

The RETIRED GUARDIAN

1st Quarter 2014



**The passing of the 56th Adjutant
General of Indiana, Maj. Gen.
Robert J. Mitchell**

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THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
MAJ. GEN. R. MARTIN UMBARGER

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On the Cover: Retired Maj. Gen. Robert J. Mitchell

Issue Number 73

ING Family Programs 7th Annual Military Youth Symposium

By Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Tinsley
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs.

Indiana National Guard Family Programs kicked off its seventh annual Military Youth Symposium, March 1 and 2. The event was designed to connect military children, who can face similar challenges in their lives.

More than 80 children, ages 9 to 17, registered to attend the event. This year's theme focused on emotional, physical and financial health.

Some military children can feel isolated from others given their dynamic home life. The event provided a positive and friendly environment for children to connect with each other and see that they are not alone in some of their challenges.

Autumn and Ariel Bell, sisters who attended the symposium for

their second consecutive year said they plan to keep attending the event because of the friends they made.

"I am a pretty shy person, coming here made it easier to make friends," said Autumn. "I will stay in contact with friends I have made here."

A volunteer staff comprised of Soldiers, military spouses and outside agencies contributed to the event. Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, Indiana National Guard adjutant general, visited the children during their final blanket making project to say a few words.

"We in the Guard have to take care of each other; I am very proud of you and your parents," said Umbarger.

The blankets will be donated to Peyton Mannings Children's Hospital to aid other children in a time of need.



Military youth and volunteers raced together on specialized stationary bicycles connected to a virtual system to simulate real bicycle riding during the Indiana National Guard's Youth Symposium, March 1, 2014, in Indianapolis. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Tinsley

Helping Veterans Find Employment

The Indiana Department of Veteran Affairs continues to work to get Hoosier veterans back to work, a challenge that continues to vex even a state with a relatively strong employment outlook.

The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs no longer holds Job Fairs. They are now conducting Employment Engagement Events. This is where Veteran friendly companies that are ready to hire are invited to the local armories along with other veteran services.

“We’ve shifted from macro to micro,” said Deanna Pugh, the Director of the Veterans Service Center. “We’re going to communities across the state, working with employers who want to hire veterans, and introducing them to unemployed and underemployed veterans in their communities.”

Pugh said that although not every veteran finds a job, and not every job is filled with a veteran, the small-scale approach has made for some good matches.

“I think the internet, where veterans tend to go job hunting, makes it difficult for them to find good prospects. They understand the concept of a target-rich environment and that’s what we want to give them,” said Pugh.

Prior to our involvement, it seemed the employers did not know where to find the veterans they wished to hire, and the veterans did not know what employers were looking for veterans. In a small part we are filling that void,” said Pugh.

Last year Volt Workforce Solutions hired Chris Page, a former Army career counselor. He has attended an employment engagement event as an employer and believes the concept has strong merit, especially for leaders.

“This is happening right in plain sight of the units’ leadership, so they can see the value in it for their troops. They see the results,” said Page. “And engagements also give employers the opportunity to see the National Guard operating first hand. They come away with a greater appreciation of the type of employee they can find there.”

Page is one of many recruiters who have a sincere interest in finding employment for members of the military and their families according to Pugh.

“Volt hired me because of my background to match Veterans’ and or spouses, Active or Guard Reserve with employers in our staffing database,” said Page. “It is a passion of mine to find work for those in need or underemployed.”

Pugh said that although the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs will continue to build on the employment engagement events, jobseekers can continue to contact her anytime.

“If you are a veteran and or service member looking for employment please contact the toll free number at 1-844-480-0009. You can always go to the website at <http://www.in.gov/dva/>,” said Pugh.

Lakota’s fly into Indiana National Guard’s arsenal

By Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Tinsley
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

GARY, Ind. – The Indiana National Guard welcomed two UH-72 Lakota helicopters to replace the existing OH-58 Kiowas at the Army Aviation Support Facility today.

The Lakota is a light utility helicopter with improved communications, enhanced image transmission and increased troop carrying capacity over its predecessor.

It will be used to support local, state and federal law enforcement agencies with emergency response actions and homeland security missions.

Ted Mickevicius, Airbus Group vice president of business development, made comments at the ceremony.

“These aircraft will provide Indiana with increased capabilities, including search and rescue, disaster response and support to local law enforcement,” said Mickevicius. “The Indiana National Guard will be better prepared than ever to answer the call, to respond

to emergencies in local communities and the state.”

