

January/February 2023

# Tarheel Guardian

Official Publication of the North Carolina National Guard Association



**Make Sure You Land  
at the  
61st Annual NCSGA Convention  
and Military Ball**

# TARHEEL GUARDSMAN

Official publication of the North Carolina National Guard Association

JAN/FEB 2023 Volume 57 Number 1

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for a  
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## Dual Military Family?

*If you are a Dual Military Family and are both insured through the SSLI program, contact Rhonda Mooring today!*

## NCNGA Insured Members — Has Your Child Aged Out of SSLI?

*If your child has recently turned 21 (25 if in college), please contact Rhonda Mooring at 919-851-3390 ext.1 or rhonda@ncnga.org and she will be glad to go over your policy and make any necessary changes.*

## Executive Council Meeting Dates:

February 23, 2023  
March 10-11, 2023, Convention

**Deadline for submitting articles for the March/April issue of the Tarheel Guardsman:**

**15 FEB 2023**

Address changes or questions?

Contact us at

919-851-3390

info@ncnga.org or www.ncnga.org

The *Tarheel Guardsman*, (ISSN 10618392) is published bi-monthly for the Army and Air National Guard of North Carolina, by the North Carolina National Guard Association, 7410 Chapel Hill Road, Raleigh, NC 27607-5047. Periodicals postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27676-9651. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: *Tarheel Guardsman*, 7410 Chapel Hill Road, Raleigh, NC 27607-5047.

The *Tarheel Guardsman* is the official publication of the North Carolina National Guard Association, a non-profit organization. The publication's mission is to promote the general welfare of the NCNGA, assist in increasing the readiness of the NC Army and Air National Guard of North Carolina and serve as a vehicle of expression for members of the National Guard.

Members receive the publication free with their membership. The annual subscription rate for non-members of the Association is \$15.00. Please include your old address when requesting change of address.

Deadline for submitted material to the *Tarheel Guardsman* is the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month, two months preceding the calendar date of issue. Manuscripts and photographs on subjects of general interest are invited. Unless otherwise indicated, material may be reprinted provided credit is given to the *Tarheel Guardsman* and the author where listed. Articles and photos will not be returned, unless requested. (USPS 533-640)

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## *We Remember...*



We remember the following members or the family members of the NC National Guard Association or NC National Guard Soldiers and Airmen that have passed away since our last magazine publication. Listed below are those members (and non-members), spouses, and dependent children that have recently passed away. If we have missed someone, please contact Rhonda Mooring at [rhonda@ncnga.org](mailto:rhonda@ncnga.org) or 919-851-3390 ext 1.

Wendell Savage, Army  
Whiteville, NC  
September 24, 2022

Marvin L. Matthews, Army  
Wilson, NC  
October 7, 2022

Vivian Chappell  
Spouse of  
Arthur Chappell, Army  
Clinton, NC  
November 4, 2022

Darlene F. Williams  
Spouse of  
Thomas A. Williams, Army  
Aulander, NC  
November 7, 2022

James E. Jones, Jr., Army  
Charlotte, NC  
November 18, 2022

Robert J. Weiss, Army  
Angier, NC  
November 19, 2022

Linda Strickland  
Spouse of  
George Strickland, Army  
Goldsboro, NC  
November 24, 2022

