

THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

Serving the men and women of Kentucky's Army and Air National Guard

Volume Twelve, Issue Three
January - February 2008

Meet the new Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Edward W. Tonini



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earthquake
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Boone Center

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THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

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FROM THE FIELD

Change of Address?

If you are planning a move, make sure your Bluegrass Guard magazine follows you to your new home.

Current Soldiers and Airmen need to submit change of address through the unit clerk in the RCAS system.

See below for retiree information!

Thanks,
Sgt. Gina Vaile, Editor

Change of Address

All change of address should be made at the unit level by the unit clerk.

Army retiree address changes should be made through Staff Sgt. Jason Petitt at the Kentucky National Guard Personnel Services Branch. He can be reached at 502-607-1613 or jason.petitt@ky.ngb.army.mil.

Air retiree address changes should be made through retired Chief Master Sgt. James Turpin at jturpin@fewpb.net.

Corrections

Please report any corrections to:
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To comment, keep remarks under 150 words, include your name, rank and address and send them to:

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We reserve the right to edit letters for tone, length, clarity and factual accuracy.

Adjutant General pledges to build on traditions

By Maj. Gen. Edward W. Tonini
Adjutant General of Kentucky

It was my great honor to be asked by Governor Steve Beshear to serve as your adjutant general. I know that I am inheriting a Kentucky National Guard that is in exceptional shape, made up of Airmen and Soldiers recognized across America and throughout the world as the ultimate defenders of freedom.

Chief among my duties will be knocking on doors at the National Guard Bureau and the Pentagon, and with our state and federal legislators to secure the funding for training and modernized equipment necessary to continue to prosecute the war on terror overseas, as well as save lives and ease human suffering here at home in time of disaster.

I intend to travel to Iraq and Afghanistan, wherever Kentucky's sons and daughters are deployed, to see first hand the work they are doing in the service of our nation and Commonwealth. I also want to assure our Wounded Warriors that their medical care and recuperation are of the utmost concern.



Another priority is recruiting. While the Kentucky National Guard has led the nation for the past four years in recruiting – both Army and Air – we need to continue our efforts to seek out the best and brightest to join our ranks, and become the next generation of Soldiers and Airmen. The surest way to guarantee having enduring missions is to have manning at 100 percent or greater with Soldiers and Airmen possessing 21st century skills.

Above all else, I want to send a heartfelt message of gratitude to our great military Families. You are absolutely crucial to our success as our troops are asked to deploy more and more often. Please know that I will be working with Kentucky's Family Assistance Center to see that you receive the best possible service that we can provide.

In closing, I pledge to you that I will devote each and every day of my tenure as your Adjutant General to further enhancing the Kentucky National Guard's formidable reputation, at home and abroad, as America's premier Guardians of Freedom.

NEXT ISSUE

- Soldier and Airman of the Year coverage
- Kentucky Guard assists Western Kentucky communities after tornadoes
- Seismic Exercise coverage

GOT NEWS?

The Bluegrass Guard wants your photos, news stories and upcoming events to publicize in our pages and on the Web. Call Sgt. Gina Vaile at 502-607-5091.

CHECK US OUT ONLINE

<http://www.dma.ky.gov/publicaffairs>

FAMILY READINESS GROUPS

***F**amily Readiness Groups provide a way for Families to help one another through education, communication and dedication to their Service Member and other Families. Though it is a Commander's Program, every unit should have an active FRG.*



My unit doesn't have an FRG, how can I get one started?

Contact your unit commander and ask the commander to hold an information meeting with your Families. A Family Readiness Assistant can provide information and come to your unit to assist with the briefing.

I'm confused on what my FRG can and cannot do?

An FRG should not be a taxi or baby sitting service, a bank or counseling agency. Family Readiness Groups are also not allowed to raise money from outside of their unit.

An FRG should offer mutual support, assistance and a network of communication. Family Readiness Groups can help reduce stress, promote Guard and Family readiness and contribute to the well-being, morale and cohesiveness to help Families alleviate or cope with common issues and challenges that are a part of military life.

The FRG can partner with outside agencies, such as the American Legion or VFW to assist with fund-raising outside of the unit.



Family Readiness Group Assistant Libbi Cox is happy to come show your unit how to start an FRG.

If I need more information, who should I ask?

Contact the Family Assistance Center at 1-800-372-7601, press option one and ask for Maj. Marion Peterson, the State Family Programs Director, or FRG Assistants Alana Underwood or Libbi Cox.