While some National Guard units in the country are losing aviation assets, Indiana is privileged to receive an upgraded replacement.

“It’s a valuable asset for Indiana and an important tool for supporting our communities and serving our citizens,” said Lt. Col. Daniel Lane, Indiana National Guard’s director of aviation and safety. “It also comes at a much lower operating cost than any other modern airframe in our inventory.”

The Lakota is manufactured in the U.S. by Airbus Group and created over 300 production jobs. Over half of these are filled by service veterans.



A UH-72 Lakota. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Tinsley.

RETIRED MAJ. GEN. ROBERT J. MITCHELL, 77

Major General (Retired) Robert J. Mitchell, age 77, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 9:35 p.m. on Sunday, May 4, 2014, at home.

Robert was born on November 4, 1936 in Petersburg, Indiana to Robert D. and Charlotte (Stewart) Mitchell. He married Carolyn Ward on May 29, 1964 at Winslow Christian Church in Winslow, Indiana.

Robert was a retired Major General of the Indiana National Guard. Robert began his military career when he enlisted in the Army Reserve on 15 September 1953 and served as a military police officer with the 341st Military Police Company. From 1955 to 1959, General Mitchell served on Active duty as an operations specialist and a communications chief with the field artillery. He served in the Individual Ready Reserve then enlisted in Company D, 1st Battalion, 152nd Infantry.

General Mitchell attended the Indiana Military Academy and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on 12 July 1964.

His first commissioned service was as a Weapons Platoon Leader for Company B, 1st Battalion, 152nd Infantry. He served the next 14 years in the 1st Battalion, 152nd Infantry in a variety of command and staff positions to include Liaison Officer, Company Executive Officer, Headquarters Company Commander, C Company Commander, Battalion Operations and Training Officer (S-3 Air), Operations and Training Officer (S-3), and Battalion Executive Officer.

He then served as Operations and Training Officer (S-3) for 76th Brigade, 38th Infantry.

In 1979 he returned to 1st Battalion 152nd Infantry, again as the Battalion Executive Officer.

Subsequent duty assignments included Director of Industrial Operations at Camp Atterbury; Executive Officer for Camp Atterbury; Battalion Commander of the 1st Battalion 152nd Infantry Military Support Officer, Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment STARC, Indiana Army National Guard; Commander 2d Brigade 38th Infantry Division, Assistant Adjutant General (Army) for the State of Indiana, Assistant Division Commander, 38th Infantry Division; and Deputy STARC Commander, INARNG.

He assumed Command of the 38th Infantry Division (Mechanized) on August 7, 1995. He was promoted to his rank of Major General on August 7, 1995.

In January 1997, he was appointed by Governor O'Bannon as the Adjutant General for the Indiana Army and Air National Guard.

He also worked in the coal industry and was a lobbyist for the Indiana and Illinois Coal Council.

After his retirement, he served as an Army Advisor to the Country of Georgia to prepare the Georgia for admission into NATO. He was also an honorary member of the General's Club in the country of Slovakia.

He was awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash twice; He



Retired Maj. Gen. Robert J. Mitchell

was also awarded the title of "Kentucky Colonel".

He has an honorary doctorate from Oakland City University.

In later years he was an associate professor in mining technology for Vincennes University.

He was knighted a member of the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem

He was a lifetime member of the Petersburg VFW Post #3587

He enjoyed traveling and reading

The General is survived by his wife, Carolyn Mitchell of Jasper; one daughter, Robyn Mitchell of Cincinnati, Ohio; three sons, Robert C. Mitchell of Bloomington, Ryan Mitchell and his wife Angela, of Charlotte, N.C. and Richard Mitchell and Kelli, of Ft. Campbell, Ky.; two grandchildren, Emma and Aaron Mitchell; one brother, Fred Mitchell and his wife Linda, of Petersburg.

Preceding him in death were his parents.

Funeral services for Robert Mitchell was held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, May 9, 2014, at the Indiana National Guard Armory in Jasper, Indiana, with entombment following at the Fairview Cemetery Mausoleum in Jasper. An Army Chaplain officiated. The Military Department of Indiana Ceremonial Unit conducted military gravesite rites.

Memorial contributions may be made to a favorite charity.