Gary L. Edmonds, Army  
Graham, NC  
November 28, 2022

Carlyle M. Bennerson, Army  
Henderson, NC  
November 30, 2022

Edward Stokes, Army  
Troutman, NC  
December 1, 2022

Thelbert "Dan" Boykin, Jr., Army  
Bailey, NC  
December 4, 2022

Fred W. Burt, Army  
Fuquay-Varina, NC  
December 4, 2022

Clark E. Young, Army  
Mocksville, NC  
December 6, 2022

Deborah Spake  
Spouse of  
Billy Spake, Army  
Hickory, NC  
December 9, 2022

Allen L. Willis, Army  
Marion, NC  
December 9, 2022

Stephan Bollinger, Army  
Valdese, NC  
December 14, 2022

Roger D. Oliver, Army  
Matthews, NC  
December 17, 2022

Earnest Schronce, Army  
Sherrills Ford, NC  
December 17, 2022

William F. McGee, Army  
Olivia, NC  
December 21, 2022

Garry D. Higgans, Army  
Morganton, NC  
December 27, 2022

Jimmy R. Exum, Sr., Army  
Goldsboro, NC  
December 28, 2022

James K. Dixon, Army  
Harkers Island, NC  
December 29, 2022



# North Carolina National Guard Association Selects New Executive Director



As the North Carolina National Guard Association faces the challenges and opportunities ahead, our new Executive Director, Christine Quante, brings her collaborative leadership style and commitment to accountability to the North Carolina National Guard, strategic partners, its community and proven record of program design to her new role and vision for moving the NCSGA forward.

The next chapter of the Association will be about building from our strengths, remaining reliable and relevant, and providing meaningful work on behalf of the North Carolina National Guard, its families and retirees. Christine’s priorities will include building on our mission to remember the past, secure the present and improve the future of the members and families of the North Carolina National Guard.

As a strong community leader, extremely talented relationship builder, and a successful fundraiser, Christine is a positive and inspiring leader that will raise awareness and create strategy to accomplish the goals that have been set with the Association. She has a proven track record of building, connecting, and advocating within her community.

Being an active board member of the Tarheel Minuteman Foundation, Christine has worked on the Education Scholarship Committee and the formulation of the recent Strategic Plan for the Association. Her extensive experience in membership relations, government, and public affairs has provided her the opportunity to advocate for the nonprofit community, advocate on behalf of the members, and take positions of support.

“Making a difference in the lives of others is a true motivator in my life and work”, says Christine.

Christine is married to Lionel Todd, Jr. who is a North Carolina National Guard veteran and they share four adult children.

Feel free to reach out to Christine at [christine@ncnga.org](mailto:christine@ncnga.org) or call (919) 851-3390.

# Reprinted from March/April 2020 Issue: How to Send Care Packages to Deployed Soldiers and Airmen

by NCNGA Staff

Putting together a care package for our soldiers is one thing that can bring families together despite the distance between them. For some of us, this is our first deployment and we're not sure what to send or where to start. For others, this is not our first rodeo but maybe this time you are looking for different ideas and tips of what to send. Care packages can be sent for many different reasons and some are packed for certain occasions such as thinking of you, birthdays, and other holidays.

The majority of our military enjoy receiving care packages because they contain reminders from home that bring a sense of familiarization and comfortability. Family members can enjoy putting these packages together as they gather all of their soldiers favorite items, needed items and are able to customize the inside of the box.

Handwritten letters can hit close to home with soldiers who miss their loved ones. Holding onto something "homemade" can mean so much to someone who is far away from home. Items such as footballs, other sports balls, card games and board games are a great way to send "fun in a box" for your soldier and his or her friends. Personalizing the inside of the care package is a fun way to celebrate upcoming holidays and special occasions. Whether you are a parent, spouse, friend or other there are thousands of ideas out there to help get you started.

There are different resources families can use throughout the state to help with care packages. The United States Postal Service offers a free "military care kit" with the necessary supplies such as, packing tape, boxes and forms, for sending packages overseas. By visiting the USPS website, you can order your kit and it will arrive at your door in 5-7 business days. Another organization that can help with sending packages is the Military Missions in Action.

## WHAT TO PUT IN THE PACKAGE

- Quick protein - protein bars, beef jerky, etc.
- Air fresheners
- Hand warmers
- Deck of cards - UNO and other card games will provide a variety of entertainment
- Crossword/Sudoku booklet
- Reading materials
- Candy

## TIPS TO REMEMBER

Seal everything - Make sure to seal food, liquids and other contents in zip lock bags. Gallon bags work best for bigger items. The trip for these products is long a bumpy, if a liquid were to spill sealing everything prevents other products from being ruined.