LOOKING FOR A FEW NEW RIDERS



Boone Center Soldiers form chapter of Kentucky Guard Motorcycle Riders

By Sgt. Gina Vaile
Editor

Deployment is over and there is a wad of cash sitting in your pocket, just burning a hole. You've had your eye on it for a while – since before you left actually – and now you can finally pay for it ... a new shiny steel horse. You can already feel the power beneath you and there's nothing stopping you from hitting that open road.

Except the fact that you have absolutely no clue how to ride a bike.

Before you go out and make that purchase, Chief Warrant Officer Jack Johnston, Director of the newly formed Boone Center Chapter of the Kentucky Guard Motorcycle Riders has a few tips:

"A Soldier needs to know his ability, he needs to know where he can get instruction," Johnston said. "He needs to know what type of safety equipment is required and know who he can ride with. Above all, he'll need good advice and friends to help him."

Enter the BCC Kentucky Guard Motorcycle Riders. An organization that focuses on the mentoring of new riders, improving skills and continuing the education in the activity of motorcycling all while having fun and making friends.

"The founders of this organization are Kentucky Guardsmen who love motorcycling and care about members of our Kentucky Guard Family," Johnston said. "Our goal is to improve the skill levels for all KGMR members in a fun and relaxed environment."

Johnston said the first key to getting on that bike is to make sure you are aware of the safety concerns. Paying



Photo by 1st Lt. Stephen Martin/KYARNG

Lora Harrison, Chief Warrant Officer Stephanie Motley, and Sgt. Daryl Casey provide information about the Kentucky Guard Motorcycle Riders during the Boone Center Holiday Party in December. The organization focuses on mentoring riders, improving skills and continuing education in the activity of motorcycling.

attention to motorcycle safety he said is vital to your "life, health Family and fellow Guardsmen and employers."

Through "new rider trips," the KGMR puts an emphasis on one-on-one mentoring for newly licensed and low experienced riders. The trip helps the new rider gain experience and confidence in a variety of road and riding conditions.

"It allows the new rider to see what right looks like and provides the foundation for building safe riding habits," Johnston said.

The organization has more than 40 members who enjoy weekend rides and the camaraderie shared on the open road. It is open to current Soldiers and Airmen, as well as retirees,

immediate Family members, contractors as well as state and federal employees.

In five short months, the KGMR has sponsored three rides and received approval to paint their own Motorcycle Safety Foundation riding range on Boone Center. The KGMR hopes to be self-sufficient in training, rider qualification and certification with this range.

Those who are interested in joining the KGMR are encouraged to attend the organization's monthly meetings held the second Tuesday of each month at the Office Pub and Deli in Frankfort.

"Our members usually order dinner and have a great time enjoying the company of others that share in the common passion for motorcycling," Johnston said.

The KGMR will have a booth available at the Joint Kentucky National Guard Association and Enlisted Association Conference in Louisville on Feb. 22. The OCC Patriot Guard Chopper will be displayed at the event.

The Patriot Chopper was the result of a collaborative effort between the Orange County Choppers and four National Guard Soldiers. The bike was featured on The Learning Channel's episodes of "American Chopper" in January.

"We hope to use this truly unique and world-class bike as a tool to draw attention to the Army Motorcycle Mentorship Program in Kentucky and to be able to educate an even larger audience," he said.

For more information on the BCC chapter, visit the KGMR at www.kgmr.org.

SAFETY FIRST

When riding on a military installation, you must have:



Completed the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Basic Rider's Course and have a motorcycle endorsement on your driver's license



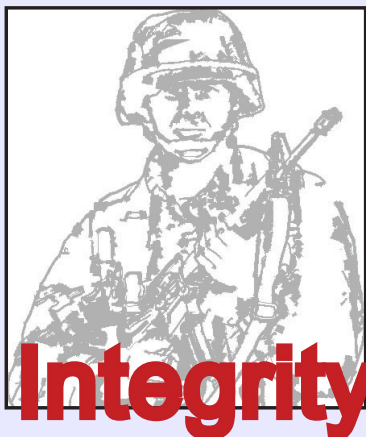
Wear a Dept. of Transportation approved helmet and full-fingered gloves



Wear long-sleeved brightly colored shirt, or reflective material on your upper garment; long pants and over the ankle boots

VALUE OF THE MONTH

Each month The Bluegrass Guard will explore a different Army Value and how to use that value in your daily life.