Indiana National Guard hosted 20-year state partnership celebration

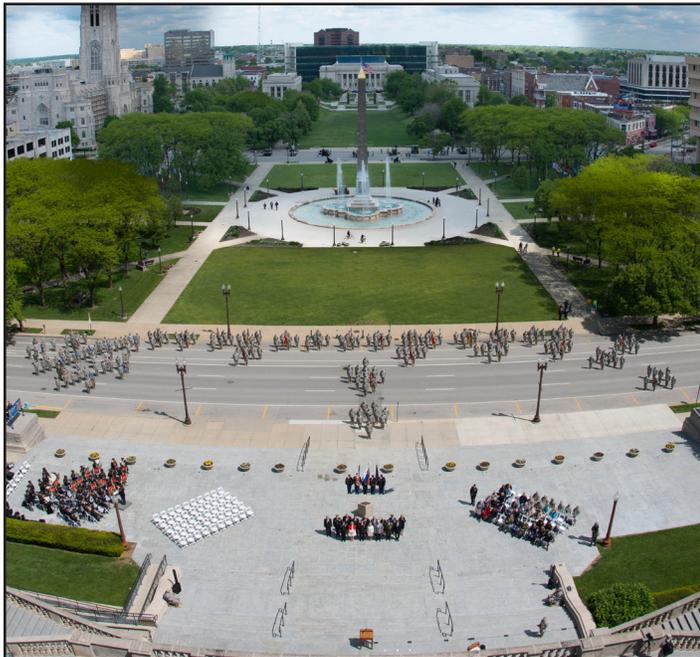
By Capt. Catalina Carrasco
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, and the Indiana National Guard hosted senior leaders of Slovak Republic to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Partnership for Peace Program. Slovak Republic ambassador to the United States, Peter Kmec and the Chief of Slovak Defense, Lt. Gen. Milan Maxim headed the senior leaders' delegation.

The Hoosier, Slovak partnership is part of a National Guard Bureau initiative that links states and territories with military members of other countries around the world for the purpose of supporting the security cooperation objectives of the geographic Combatant Commands.

The Indiana National Guard and the Slovak armed forces began a relationship in 1994. The two military organizations have shared more than 200 joint events over the course of the past two decades. In that time the Slovak Republic became a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

"We became partners, we trained together, we worked together," said Umbarger of the celebration, "We've come to know each other well as allies and this is just a special day."



Soldiers and Airmen celebrate the 20th anniversary of the State Partnership Program with Slovakia during a ceremony held at the Indiana War Memorial on Armed Forces Day in Indianapolis, Ind. Photos by Sgt. Jeremiah A. Runser.



Slovak Republic Ambassador, Peter KMEC, Slovak Republic Chief of Defense, Lt. Gen. Milan Maxim, Indiana Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger and Indiana Governor, Mike Pence salute during cannon fire for the opening ceremony of the Indiana and Slovak Republic 20th Anniversary State Partnership Program Celebration in Indianapolis at the Indiana War Memorial, Saturday, May 16, 2014.

The results and achievements of the partnership include the transition of the Slovak armed forces from a conscript service to an all volunteer force, an enhanced role of women in the Slovak military, the creation of a noncommissioned officer corps and the cultural exchanges between members of the Indiana Guard and the Slovak forces.

"We want to celebrate 20 years of cooperation and results," said Maxim, "that is the main goal of celebrating this anniversary."

In 2011 the first of four joint Operational Mentor Liaison Team rotations deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Sgt. 1st. Class Michael Bacon deployed to Afghanistan in Aug. 2012 as part of Operational Mentor Liaison Team as a mentor advisor for an Afghan military unit.

"This was one of the best and enjoyable deployments that I've taken part of," said Bacon, "We succeeded in achieving our mission by training hand in hand, while adapting to each other's cultures, with the same purpose in mind."

As the two militaries strive for unity of purpose, the Slovak leaders hope for the same in their communities. Ambassador Kmec visited with the Indianapolis mayor and leaders at Indiana University – Purdue University at Indianapolis to discuss possible business ventures between the two countries.

"As our two militaries have created a very strong foundation of bilateral ties, we're trying to build on this very intense cooperation also in the civilian sector," said

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Kmec, “we’re looking for ways of cooperation in the area of innovation and trade.”

While in Indiana, the Slovak delegation attended different commemorative events around the state, which included a visit and tour of Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center, the 181st Intelligence wing and the Clabber Girl Museum in Terre Haute and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Other members of the Slovak delegation included Maj. Gen. Martin Babiak, Slovak defense military & air attaché, Zuzana Babiakova, and Brig. Gen. Ondřej Novosad, land forces commander.