Pack it tight but don't overstuff - It's easy to get carried away when we want to send them all the love! Overstuffing the box may cause it to open while in transit and your soldier will not get the contents. Send two packages if you have many items to send.

Secure all seams - Make sure to tape down all edges so that the box does not open while in transit.

Personalizing - The easiest way to personalize the inside of the box is to tape down wrapping paper or construction paper depending on what you want to do. Let your mind run free here and be creative!

Think small - Individual items will travel best in the package. If you buy a box of protein bars it will clear some room to take them out of the box and put them in a zip lock bag or place them strategically around the box where they fit through the other items.

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Aerosol Can Products (may explode during transit)
- Alcohol
- Animals
- Carbonated Beverages
- Firearms and Ammunition
- Flammable Items
- Fruits or vegetables
- Live Plants
- Obscene or offensive material
- Pork Products
- Pornography
- Tobacco
- Be aware of any cultural prohibitions e.g. pork products,

# Senior Protect





Group Level Term Life Insurance to age 121

underwritten by 5Star Life Insurance Company




You know what it means to serve and protect. You also know what it means to have others depend on you. Protect your family's financial future with coverage you can count on.

Senior Protect coverage features

-  **24 hour coverage.** No war or terrorism exclusions. Coverage on and off duty with no hazardous, line of duty or occupational restrictions.
-  **Emergency death benefit.** Once you have coverage for two years, up to \$15,000 of the total death benefit is released as an Emergency Death Benefit (EDB).\* No emergency death benefit if Terminal Illness rider exercised.
-  **Terminal illness benefit.** Receive 50% of the death benefit in a lump sum amount in the event of a terminal illness with less than one year of life expectancy (24-months in Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, and Washington). The money can be spent entirely at your discretion – to pay medical bills, out of pocket expenses, or anything else. The remainder benefit amount is paid to the beneficiary upon death.
-  **Keep the coverage.** After you retire or separate, you can continue coverage for you and your spouse.

Non-insurance AFBA member benefit

-  **Family survivor college scholarship.** Benefit of \$10,000 per year per family, up to a total of \$40,000 towards an undergraduate college degree for the surviving spouse and children in case of death as a result of operations going to, coming from, or at the scene of an incident. (Not available in Virginia)

## About AFBA

The Armed Forces Benefit Association (AFBA) was established in 1947 to promote the general welfare and economic interests of military families during war and peace. At the time, service members could not purchase life insurance that would pay a benefit if the member was killed in a war zone. Today, we serve over 535,000 members in the armed forces, government employees and contractors, law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel.

Since 1947, we have paid over \$2 billion of survivor benefits to the families of our members. Survivor benefits are funded by life insurance underwritten by 5Star Life Insurance Company.

Learn more at: [www.afba.com](http://www.afba.com)

\* EDB is released within one business day once all requirements are met. It can be done over the phone without the need to provide a death certificate as long as third-party proof of death can be verified (subject to contestability).

Member death benefits provided by AFBA are underwritten by 5Star Life Insurance Company (a Lincoln, Nebraska company) with an administrative office at 909 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Member death benefits not available in all states and U.S. territories.

Group Policy: LT050197 (Rev), LTCERT2016  
SeniorProtectFlyerGR R0922

## Additional features

**Eligibility.** All current and former military, Federal employees and contractors, government groups, first responders, and spouses between the ages of 45-75 are eligible to apply with coverage continuing through age 121.

**Guaranteed level death benefit.** Your death benefit does not decrease with age. Whatever coverage amount you select, it remains the same until death. Choose the level of coverage that best suits your needs - between \$5,000 and \$30,000 in \$5,000 increments. Rates are based on your current age when you purchase coverage.