"I am for integrity if only because life is very short, and truth is hard to come by.

- Author Unknown

Integrity means to firmly adhere to a code of moral and ethical principles. Every Soldier must possess high personal moral standards and be honest in word and deed. You must live by your word for everything, no buts, no excuses. Having integrity builds trust.

Earthquake Survival 101

Family preparation first line of defense during natural disasters

By Sgt. Gina Vaile
Editor

In the event that an earthquake of a 7.0 magnitude or greater rocks the New Madrid Fault, the Kentucky National Guard is ready to respond to the needs of the Commonwealth. For nearly a year, officials have been planning the 2008 Seismic Exercise -- a week-long event that will test communications capabilities and how well supplies are moved from one point to another for distribution to affected areas.

Soldiers stand ready to serve Kentucky communities in the event of any natural disaster, but there are ways that you can prepare your home and Family for a mass disaster in your area.

Know the Risks

According to Emergency Management officials, the New Madrid Fault is active, averaging more than 200 measured events per year.

In 1980, Sharpsburg, Ky. was struck by an earthquake that measured 5.1 on the Richter scale. The 'quake caused the Bath County community an estimated \$3 million in damage.

"The highest earthquake risk in the United States, outside of the West Coast, is along this fault line," said Brig. Gen. John W. Heltzel.

Heltzel, who will head the 2008 earthquake preparedness exercise in March, said communities in Western Kentucky will most likely see tremendous damage if they are rocked by a 6.0 on the Richter scale or greater magnitude earthquake.

"The infrastructure could be devastated," Heltzel said, "buildings would collapse, roadways and bridges could be cut off, and it is likely that communities could suffer fires and flooding."

Lori King, Kentucky Emergency Management Earthquake Program Coordinator says earthquakes are basically unpredictable.

"At best, scientists make predictions based upon historical activity, but with so much uncertainty, the possibility of a major earthquake affecting Kentucky cannot be taken for granted," she said.

"As with all disasters, it is best to protect you and your loved ones," she said.






Prepare your home

The Kentucky Division of Emergency Management and Governor Steve Beshear has designated February as Earthquake Preparedness Month in Kentucky.

Public Affairs Officer, Buddy Rogers, said school children will prepare for earthquakes by

Create a Kit

Prepare a three-day supply of the following:

-  Drinking water
One gallon per Family member per day
-  Non-perishable food
Don't forget your pets
-  First Aid Kit
Include Family medications and bandages
-  Small Tool Kit
Include flashlights and batteries
-  Clothing and Bedding

Visit <http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster> for more information



Photo illustration by Lt. Col. Kirk Hillbrecht/KYANG

The New Madrid Seismic Line, also known as the New Madrid Fault, stretches 150 miles and extends through five states: Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas. Four of the largest earthquakes in North American history occurred along the fault line between 1811 and 1812.

practicing drills at some point during the month, but it is also a great time for Families to prepare at home as well.

“If you prepared for an earthquake,” he said, “you are prepared for any natural disaster that could happen in Kentucky.

“A catastrophic earthquake would be Kentucky’s Hurricane Katrina,” he added.

According to the American Red Cross, there are six basics you should have available in your home to prepare for disasters: water, food, first aid supplies, clothing and bedding, tools and emergency supplies.

The organization recommends creating a “Shelter-in-Place” kit for your house. According to www.redcross.org, a large easy-to-carry container is the ideal place to store these items, in an easy to reach place in your home. All Family members should know where to reach this kit in the event of any type of natural disaster.

“People should include first aid supplies, drinking water, flashlights and batteries and of course non-perishable food items and pet food in their kits,” Rogers said. “This way, if you cannot make it to a shelter quickly, you will be able to survive until help arrives.

“You should have a relative or friend outside your immediate community who you can contact to inform others of your whereabouts and your status,”

he added.

It is also important for Kentucky Guard Families to have phone numbers to their armory as well as the local Red Cross Chapter readily available in a place where everyone can access them, such as a refrigerator or message board.

The Seismic Exercise

In conjunction with federal, state and local emergency response agencies, the Kentucky National Guard will conduct the state-wide Seismic Emergency Response Exercise March 1-8, 2008.

Nearly 300 Soldiers and Airmen will participate in the exercise that will primarily occur in the 24 Kentucky counties comprising Kentucky Division of Emergency Management Areas 1, 2 and 3 (Ballard, Calloway, Caldwell, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Daviess, Fulton, Graves, Hancock, Henderson, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, McLean, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Todd, Trigg, Union and Webster Counties). Residents in those counties can expect to see an increase in military vehicle and aircraft traffic in those areas during the exercise.