The culminating event celebrating the landmark anniversary was a military ceremony held at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis, Saturday, May 17. Gov. Mike Pence, State Sen. Tom Wyss and Maj. Gen. Timothy Kadavy, the special assistant to the National Guard Bureau vice chief of staff attended the ceremony.

A formation of more than 200 soldiers and airmen represented all units belonging to the Indiana National Guard. The two-hour ceremony featured formal honors and military traditions, starting with cannons firing 19 volleys in honor of the governor and music performed by the 38th Infantry Division band. Static displays represented some of the equipment and fighting

capabilities of the Indiana guard.

“As we reflect on this milestone of achievement over this last 20 years of cooperation,” said Col. Todd Townsend, Indiana National Guard vice chief of staff, during the ceremony. “We look forward to an enduring partnership that continues to expand our relationship and knowledge sharing.”



Slovak Republic Chief of Defense, Lt. Gen. Milan Maxim, left, poses with Indiana Governor, Mike Pence, center, and Indiana Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, after receiving a National Guard minuteman from Umbarger during a 20-year partnership celebration

Fighter Wing, Civil War Era Inventor Share Connection

By Staff Sgt. Les Newport
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

Gatling-Gun-armed Indiana National Guard A-10 Thunderbolts regularly grace the skies over the small Hoosier town of Freeport, Ind., near where lifetime resident Fortune L. Bailey was buried in Hanover Cemetery in 1902.

For those who know his story, mostly Shelby County residents with a penchant for the historical, the irony can be elegant: hundreds of impromptu flyovers for the final resting place of the Indiana Civil War lieutenant who really invented the weapon the A-10s were built around.

Freeport falls on a line of flight between Fort Wayne, Ind., home of the 122nd Fighter Wing, and Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center, home to one of a handful of ranges in the country where the Airmen can employ the modern version of the Gatling gun.

In his obituary from the Shelbyville Republican the newspaper wrote, “He served in the Civil War in Company I, 13th Indiana Cavalry as an orderly sergeant until just before the close of the war, when he was made first lieutenant of his company.

The report added “He was the inventor of the Gatling gun which was stolen from him during the war.”

Shelbyville columnist Ron Hamilton reported that Bailey felt cheated after his invention was patented as the Gatling gun, but went on to invent the Bailey machine gun, the world’s first belt-fed automatic machine gun.

Hamilton also wrote of Bailey’s other engineering pursuits. “Later in the 1880s, Captain Fortune Bailey owned and operated a small steamboat at Freeport.

He advertised in the Shelbyville newspapers and offered passengers two-mile trips up and down the river.

He also continued to create new inventions, including a cash register, corrugated stove pipe elbow and several types of planer and hand chisels. He never amassed a large fortune, but was considered quite successful and one of the leading citizens of Freeport.”

In the end, credit for the Gatling gun eluded Bailey, and the legitimacy of his claim has been left for the few who still wonder. But as Indiana Air National Guard A-10 pilots make their weekend pass over Hanover Cemetery near Freeport, a tip of the wing may be a clue to who they believe.

Noblesville School District to purchase armory land

By Robert Herrington
Noblesville Current

After years of discussion, it looks like Noblesville Schools is about to get their wish – the National Guard Armory at 2021 Field Dr. The district is in the process of acquiring the armory in exchange for a new property.

“This is spectacular. This is huge for Noblesville to finally complete our ownership of the high school to the middle school along Field Drive,” school board member Julia Kozicki said.

Kozicki said the district is working to close on land that will be traded to the Indiana National Guard to build a new armory.

Kozicki would not say where that land is location but it will be purchased from Keith Ayer for \$980,000 and is located in Hamilton County.

“They requested land to replace the armory (instead of cash),”

Attorney David Day said.

The armory’s 10 acres is the lone piece of property on Field Drive from Cumberland Road to North 16th Street that is not owned by Noblesville Schools. Having the land completes the campus and provides the district with opportunities to relocate services, programs and athletic fields if it relocates the undersized bus barn.

“We’ve yet to find an ideal location for the bus barn,” Kozicki said.

The school system will utilize the armory building for various programming.

There is a gym on the south end of the building, which will be used for athletic programs. Kozicki said during the next school year it will house Mosaics and a K-12 program through the Hamilton, Boone, Madison Co-op. Mosaics is using the former central office space for its headquarters and classroom space at the NHS Freshman Campus for

instruction.