**Easy enrollment process.** With our simplified enrollment form, applying for coverage is easy. There is no medical exam. Just answer a few health questions and sign. Coverage amounts are dependent upon the answers to the Statement of Health (SOH) questions.

**Payment flexibility.** You have control and flexibility to pay your contributions through either credit card or checking account deduction. Frequency of payment may vary depending on payment method selected.

**Spouse coverage.** Secure the same great benefits for your spouse. With our simplified enrollment form, applying for coverage is easy with no medical exam, simply have your spouse answer the SOH questions and sign. Coverage amounts are dependent upon the answers to the SOH questions.

## Contributions

Rates are the same for men and women regardless of tobacco/nicotine use, and based on your current age when you purchase coverage. They remain level as long as you keep the coverage and contribution are paid.

### Monthly coverage rates

Age	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$30,000
45	\$8.68	\$13.02	\$17.37	\$21.72	\$26.06	\$30.41
46	\$8.97	\$13.62	\$18.26	\$22.90	\$27.54	\$32.18
47	\$9.28	\$14.22	\$19.17	\$24.12	\$29.06	\$34.01
48	\$9.60	\$14.86	\$20.12	\$25.38	\$30.65	\$35.91
49	\$9.93	\$15.53	\$21.13	\$26.73	\$32.33	\$37.93
50	\$10.30	\$16.27	\$22.25	\$28.22	\$34.19	\$40.16
51	\$10.72	\$17.12	\$23.51	\$29.90	\$36.29	\$42.68
52	\$11.21	\$18.08	\$24.96	\$31.83	\$38.71	\$45.58
53	\$11.75	\$19.17	\$26.60	\$34.02	\$41.44	\$48.86
54	\$12.36	\$20.39	\$28.42	\$36.45	\$44.48	\$52.51
55	\$13.02	\$21.70	\$30.38	\$39.07	\$47.75	\$56.43
56	\$13.71	\$23.08	\$32.46	\$41.83	\$51.21	\$60.58
57	\$14.42	\$24.52	\$34.61	\$44.70	\$54.79	\$64.88
58	\$15.16	\$25.98	\$36.81	\$47.63	\$58.46	\$69.28
59	\$15.92	\$27.50	\$39.08	\$50.67	\$62.25	\$73.83
60	\$16.71	\$29.08	\$41.46	\$53.83	\$66.21	\$78.58

Age	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$30,000
61	\$17.66	\$30.98	\$44.31	\$57.63	\$70.96	\$84.28
62	\$18.40	\$32.47	\$46.53	\$60.60	\$74.67	\$88.73
63	\$19.33	\$34.32	\$49.32	\$64.32	\$79.31	\$94.31
64	\$20.34	\$36.35	\$52.36	\$68.37	\$84.37	\$100.38
65	\$21.48	\$38.62	\$55.77	\$72.92	\$90.06	\$107.21
66	\$22.78	\$41.23	\$59.68	\$78.13	\$96.58	\$115.03
67	\$24.30	\$44.26	\$64.22	\$84.18	\$104.15	\$124.11
68	\$26.02	\$47.70	\$69.38	\$91.07	\$112.75	\$134.43
69	\$27.97	\$51.60	\$75.23	\$98.87	\$122.50	\$146.13
70	\$30.17	\$56.00	\$81.83	\$107.67	\$133.50	\$159.33
71	\$33.08	\$61.82	\$90.57	\$119.32	\$148.06	\$176.81
72	\$35.99	\$67.65	\$99.31	\$130.97	\$162.62	\$194.28
73	\$38.90	\$73.47	\$108.03	\$142.60	\$177.17	\$211.73
74	\$41.81	\$79.29	\$116.77	\$154.25	\$191.73	\$229.21
75	\$44.72	\$85.12	\$125.51	\$165.90	\$206.29	\$246.68

Your rate is based on your age when the coverage issues and as long as contributions are paid, coverage continues until age 121.

