change of command ceremony for the top Maine Air National Guard officer in Augusta on Sunday, Nov. 5.

Brig. Gen. Scott A. Young assumed command of the Maine Air National Guard from Brig. Gen. Gerard F. Bolduc who is retiring after 35 years of distinguished service.

“I am truly grateful and privileged for the chance to serve the command and members of the Maine Air National Guard,” said Young. “I also want to thank General Bolduc. I look at General Bolduc’s career and I see a career full of accomplishment.”

Bolduc joined the Maine Air National Guard in June 1982, and was trained as a Navigator. Over the course of his 35-plus year career, General Bolduc flew more than 3,300 hours and achieved the rating of Master Navigator. General Bolduc assumed command of the Maine Air National Guard in March

Photos: (Top)

Brig. Gen. Gerard Bolduc addresses a crowd of his peers following a change of command ceremony where Brig. Gen. Scott Young assumed command of the Maine Air National Guard from Bolduc. Bolduc is officially retiring after 35 years of distinguished service.

(Right)

Brig. Gen. Scott Young assumes command of the Maine Air National Guard from Brig. Gen. Gerard Bolduc, who retired after 35 years of distinguished service. Brig. Gen. Douglas Farnham, Adjutant General of the Maine Army National Guard passes the colors to Young as part of the ceremony, symbolizing Young’s new role in the organization.

2013 and served as the acting Adjutant General.

Bolduc relinquished command to Young, who had been serving as the Assistant Adjutant General for the Air National Guard. Young joined the Maine Air National Guard in January 1982, and spent the bulk of his career leading Airmen at the 101st Air Refueling Wing in Bangor, Maine.

“Brigadier General Bolduc has led the Maine Air National Guard during an unprecedented time,” Farnham said. “He has continued our proud heritage and history and I am confident that Brigadier General Young will extend the legacy of MAINEiac excellence into the future.”



FITNESS



Maine Air National Guard Civil Engineering Squadron (CES) Airmen participate in a group training session at the 101st Air Refueling Wing, Bangor, Nov. 4, 2017. The CES plans to work high intensity interval training into their unit training assembly's bi-monthly (Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Travis Hill).



LEADERSHIP

"Professional Military Education; get your PME done so that when opportunities arise, you're ready, and you'll excel brilliantly" Col. Eric Lind addresses the maineiacs in day two of the 2017 Airmen Development Summit. (Photo courtesy of the 101st Air Refueling Wing.)



"Control the things that we can control," said 101st Air Refueling Wing Command Chief, CMSgt Daniel Moore during the 2017 Airmen Development Summit. (Photo courtesy of the 101st Air Refueling Wing.)

YOUR OPINION: WHY I SERVE IN THE MAINE NATIONAL GUARD



"I love helping soldiers making sure that they are taken care of and getting all of their health needs met, making sure that they are ready to deploy so that they can help out their stand and help out their country."
-Maj. Tara Young

"The sense of family. I can come here and I know that anyone here would gladly do something that my dad, mom, or my sister would do for me."
-Staff Sgt. Christopher Potter



"I love serving, I believe in civil service whether it's in the military or any other way. I love being part of a larger cause and helping our Soldiers. I have 24 years in the military and obviously I enjoy it, otherwise I wouldn't be here!"
- Col. Fredic Amidon



*"My favorite thing about the Air National Guard is the close knit family atmosphere where everyone knows each other on base as you get to meet a lot of really great people who become like family."
-Senior Airman Kyle Newell- Security Forces*

*"At the Medical Detachment I love being part of the team because we make sure the Soldiers are getting treatment that they sometimes can't afford, I love taking care of all the Soldiers."
- Pfc. Molly Brennan*



*"We're funded, we have training, we have a mission, and we get out and do stuff which is absolutely fantastic."
-Staff Sgt. Adam Giles*

*"Its such a big benefit for them to come here and get free dental care and make sure that their doing us a favor by being ready to deploy and we are doing them a favor by providing the care that they need."
-Sgt. Moi Knowles*





MAINE MARKSMANSHIP TEAM TAKE SILVER AT STATE POLICE CHALLENGE

Soldiers from the Maine Army National Guard Marksmanship Team placed second overall in the State of Maine Police Challenge on November 1-2, 2017.

The interagency event, held at a range in Scarborough, focuses on marksmanship, mental and physical strength, endurance and teamwork.

"Day one of the competition is a lot of shooting from 10 yards up to 200 yards," said Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Holmes, the State Marksmanship Coordinator.

Day two consisted of physical exercises and circuits as a team. This included, pushing a police cruiser a set distance, car-rying a log, moving heavy loads, sprints, pushups, pullups and other challenges. The final score is a balance between the nine marksman events, and the time it takes the team to finish the entire physical competition. The Maine National Guard team placed first in the marksmanship portion, and did well in the physical portion but were

still beat out by other teams.

Holmes said that the goal of the team is to focus on marksmanship, a primary fighting skill that all Soldiers are expected to be proficient in.

"We want to change the culture in our fighting force so that marksmanship is not a training distractor but a primary skill that should be taught to our soldiers," said Holmes.

"If you can destroy the enemy you can do all of your other skills you've been trained on," said Holmes.

To be placed on Maine Army National Guard Marksmanship team Soldiers must compete in the State Championship which is held in Gardiner every spring. Each unit in Maine is authorized to send their two best marksmen to this competition. The winners of this event are then placed on the state marksmanship team and can be chosen to participate in marksmanship competitions throughout the year.



the BAYONET

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RANGER