“They’ll have a secure space of their own,” she said.

Kozicki said the district has worked with the Indiana National Guard for years about the land and faced several levels of approval, including Gov. Mike Pence. A closing date has not yet been set but Kozicki anticipates it will come within the next 60 days.

In other real estate news, the district is about a month away from selling Conner Learning Center to the City of Noblesville. Attorney David Day said the two sides are moving forward to a final agreement.

“I’m very hopeful to have a final resolution in May,” he told the board.

Kozicki said the Noblesville Boys & Girls Club, which owns property adjacent to Conner is interested in utilizing that area and will likely be the final owner.



The highlighted area shows the 10-acres owned by the Indiana National Guard adjacent to Field Drive. The purchase of the armory gives the school district an enclosed campus from Noblesville High School on Cumberland Road to the NHS Freshman Center. Submitted photo

Hello Retirees,

I'm retired Brig. Gen. Jim Wilson, Retired Air Representative on the Board of Directors for the National Guard Association of Indiana. There are several things I would like to bring to your attention with this newsletter.

First, we had a great conference in French Lick this past April. The Annual Business meeting was well attended and US Senator Joe Donnelly was very well received as the speaker at the NGAI State Dinner Saturday evening. Maj. Gen. Umbarger spoke to the combined Company Grade Officer/Retired Breakfast again this year. It was a great event except that many of you were not there. The Annual Business Meeting/Conference is being held in French Lick again in 2015, so please plan on attending. It is a great way to support the Guard and NGAI, enjoy getting together with old friends and simply enjoying being a part of our great organization.

Second, the NGAI website <http://www.ngai.net/> is fully functional, complete with our own Retiree section. It has NGAI, NGAUS, EANGUS, and MOAA links and information that should be of great interest to you. It also has additional information and links to sites of general interest, Gov agencies like Social Security, Tri-care, Medicare, Retired Service Offices, Retiree Newsletters and much more. I invite you to please take a look at the site and let us know if there is additional things you would like to see on it.

Third, please get on <http://www.ngai.net/> and view the information on the 2014 Alumni Update FTX at Camp Atterbury. The event dates are September 25-26, 2014. This Link is located on the left hand side of the home page titled Alumni Day 2014. See the web site for many other events associated with NGAI, NGAUS, and EANGUS throughout the year.

Lastly, you should be aware that the battle for programs and funding between the Active Forces and the National Guard continue. These battles have been on going in the almost fifty years that I have been associated with the National Guard and I don't expect it to stop anytime in the near future. We need your help. We need your voice. We need your support. We need your willingness to get involved with NGAI, NGAUS, and EANGUS in our efforts to maintain your existing benefits or secure additional ones, both on the State and National level. The greater our numbers, the louder our voice. With that said, your Board of Director's voted to set the NGAI Retired Life membership fee at \$20. If you are not getting NGAI email alerts, you may not be a member or we do not have your current email address. You can renew your membership or update your contact information on line at the NGAI website or contact Linda at 317-247-3196.

Thanks for your service.

Thanks for taking the time to read this letter. Hope to see you soon at the next NGAI event or at the 136th NGAUS General Conference and Exhibition August 22-25, 2014, McCormick Place, Chicago.

Respectfully,

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Jim Wilson
Retired Air Representative
NGAI Board of Directors



Greetings Retirees from Retired Brig. Gen. Margaret Washburn,

I am honored to write this to you as a member of the NGAI Board of Directors' Army--Retired Officer seat.

We Need Your Help

One of the roles I serve for NGAI is to chair the Legislative Committee and we have some work to do for 2015, starting right now. Here is why:

Although Indiana is a great Patriotic State, benefits for military and veterans lag other states, and are in fact near the bottom with respect to available benefits. We could and should do better. To address that shortfall, the NGAI Board of Directors voted to establish a Legislative Committee, of which I am the Chair. The Legislative Committee consists of a cross section of community leaders from across the entire state so that the effort is truly "grass roots" and non-partisan.

To that end, we strategize and attend various Coalition and service group meetings as well as State House actions. The 2015 Top Ten Goals are posted on the NGAI website. <http://www.ngai.net>

For 2015, as you will see from the 2015 legislative list, we will focus on Grass Roots State benefits for Soldiers and Airmen, both still serving and retired. There are some very important initiatives for all of us, making an impact every day.

Get involved, you are the recipients of legislative success! To roll up your sleeves and participate in reaching for that success, please contact me at 317-750-3105 or Mike Sturm at 317-247-3301.