**This is a new insurance benefit for members of the NCNGA. If you would like more information or to enroll, please contact Rhonda at [rhonda@ncnga.org](mailto:rhonda@ncnga.org) or call (919) 851-3390 x 1.**

Death benefits provided by AFBA are underwritten by 5Star Life Insurance Company (a Lincoln, Nebraska company) with an administrative office at 909 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Death benefits are not available in all states and U.S. Territories.

Group Policy: LTO50197(Rev), LICERT2016  
SeniorProtectFlyerGR RD922

9/22





TARHEEL MINUTEMAN  
FOUNDATION

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SCHOLARSHIP  
FUND

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GOLF TOURNAMENT

APRIL 24, 2023

Lakes Course at  
Carolina Trace Country Club  
2100 Country Club Dr. Sanford, NC 27332

Register to play and/or sponsor at [ncnga.org/upcoming-events/](https://ncnga.org/upcoming-events/)



# CORPORATE AND PERSONAL SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Platinum Event Sponsor (\$5,000)

Premier Golf Ball Event Sponsor (\$2,500)

Gold Breakfast Event Sponsor (\$1,500)

Gold Lunch Sponsor (\$1,500)

Golf Cart Sponsor (\$1,000)

Hole-In-One Sponsor (\$750)

Golf Towel Sponsor (\$750)

Beverage Cart Sponsor (\$500)

Putting Green Sponsor (\$500)

Par 3 Contest Sponsor (\$500)

Hole Event Sponsor (\$250) x18

American Flag Sponsor (\$50)

Fly an American Flag in honor of family members, friends, Veterans, a business, or someone serving. Flags will be flown proudly at the golf tournament and those being honored will be listed prominently for all to see

# NCNGA Convention and NCNG Military Ball Registration

## 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention

Twin City Quarter, Winston-Salem, NC  
10-11 March 2023

Registrant's Name _____	NCNGA Member <input type="checkbox"/>	First Convention <input type="checkbox"/>
Guest Name _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional Guests _____		
Registrant's Email _____		
Do you have dietary restrictions? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <i>If you checked yes, we will reach out to you.</i>		

**\*\* No Refunds after 1 March 2022 \*\***

E1-E4 Registration	_____ @ \$49 per person = \$ _____
E5-E7, CW1-CW2 Registration	_____ @ \$59 per person = \$ _____
E8, CW3, 2LT-CPT Registration	_____ @ \$69 per person = \$ _____
E9, CW4, MAJ-LTC Registration	_____ @ \$79 per person = \$ _____
CW5, COL, GOs Registration	_____ @ \$89 per person = \$ _____
Business Session only	_____ @ \$0 per person = \$ _____
Credit/Debit Card Fee	No Credit Card Fees
Total	= \$ _____

Method of Payment: \_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed (payable to NCNGA)

If paying with credit card, complete full registration and payment online @ <https://www.ncnga.org/events.php>

Complete & return to:

NCNGA, 7410 Chapel Hill Rd. Raleigh, NC 27607 *or* scan to [erin@ncnga.org](mailto:erin@ncnga.org)  
**Questions please call 919-851-3390**

**Winston-Salem Marriott, 425 North Cherry Street  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101**

For Hotel Reservations: Rooms Rates From \$119 per night **plus** taxes. Guests can call directly by dialing (336)-725-3500. Or you can book online using the link <https://ncnga.org/upcoming-events/>



# If You Want It, Go Get It: A Glimpse in the Life of North Carolina Air National Guard's First Female Raven

*by Staff Sgt. Laura Montgomery, 145th Airlift Wing, Public Affairs NCNG*



*U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Lyndanesha Martin, 145th Security Forces Squadron, proudly displays her Phoenix Raven accoutrements at the North Carolina Air National Guard base, Charlotte-Douglas International Airport*

Since its inception in 2007, the Phoenix Raven program, via Air Mobility Command headquarters, has graduated more than 3,000 trained individuals, including most recently, Staff Sgt. Lyndanesha Martin, 145th Security Forces Squadron.