Approximately 13 Kentucky National Guard units will participate in the week-long exercise.

While Kentucky’s Soldiers and Airmen are always prepared to provide support to Kentucky communities, officials encourage Kentucky Guard Families to participate in their own seismic exercise.

“While our Airmen and Soldiers are fine-tuning their response capabilities during the Seismic Exercise, it is also an excellent opportunity for our Kentucky National Guard Families to learn how to better prepare themselves for a natural disaster, such as an earthquake,” said Brig. Gen. Howard P. Hunt III, the Joint Forces Air Component Commander (JFACC), who will direct the JFACC during the exercise.

“I encourage all of our Soldiers and Airmen to talk with your Family about natural disasters, create your own ‘Shelter-in-Place’ kit, and pass along your knowledge to other relatives and friends.

“The Commonwealth of Kentucky turns to us in times of need and this is a great way to set the standard and lead by example in our communities to show that we truly are the Guardians of Freedom,” Hunt said.

Christmas brighter for Guard Families

Lexington Realtors sponsor toy drive

By **David Altom**

Assistant Editor

This year Santa's elves came disguised as, of all things, your local real estate agent.

Two thousand members of the Lexington Bluegrass Association of Realtors banded together to collect more than 1,000 toys and \$900 in gift cards for Kentucky's military Families.

"We were just very grateful to help military Families this year," said Don Sullivan, who ran the toy drive for the association. "When I put the word out, we were overwhelmed."

"There's a little bit of everything here, from bikes to stuffed toys. We've got everything a kid could want," he said.

Cindy Culver, youth coordinator for the Kentucky Guard's Family Assistance Center, was excited to see what the Realtors has collected.

"This is wonderful! They collected a lot more toys than I expected, but we've got a home for everything. There are going to be a lot of happy children this Christmas," she said.

Lexington Bluegrass Association of Realtors has members in Fayette and surrounding counties. This year's contributions were gathered during parties and special events where the donation of a toy was the price of admission.



Sergeant Shane Davisworth, Cindy Culver, Don Sullivan, Zella Stambaugh, Spc. Njaga Jagne and Judy Craft take a break before packing up hundreds of toys destined for the homes of Kentucky military Families.

Adjutant General receives second star

Staff Report

FRANKFORT, Ky. – Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear pinned Adjutant General Edward W. Tonini with his second star, Jan. 17, signifying his promotion to the rank of major general. Tonini, a Louisville resident, was appointed in December by Beshear to serve as the 52nd Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Prior to his appointment as adjutant general, Tonini was the Director of the Your Guardians of Freedom (YGOF) program, Headquarters, United States Air Force. As the director of YGOF, he was responsible for strategic and tactical outreach programs designed to build and maintain public support for the work of the Air



Photo courtesy of the Kentucky Creative Services Department

Kentucky Adjutant General Edward W. Tonini receives a pair of silver stars signifying the rank of major general from his wife, Carol and Governor Steve Beshear in ceremonies conducted at the state Capitol Jan. 17.

Aviators receive Medal of Valor



Photo by David Altom/KYARNG

Major Gen. Donald C. Storm presents the Kentucky Medal of Valor to Master Sgt. Harmon Cross, retired Chief Warrant Officer Lloyd Bailey and retired Lt. Col. Willoughby S. Goin for their actions during a helicopter medical evacuation mission on Jan. 29, 1978. The three transported a victim of an automobile accident from Pineville to Lexington during hazardous weather conditions, saving her life.

The Kentucky Medal for Valor is the highest state decoration, which can be awarded to members of the Kentucky National Guard. To date, only 46 Kentucky Guardsmen have the distinction of having been awarded the Kentucky Medal for Valor.

This is the second award for Cross, who was recognized in 1977 for his actions in saving the lives of three women during a flood that also took place in Pineville.

Celebration held at Capitol for Maj. Gen. Edward Tonini's promotion

continued from previous page

Force and its personnel in the Global War on Terrorism.

Tonini also served as Chief-of-Staff of the Kentucky Air National Guard. Appointed in 1996, he served the Adjutant General of Kentucky and the Assistant Adjutant General (Air) as principal advisor on matters pertaining to the Kentucky Air National Guard while overseeing operational activities of the Air Guard Headquarters staff and its subordinate agencies.