Thank you for your Service!

BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT, here is another great opportunity you will not want to miss, so:
SAVE THE DATE! 25-26 September 2014

I am also honored to serve alongside Retired Brig. Gen. Jim Wilson to co-chair the NGAI Retiree Committee. This year NGAI, along with JFHQ, is proud to co-host the 2014 Alumni Update FTX at Camp Atterbury.

Please go to the NGAI website, stated above, for up to date information on the event.

This is a two day event that raises the bar on providing information and activities for retirees as well as those still serving. Here is the draft agenda:

Thursday 25 September

1230-1415 Alumni update in the conference center
1500-1700 Operation Readiness Training Complex and Railhead Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
1700-2100 Cookout, bonfire and social event at the Conference Center

Friday 26 September

0730-0815 Breakfast at the dining facility
0900-1200 Visit the ANG Range and M777 155mm Howitzer firing
1215-1315 Optional lunch at the dining facility

Another exciting activity for after lunch, still in the planning stage, is a visit to to the Pistol Range to demonstrate your skills and have some fun. Please stay close to the NGAI website, and your other communication channels, as that activity evolves.

As you can see, this "overnighter at Atterbury" is going to be a very special event that we hope to continue, and add to, out into the future.

Always remember—we are Retired but not Forgotten!

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Margaret Washburn
Legislative Committee Chair, NGAI

TAPS

LTC (Retired) Blake Burns

Burns, Blake L., 95, died on November 26, 2013 at his home.

He was born in Salem, IN on June 2, 1918 to Rev. Harvey S. Burns and Clara Batt Burns. He graduated from Gosport High School, Gosport, IN and Campbellsville College, Campbellsville, KY, playing on varsity basketball teams. Blake was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving in the China Burma Indian Theatre. In 1946, he married Iva Sue Herrington of Laurel, MS and moved to Scottsburg in 1949 to open Burns 5 & 10 variety store, where he also served the business community as president of the Scottsburg Chamber of Commerce.

In January of 1955, Captain Blake Burns continued his military service by being appointed the first commander of the Indiana National Guard in Scottsburg. Later, he served as tank battalion commander over Southern Indiana eventually achieving the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Mr. Burns was elected the first mayor of Scottsburg in 1964 helping to lead in the transition from town to city. During his three terms as mayor, he was president of Southern Indiana Mayor's Roundtable, vice-president of the River Hills Regional Planning and was on the executive board of the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns. While serving as mayor, Blake was also instrumental in the planning and development of Scottsburg Senior Housing, also known as Craig Park and Lake Iola. As a member of the First Baptist Church of Scottsburg, he served as chairman of the deacons and held many offices. Other organizational memberships included the American Legion Post # 234, Scottsburg Lodge # 572 F & AM, Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis, Scott County Preservation Alliance, Scott County Cemetery Committee, Scottsburg Economic Development Committee, Board of Directors of the South Central Indiana Council for the Aging and the Scott County Historical Society where he was project director of Heritage Downtown Scottsburg. He was the recipient of many awards including Area 14's 1993 Older Hoosier of the Year and the Governor's Sagamore of the Wabash.

SSG (Retired) Robert J. Hicks

Robert Joseph Hicks, 83, of Chesterfield died November 29, 2013 at Community Hospital after an extended

illness.

He was born in Indianapolis, IN April 1, 1930 to Merrill and Madeline Hicks.

He served in the US Navy and the National Guard for a total of 39 years.

He worked production at Delco Remy for nearly 38 years before retiring in 1987.

He was a member of the Chesterfield American Legion Post #408; past Commander of Pendleton American Legion Post #117 and served as honor guard with VFW Post 266 .

SGT (Retired) James A. Oliphant

James A. Oliphant, 72, of Mooresville, passed away on November 27, 2013. He was born September 29, 1941 in Burney, the son of Arthur and Frances (Stribling) Oliphant.

James was a 20 year veteran with service in both the Army National Guard and US Air Force. He retired from military service in 1990. Following his retirement, he became an over-the-road truck driver until his retiring from Crete Carriers in March of 2013.

Jim was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at the Plainfield ward. His fondness for genealogy brought him to serve as a family history consultant for the ward. Jim took great pride and joy in his family.