"Being a Raven in the Air National Guard is like having a special duty, you are always in Security Forces but you can get picked up for jobs if they need you," explained Staff Sgt. Martin. "You have to stay conditioned and continue performance evaluations for it."

The Phoenix Raven program is a four-week training in which a selected few individuals from Security Forces are chosen to provide security for Air Mobility Command aircraft flying through and landing in high threat areas. The first step to becoming a Phoenix Raven starts at home base by expressing interest in the program, then by completing an indoctrination course that prepares the individual for what to expect at the four-week program.

"The first week we worked on ASP (Armament Systems and Procedures)/ baton training, the next week we worked on combative initiatives and throwing people around, the third week was weapons takeaway, which I enjoyed, and we fought each other that week," explained Staff Sgt.

Martin. "Everyone thought I did well in the small circle fight against a man that was much taller than me. I took him to the ground, which he did not expect. It was hard because he was heavy but I did it. Week four was classroom and field training exercises plus tests and running six miles."

With long training days and a packed syllabus, becoming a Raven is not for the faint of heart.

"We started with 36 and dropped to 34," expressed Staff Sgt. Martin. "Raven is a whole different mindset; you have to be mentally ready for that school, it's not just physical. You have to hold in your emotions while working 14-hour days and missing family."

Staff Sgt. Martin had a unique motivator to boost her confidence through the Phoenix Raven program.

"I had a time when I wanted to quit and I didn't want to do it anymore, but then Master Sgt. Mark Dow, my supervisor at the time, was talking to me while we were running and through his guidance and joining Cross-Fit, I felt more confident," explained Staff Sgt. Martin. "It was funny because I felt like I wasn't progressing physically so I joined Cross-fit and I love it now. I was telling the gym owner the other day that I joined Cross-Fit to become a Raven and I just went through the school and since I'd been going for so long before attending the training that I forgot that's why I joined and it helped me so much!"

Now that Staff Sgt. Martin is officially a Raven, she may be called up to complete her duties.

"I don't know what's next," says Staff Sgt. Martin. "I think it will be an easy juggle with my civilian life and military life because I don't have to go on every mission. There are so many options! I hope to go on a stage which is when you go somewhere that flies out a lot--they're out of places like Germany."

While she may be the first, she is likely not the last female Raven to cross into the North Carolina Air National Guard.

"We have another one [female] that might be trying to go into the Phoenix Raven Program soon," said Staff Sgt. Martin. "I think if there's something out there that you want, then go get it!"



# NABC Recycled Rides Program Gifts North Carolina Guard Soldiers Cars at USAA's 100th Anniversary Event

by Altasia Johnson, NCNGA Staff Writer

To celebrate 100 years of service, USAA, in partnership with the National Auto Body Council's Recycled Rides program, gifted cars to three Soldiers from the North Carolina National Guard.

Specialist Matthew Gibson, Specialist Miresa Jote and Specialist Ethan Moore were gifted the cars at USAA's celebration event in Charlotte, North Carolina on Sept. 15, 2022.

The Soldiers were nominated by their chain-of-command after experiencing unique hardships that left them without reliable transportation.