A member of the Kentucky Air National Guard since

1969, Tonini spent 26 years in the Public Affairs arena, with extensive experience dealing with local, regional, national and international news media around the globe.

He has produced news features and documentaries about the Kentucky National Guard and has been published in newspapers and periodicals around the world. He was also influential in establishing Thunder Over Louisville as a Kentucky – and national – tradition.

Frankfort celebrates new governor

The Commonwealth of Kentucky welcomed Steve L. Beshear as the 61st governor Dec. 11 during inaugural festivities at the Capitol.

Kentucky National Guard Soldiers and Airmen marched in the parade, provided flyovers, and attended inaugural balls.

Major Gen. Edward W. Tonini held a reception on Boone Center immediately following the inauguration, as a way to formally introduce himself to the Guard Family.



Photo by David Altom/KYARNG



Photo by Sgt. Gina Vaile/KYARNG



Photo by David Altom/KYARNG

- ▲ Kentucky Youth Challenge Cadets march in the 2007 inaugural parade.
- ◀ The Recruiting Battalion drives in style along the parade route.
- Major Gen. Edward W. Tonini and his wife Carol enjoy the parade from the Governor's box.



Photo by 1st Lt. Stephen Martin/KYARNG



Photo by Capt. John Holmes/KYARNG



Photo by David Altom/KYARNG



Photo by Sgt. Gina Vaile/KYARNG

- Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 623rd Field Artillery fire a cannon signifying Gov. Steve Beshear's term in office has begun.
- Three Kentucky National Guard UH-60 Blackhawks fly over the Capitol during the inauguration of Gov. Steve Beshear.
- Steve Beshear swears in as the 61st governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Travis takes command of WTU

Lieutenant Col. Gary Travis ready to improve on unit's strong base

By Spc. Michael Behlin
Fort Knox Turret

Kentucky National Guard Lt. Col. Gary Travis took command of the Warrior Transition Unit during a change of command ceremony Jan. 4 at Fort Knox.

Travis succeeded Lt. Col. John Ward, who had commanded the unit since October 2007.

An Active Duty transition unit, the WTU's primary mission is to oversee the health, welfare and morale of wounded warriors receiving care at an Army Medical Treatment facility. Providing command and control, primary care and case management, the goal of the unit is to establish conditions for healing and to promote the timely return of the Soldier to the force, or transition to the civilian life.

Eager to assist the WTU in any way he can, Travis is excited about his new command post and to be back at Fort Knox where his military career began.

"To have a position here where I first started out is unbelievable," said Travis. "I started out over in the Disney Barracks back in 1982, and to have a battalion command post here is absolutely awesome."

As for the progression of the WTU, Travis stated that he plans to follow many of the guidelines set forth by his predecessor.

"Lieutenant Col. Ward and Command Sgt. Maj. Thompson have built a very strong base in the four months they have had the unit," said Travis. "They've instituted some policies and practices which we're going to continue and, like any good Soldier, we're going to continue to refine our position."

Improvements Travis seeks to implement include refining the WTU's care system while maintaining its overall standards.

"A lot of what we do here is basic soldiering, but it's so basic it's sometimes easy to forget that it is basic," Travis



Photo by Col. Phil Miller/KVARG

Kentucky National Guard Lt. Col. Gary Travis accepts command of the Warrior Transition Unit Jan. 4. The WTU is an Active Duty unit that oversees the transition of Wounded Warriors receiving medical treatment at Fort Knox.

stated. "We stress accountability and discipline, and we have the understanding that most of these Soldiers have had a rough time overseas and decided to stick with it during their deployment and waited until they got home to seek medical treatment. They wanted to stay with the friends they were serving with and that speaks highly about the type of Soldiers we have here."

Feedback from WTU Soldiers has been positive,

as Travis reports many have seen great improvements from September until now.

The positive feedback is important because this WTU has one of the more personable and unique missions of all units within the Army.

“This is the only unit in the United States Army where the Soldier is the focus of the mission,” said Travis. “Our mission here is to heal Soldiers.”

Travis enlisted in the Kentucky National Guard in November 1981, and progressed to the rank of sergeant. He received his commission from the Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga., as an armor officer, in 1984.

He has served as an armor platoon leader, support platoon leader, company executive officer, and S-1 in the 2nd Battalion, 123rd Armor Regiment, 35th Infantry Division.