SFC. Jim Vester

SFC. Jim Vester, 32, Lizton, passed away December 4, 2013. He was born August 25, 1981, in Muncie, the son of Walter and Janice (Bir) Vester. He married Jamie (Green) Vester, June 11, 2005, in Kokomo. He and Jamie welcomed their son Gavin Lee Vester, October 1, 2012.

Jim graduated from Yorktown High School in 2000, there he was active on the varsity wrestling and soccer teams. He was a mechanic in the United States National Guard, serving a tour in Iraq 2005-2006. He was also a proud member of the Ceremonial Unit.

He attended Cornerstone Christian Church. He enjoyed cooking, motorcycles, but his greatest enjoyment was spending time with his family.

SSG (Retired) Jonathan Hughes

Jonathan Hughes, age 57, of Greencastle, passed away on Tuesday, December 17, 2013.

Born May 4, 1956 in Greencastle, he was the son of Duffy and Almeda Hughes and was a graduate of Greencastle High School "Class of 1975". He married Rhonda L. (Branham) Hughes on June 9, 2002 and she survives.

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Jonathan worked at IAC in Greencastle for 18 years and had retired from the Indiana National Guard.

SSG (Retired) David Arlen Willett

David Arlen Willett, 78, passed away Thursday, December 26, 2013 at his residence in Nineveh.

He was born on March 27, 1935 in Connersville to Foster S. and Alma Carraway Willett. He married Louise Willett on June 30, 1956. She preceded him in passing on December 28, 1995. He later married Deloris (Dee) (Miller) Willett on August 10, 1996. She survives.

David joined the National Guard on February 3, 1953. He worked at the Connersville Armory as Supply Sgt. for several years. He was a member of the ceremonial unit for many years. He then went to Camp Atterbury and worked at OMS 2 and UTES until his retirement in March, 1995. He served forty-two years with the National Guard, and had many memorable experiences.

He was a member of the Nineveh Masonic Lodge No. 317, F & AM where he was a Past Master and a member of the Nineveh Chapter, Order of Eastern Star No. 466 where he was a Past Patron. He was a member of the The Order of The Amaranth, Daylight Court and Alice Court; a member of the Murat Shrine, York Rite, Knights Templar, Commandry, the American Legion and the White Shrine of Jerusalem.

CPL (Retired) Joseph J. Baughman

Joseph J. Baughman, 83, of Mooresville, IN, passed away peacefully on December 29, 2013. Joseph was born to J.C. & Bessie Marie (Armstrong) Baughman on June 20, 1930 in Mooresville, IN. Joseph married Sharon (Jones) Baughman on February 7, 1960.

Joseph was a 1948 Martinsville High School graduate. He graduated from Purdue University in 1952 with an Agricultural Degree. Prior to attending Purdue University, he joined the Indiana National Guard where he served until the U.S. Army. He served during the Korean War.

Joseph was a lifetime farmer, breeding Hampshire hogs and Angus cattle. He also enjoyed raising rabbits. He served as County Extension Agent in Washington, IN. He was also active in the community pursuing environmental concerns.

SFC (Retired) Gary Dennis

Mr. Gary D. Dennis age 57 of Livonia passed away Friday, January 31 at Floyd Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Dennis was born August 6, 1956 in Salem the son of Donald Clarence and Helen L. Cook Dennis. He was President of Dennis Manufacturing Inc. He was Food

Service Manager for the Washington County Detention Center. He was retired as an E-7 from the Army and also served in the National Guard. He was a former welding instructor for Lost River Career Center. He was a member of Westview Christian Church, Livonia Fire Department, FOP, and Livonia Conservation Club.

CSM (Retired) Robert H. (Bob) Davis

Robert H. (Bob) Davis, 90, of Beech Grove, passed away Saturday, February 15, 2014.

Robert was born on September 11, 1923 in Indianapolis to Harry and Hazel (Cross) Davis. Bob enlisted in the U.S. Army upon graduation from Beech Grove High School in October 1942.

He served in the European Theater of Operations with his deployment in England with the first U.S. Army (SF 12-055) through Omaha Beach until the end of hostilities in Northern Germany. At the end of WWII, Bob joined the Army Reserve (Artillery) and in 1950 enlisted in the Indiana National Guard where he served for 33 years.

He became the Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the 38th infantry division with assignment as Command Sergeant Major. He was awarded several citations and medals, including the Army's Legion of Merit and awarded the Indiana Distinguished Service Medal. He was also awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash by Governor Evan Bayh. Bob was a member of the Beech Grove First Christian Church in the capacity of deacon and later, elder.