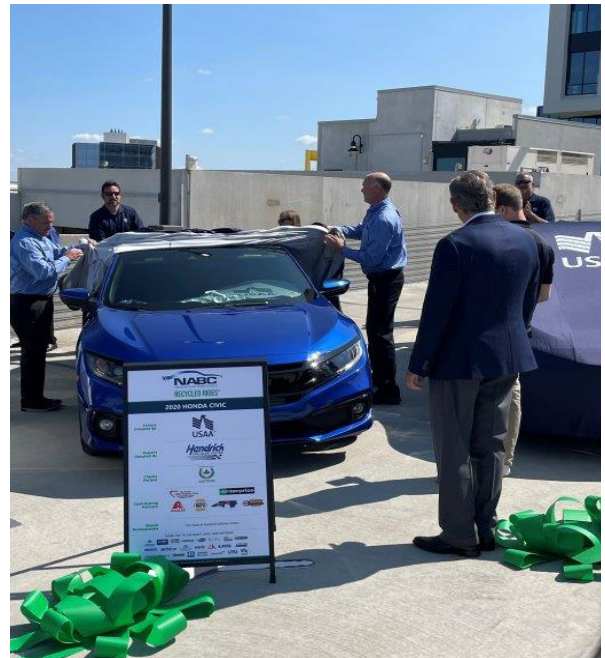
"It's great to be able to help people. We like to say we're giving a hand up not a hand out," said Dale Ross, National Auto Body Council's Recycled Rides program manager.

Established in 2007, the National Auto Body Council is an association of members of the collision repair industry (insurance, car rental and collision repair).

Each vehicle is donated by either the insurance or rental companies, then the collision repair company repairs the vehicle to pre-accident condition.

The Recycled Rides program works with local charities to give the vehicles to those in need, with 75% of them going to veterans or service members.

"We represent all these great people in our industry...we just pull them together. It's the great people in the collision repair industry that donate the vehicle and donate their time to



fix it and donate parts and materials," Ross said. "And that's the real story...they're just generous people that are so happy to help out and to know that they're helping someone that really deserves it."

Specialist Ethan Moore, of the 210th Military Police Company, was grateful to receive the new car after his truck broke down.

"I'm extremely happy...I've been looking for a car for a while. It's the exact car I've been looking for too," said Moore.

Specialist Matthew Gibson, of the 105th Military Police Battalion, was thankful to receive the new car after his car was totaled in a collision a year ago. He also shared some advice to other service members in need.

"Don't be afraid to reach out and talk to the peers around you. Because nobody is going to turn you down or shun you away if you actually need help," said Gibson.

The Recycled Rides program has gifted more than 3,000 vehicles, valued at \$42 million to local communities across the country. This year, 300 vehicles will be donated.

USAA plans to give 100 cars away by the end of 2022 to veterans and service members across the country to commemorate their 100-year anniversary.

# New Commander for Wilmington Based NC Guard Infantry Battalion

by Sgt. Joe Roudabush, North Carolina National Guard



U.S. Army Maj. Andrew DeLaney assumed command of the North Carolina Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 120th Infantry Regiment, 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team during a change of command ceremony at the Carolina Beach Road Armory in Wilmington, North Carolina, Dec. 2, 2022.

DeLaney assumed command from U.S. Army Lt. Col. Benjamin R. Wynn who led the battalion through various training, missions, and deployments.

The battalion welcomed DeLaney as families, friends, and Soldiers witnessed the change of command.

Both leaders, DeLaney and Wynn, with U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Jason Stewart, the regiment's most senior enlisted Soldier, and U.S. Army Col. Charles Morrison, the commander of the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team formalized the change of command with the ceremonial passing of the colors, a flag that is the symbol of the regiment.

With the passing of the colors from Wynn to DeLaney and a final salute to end the ceremony, DeLaney took command.

"My time with you is over but I know that each of you will write a new chapter in the history of our battalion and regiment. How that chapter will read, however, is up to each

of you... How you care for your weapons and equipment will write volumes in our new history," said Wynn.

"Major DeLaney, good luck, I know you will do well," said Wynn. "Strength and Honor, Remember Mortain."

During his speech, DeLaney honored Wynn for his two years of service commanding the more than 600 Soldiers of the battalion.

"Thank you [Wynn] for building a world-class culture in the Tusk Hog Battalion. You have always been a great mentor and a better friend. I pray that I can take the torch and make you proud of where the infantry battalion can go," said DeLaney.