Travis commanded Alpha Company, of the 2nd Battalion, 123rd Armor Regiment between March 1995 and November 1996. In 1997, he transferred to the Wendell H. Ford Regional Training Center in Western Kentucky, where he served as operations officer and chief of operations.

Most recently he served as a narcotics detective with the Kentucky State Police Department.

Travis, who's married and the father of two, has deployed twice to Afghanistan as an embedded trainer in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and the Global War on Terror.

Travis is a highly decorated Soldier, earning numerous awards during his 27 years of service. He has earned the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal and the Combat Action Badge among others.

KMA prepares for 50th anniversary

Officials looking for missing class guidons

By David Altom
Assistant Editor

This summer marks the 50th Anniversary of the 238th Regiment (Combat Arms), originally known as the Kentucky Military Academy. Located at the Wendell H. Ford Regional Training Center in Muhlenberg County and run by Kentucky Army Guard personnel, the 238th Regiment is Kentucky's premier Army officer and non commissioned officer academy.

As part of the celebration, 238th Regiment Commandant Col. Judy Greene-Baker and her staff are assembling a display that will honor all 50 graduating classes.

“This is a very ambitious project,” said Greene-Baker.

“We are preparing framed guidons, rosters and class photos to honor each of our 50 graduating classes. These will all be displayed at Building 300, our main classroom building,” she said.

First Lt. Reginald Brown is the regiment training officer and one of the staffers working on the anniversary display. He sees the project as more than just historical significance.

“We do want to preserve the legacy of the academy, but we're also trying to bring about awareness. A lot of people don't know we're here and we want to bring attention to the school.”

More than 1,200 men and women have graduated from Kentucky's Officer Candidate School over the past 50 years.

In addition to their regular duties, Greene-Baker's staff is busy putting together the massive display. She said the academy is having trouble locating some of the guidons and class photos. For what they cannot find, Greene-Baker's staff is recreating some of the missing guidons. The missing photos



Photo by David Altom/KYARNG

are another story. First Lt. Reginald Brown, Maj. Chris Meyer and Col. Judy Greene-Baker discuss the art of recreating class guidons during a planning meeting to discuss the 50th Anniversary of the Kentucky Military Academy. The KMA is looking for guidons and class photos of the last 50 OCS classes.

are another story.

“We need as many class photos as we can find,” said Green-Baker. “It's the class photo on the capitol building steps we need, not the individual photos.”

“We are also creating a wall of past commandants, mostly general officers who graduated from the academy,” said Green-Baker. “If anyone has a photo to contribute, we'd appreciate that. We'd also like biographies.”

The unveiling will take place at 10 a.m. Central Time on June 14 at the regiment's new classroom building, which is still under construction. Following the unveiling, visitors will be directed to Building 300, the main classroom building, where they will get to see the entire display.

If you have information or photos that will help with this project, contact Command Historian, retired Sgt. 1st Class John Trowbridge at 502-607-6301 or e-mail him at john.m.trowbridge@us.army.mil. Western Kentucky Soldiers can contact 1st Lt. Brown at 502-607-7896 or you can e-mail him at reginald.l.brown@us.army.mil.

Harrodsburg Tankers honored in documentary

Premiere set for April 26, 2008

Staff Report

In 1941, The Kentucky National Guard's 192nd Tank Battalion, located in Harrodsburg, Ky., was called to active federal service to fight and defend Bataan, a province of the Philippines.

The Battle of Bataan is noted as one of the "decisive battles of the world," famous for being one of the last stands of American and Filipino Soldiers before being overwhelmed by the Japanese forces during World War II.

The Harrodsburg Tankers of Delta Company, 192nd Tank Battalion defended Bataan from December 1941 until April 9, 1942 when Maj. Gen. Edward P. King, Jr., Bataan garrison commander, surrendered to Maj. Gen. Kameichiro Nagano of the Japanese Army. Nagano degraded the Soldiers by marching them 65 miles in what is known as "The Death March."

Thirty-seven Soldiers survived "The Death March" only to be held as Prisoners of War for some three and a half years. There were 27 Kentucky Soldiers who gave their lives.

To mark the 66th Anniversary of the Battle of Bataan, Chief Warrant Officer James D. Pope, along with Command Historian John Trowbridge will premiere the award winning "Bataan, 'The Harrodsburg Tankers,' A time for courage ... A time for heroes" on April 26, 2008 at the Norton Center for the Arts, located on the campus of Centre College in Danville, Ky.

The public is invited to attend.



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