MSG (Retired) K. Wayne Gray

K. Wayne Gray, 77, passed away on Saturday, February 1, 2014 at his residence.

He was born in Limestone, Tennessee on September 6, 1936, the son of George and Georgie (Collette) Gray and moved to Muncie with his mother at an early age.

Wayne worked at Delco Battery for thirty-seven and one-half years, retiring in March of 1993. He was an active member of UAW Local 489 and held many elected offices. Wayne also retired from The Indiana National Guard at Stout Field Headquarters Detachment Adjunct Generals Office in 1976, holding the rank of E-8 1st Sargent. He also belonged to UAW International Union Retirees and the American Legion Post 321 of Yorktown.

Wayne was active in both Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. He enjoyed fishing, especially Walleye and he followed NASCAR for thirty-five years.

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SGT(Retired) Larry F. Snyder

Larry F. Snyder, age 68, retired United States Army Serviceman, passed away Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at Community Hospital North in Indianapolis, Indiana.

He was born December 27, 1945 in New Castle, Indiana a son of Frank and Rozella Solomon Snyder.

He received his high school diploma while serving in the Army. Mr. Snyder served in the military over twenty years. He served with the United States Army seven years, including two tours of duty in Viet Nam as a machine gunner and a helicopter mechanic. Larry held the rank of Sergeant, and was a recipient of many military awards, and recognitions. He also served over 13 years with the Indiana Army National Guard. Larry was a true American Patriot, and was committed to serving and protecting the United States of America and believed in freedom for everyone in the world. He had worked for Neal's Scrap Yard for most of his life.

SSG (Retired) Ron Hill

Ronald Dean Hill, 75, of Ogilville, passed away at 1:15 a.m. Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at Kindred Transitional Care and Rehabilitation in Greenwood.

Ronald was born December 31, 1938 in Monroe County to the late Lark and Annabelle Sexton Hill.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and Army National Guard. Ronald was a former employee of Cummins Engine Company, Camp Atterbury, and retired from Reliance Electric Company.

Ronald enjoyed cutting wood, cars, hunting, fishing, and loved spending time with his family and friends.

MAJ (Retired) Maurice Stanley "Reese" Parker

MAJ (Ret) Maurice Stanley "Reese" Parker, 77, of Fillmore, passed away on Saturday, April 5, 2014 surrounded by his family.

Reese was born on January 12, 1937 in Putnam County to Richard Parker and Virginia Geabes Parker.

He was a 1955 graduate of Greencastle High School and a 1964 graduate of the Indiana Military Academy.

Reese served his state and country in the Indiana National Guard, retiring as a Major after 28 years of service. He also retired from IBM with 33 years of service.

SSG Brian Marley

SSG Brian Marley passed away Saturday, April 5th, at his residence at the age of 48.

SSG Marley is a member of HHC 1-293rd and has been with the Indiana Army National Guard since

May 2007. He previously served on active duty from August 1984 - May 1992. He deployed the 76th BDE in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from December 2007 - December 2008.

SSG Marley was never officially a Ceremonial Unit member, but assisted on Color Guard Teams on numerous occasions. The Ceremonial Unit has been requested and will provide Honors for his funeral service as requested by his family.

SSG (Retired) Keith Smiley

SSG (Ret) Keith Smiley, 69, of Greencastle, passed away on Monday, March 31, 2014.

Born Jan. 28, 1945 in Greencastle, he was the son of Charles and Geraldine (York) Smiley.

Keith worked several years with the State Highway Department as a truck driver and inspector.

He was a member of the Indiana National Guard for more than 27 years.

Keith loved animals, especially his dog, Spice, and his cat, Charlie.

SFC (Retired) Stephen Springer

Stephen L. Springer, 48, Freetown, died Tuesday, April 22, 2014.

Mr. Springer was born Nov. 4, 1965 in Indianapolis to Evan and Nicole Williams Springer. On Oct. 11, 2003 in Brownstown, he married Janet Hall and she survives.

He was employed with Tri-Star Engineering, Bedford, and contracted to Bedford Crane Naval Base.

Mr. Springer retired from the U.S. Army after 23 years of service. He was a life member of the VFW in Greenwood; member of the American Legion; belonged to the Indiana Blue Chips; an IHSAA official certified in all sports and varsity softball coach at Scottsburg High School.



Joint Force Headquarters - Indiana
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THE RETIRED GUARDIAN

1ST QUARTER 2014