DeLaney officially assumed command on Nov. 30, 2022.

The battalion has several subordinate units located throughout southeastern North Carolina with its headquarters in Wilmington.

They have a long history of service to our state and nation including deployments for World War I, World War II, the Global War on Terror, and numerous state active duty deployments.

They are nicknamed the "Tusk Hogs" and their regimental motto is "Virtue Kindles Strength."



# NCNG Engineers prepare for Deployment to Africa

*by Sgt. 1st Class Mary Junell, 130th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade*

North Carolina National Guard Soldiers with the 258th Engineer Utilities Det., 505th Engineer Battalion, 130th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade received their official send-off during a deployment ceremony at the Soldier Memorial Sports Arena in Butner, North Carolina, Nov. 19, 2022.

The 258th is set to deploy to Africa in support of Operation Enduring Freedom-Horn of Africa at the beginning of 2023.

Lt. Col. Robert Felicio, the 505th Battalion Commander, said that the ceremony was a celebration of the 258th answering the nation's call, which he also said was no small task.

"I can tell you that this team is ready," Felicio said. "I can tell you that countless hours, days, weeks, and months have been poured into planning, rehearsing, executing, and refining everything that needs to be done to ensure our Soldiers go do their mission and return home."

During the deployment, the Soldiers will be conducting construction operations in support of U.S. operations in Africa.

These types of missions are some of the few opportunities for Soldiers to leave something tangible to support the communities where they deploy.

Spc. Jacob Sain, a plumber deploying with the unit, said he thinks it will be a good experience and is looking forward to serving his country.

"When we start a building project there's nothing there, and by the end, there's something to show for your time," Sain said. "We're leaving it there forever and they will put it to good use. It's something we can feel good about."

The 258th will be supporting Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa which conducts operations to enhance partner nation capacity, promote regional stability, dissuade conflict, and protect U.S. and coalition interests.





# NCNGA Communications and Administrative Internship

The Headquarters office of the NCNGA has an open intern position available this semester. This is a paid internship with flexible hours and is designed to be in-person. We are looking for someone to: support publication of bi-monthly magazine, work to increase social media presence and web traffic, complete special projects as assigned, assist in preparation of membership reports, manage and update database of members, and assist in mailing operations.

To apply please submit resume and a short response (250 words or less) to the following question: What do you hope to gain from this experience and what skills would you bring to this position? email [info@ncnga.org](mailto:info@ncnga.org) with the subject line “Internship Opportunity.”

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## Are you interested in joining an NCNGA committee?

Several committees have mandatory requirements for committee membership and all committees require that you attend a majority of all duly called meetings in order to remain an active member of that committee.

Budget restrictions dictate limiting the number of members on each committee; therefore, we are unable to place every member that wants to serve on a committee. However, every effort will be made to accommodate your request.

The majority of called meetings are held at the NCNGA Headquarters in Raleigh and by Microsoft Teams. These meetings last one to two hours, depending upon the amount of work to be done and usually meet 2-4 times a year. Members are reimbursed for meals and mileage from their HOR to the meeting site and return.

A full list of committees and responsibilities are available on our website.

Applications for appointment to a standing committee are available on our website, [ncnga.org](http://ncnga.org), and can be mailed to NCNGA Headquarters or scanned and emailed to [info@ncnga.org](mailto:info@ncnga.org).

If you have a retiree event you would like to advertise in the Tarheel Guardsman email [info@ncnga.org](mailto:info@ncnga.org)

### Do you get the magazine but not our weekly email?

We may not have your current email on file. You can email us at [info@ncnga.org](mailto:info@ncnga.org) with your current email to be included in the Weekly Guardsmen’s Thursday Update.



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Save the Date:

61st Annual NCNGA  
Convention and  
NCNG Combined Ball

Twin City Quarter  
**Winston Salem, NC**

Convention: March 10-11, 2023

Combined Ball: March 11, 2023