

Veterans honored at Va. War Memorial ceremony

The Virginia War Memorial Veterans Day Ceremony honored those who have served and are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces Nov. 10, 2023, at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond, Virginia. Maj. Gen. James W. Ring, the Adjutant General of Virginia, delivered remarks during the ceremony. Sgt. 1st Class Tramel C. Hines, a Virginia National Guard Soldier assigned to Joint Force Headquarters, led the pledge of allegiance.

The Troutville-based 29th Infantry Division Band provided ceremonial music for the event. In addition, members of the Virginia Defense Force volunteered their time to provide access control assistance.

“As we stand amongst the hallowed spaces of this Virginia War Memorial, may we remember that the freedoms we enjoy here today are assured through the selfless service and sacrifice of veterans,” Ring said. “Today as we gather to commemorate Veterans Day we stand in profound gratitude and respect for the men and women who selflessly served our commonwealth and nation. So thank you to all of the veterans gathered here today and we thank you for your unwavering sacrifice and service.”



Sgt. 1st Class Tramel C. Hines leads the pledge of allegiance at the Virginia War Memorial Veterans Day Ceremony Nov. 10, 2023, at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond, Virginia.

Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27618>

Virginia National Guard News Headlines

HART practices mountain, cliff rescue at Crabtree Falls
 Above a forest aglow with fall's foliage, the blades of Virginia National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters sliced through the air. Below, first responders looked skyward as rescuers, simulated victims and an emergency litter were hoisted as part of a training event focused on cliff and mountain rescue.
 Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27619>

Martin to succeed Gallagher as Assistant Adjutant General - Army
 Col. Charles B. Martin Jr. will succeed Brig. Gen. K. Weedon Gallagher as the Virginia National Guard's Assistant Adjutant General - Army according to an announcement made Nov. 6, 2023.
 Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27620>

13th ANG Command Chief visits the VaANG
 The Air National Guard's 13th Command Chief Master Sgt. Maurice Williams visited the Virginia Air National Guard's 192nd Wing and its enlisted force Oct. 14, 2023, at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia.
 Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27622>

Alder selected as deputy to Fort Barfoot's garrison commander
 Virginia Department of Military Affairs employee Mike Alder began a new role as deputy to the garrison commander of Fort Barfoot Nov. 10, 2023. He previously served as the deputy director of the installation's Directorate of Public Works.
 Watch the video at <https://ngpa.us/27621>

Join the Virginia Army National Guard, Virginia Air National Guard or the Virginia Defense Force

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Va. Army National Guard
<http://nationalguard.com/va>

Va. Air National Guard
<https://ngpa.us/26613>

Va. Defense Force
<http://vdf.virginia.gov/joinvdf/>

Earn \$1,000 with the VNG Referral Enlistment Program
<https://ngpa.us/26606>

VNG supports firefighting in Madison County, Patrick County

The Virginia National Guard deployed ground crews to support containment efforts at the Quaker Run Fire in Madison County, Virginia, Nov. 15, 2023, after demobilizing the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters providing aerial fire suppression support to the Virginia Department of Forestry Nov. 11, 2023.

Approximately 30 VNG Soldiers and Airmen conducted wildland firefighter training with the DOF Nov. 12-14 at Fort Barfoot. They received their personal protective equipment, and the training stressed safety and also focused on basic tools, familiarization with bulldozers and engines, fireline construction and proper fire shelter use.

With their training complete, the troops deployed to Madison County to assist the DOF with mop-up operations where they patrolled previously burned areas looking for hotspots and used blowers to clear newly-fallen leaves to help prevent reburn and maintain fire containment. VNG support helps with the overall containment effort of the Quaker Run Fire and allows DOF to reposition resources to other fires in the state.

“The Soldiers and Airmen coming together to train for a possible ground support mission are from Virginia Army and Air National Guard units across Virginia, to include our 12M Army fire fighters assigned to the Fort Barfoot Fire Department,” said Brig. Gen. Todd H. Hubbard, the VNG Director of the Joint Staff. “I am sure they are going to be a welcome sight to the crews who have been fighting wildfires for weeks, and we expect them to provide additional capabilities to help speed up the effort to finish getting the fires under control. It really is an honor to work with such dedicated professionals towards a common goal.”

After Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin declared a state of emergency Nov. 6, 2023, aviation crews deployed to Madison County with two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters equipped with 660-gallon water buckets and remained through Nov. 9. Two helicopters flew missions in Patrick County Nov. 11. In Patrick



A Virginia National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter equipped with 660-gallon water buckets provide aerial fire suppression support Nov. 11, 2023, in Patrick County, Virginia.

County, aviation crews made a total of 21 drops of nearly 13,900 gallons of water. In Madison County, they made 33 drops of nearly 22,800 gallons of water.

“Our helicopter crews mobilized and deployed in record time to provide additional resources to help the Virginia Department of Forestry in the fight against multiple large wildfires,” said Hubbard. “Our partner agencies depend on the VNG to rapidly respond with requested capabilities when needed, and we are really proud of how quickly and safely our Soldiers responded.”

Additional Soldiers and Airmen, members of the Virginia Defense Force and Virginia Department of Military Affairs employees are providing operations center, administrative, logistical and public information support.

Read more at <https://ngpa.us/27615>



Virginia National Guard Soldiers and Airmen assist the Virginia Department of Forestry with mop-up operations Nov. 15, 2023, at the Quaker Run Fire in Madison County, Virginia.

MORE ON THE WEB

VaANG leaders visit Det. 1, 192nd Medical Group FTX

Photos on Flickr at <https://ngpa.us/27494>

192nd Wing leaders visit 200th Weather Flight exercise

Photos on Flickr at <https://ngpa.us/27520>

203rd RHS trains on expeditionary skills during FTX

Photos on Flickr at <https://ngpa.us/27521>

VNG rappel masters train cadets on rappelling at ODU

Photos on Flickr at <https://ngpa.us/27624>

VDF supports VNG firefighting mission

Photos on Flickr at <https://ngpa.us/27566>



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