



2021 Year In Review



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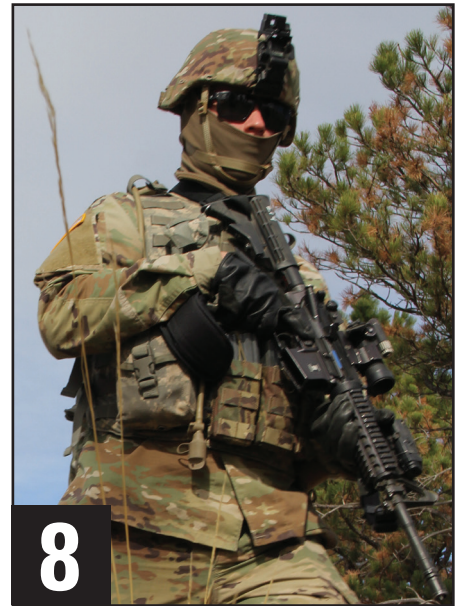
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A Message from The Adjutant General

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

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Jared Polis
Governor

Brigadier General
Laura Clellan
The Adjutant General

Since 2020, National Guard activations have been unprecedented; as a Nation we have seen the largest domestic response in support of our state and federal partners in history.

In the Colorado National Guard, we've been busier than ever before in our more than 160-year history—from support to the state's COVID-19 response to providing security in the aftermath of the most destructive wildfires in Colorado to supporting the Presidential Inauguration to overseas deployments of infantry, space, military police, field artillery, and F-16 operators, maintainers and support personnel.

Our state employees also attained many notable achievements including the reorganization of our Colorado Division of Veterans Affairs, improving the customer experience of veterans and their families during COVID.

Volunteers and cadets from our Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol broke flight-hour records delivering Personal Protective Equipment to frontline health care workers across our state.

I am truly grateful for our Citizen Soldiers and Airmen, civilians, volunteers, cadets, and our families for choosing to serve our communities, state and nation during such challenging times.

This Year in Review is dedicated to them in recognition of their hard work and commitment to our Department priorities of taking care of our people, strengthening readiness and partnerships, and modernizing our workforce, equipment, facilities and processes.

These are our people's stories!

Always Ready. Always There. Holding the High Ground!

Respectfully,

Brigadier General Laura Clellan
The Adjutant General of Colorado



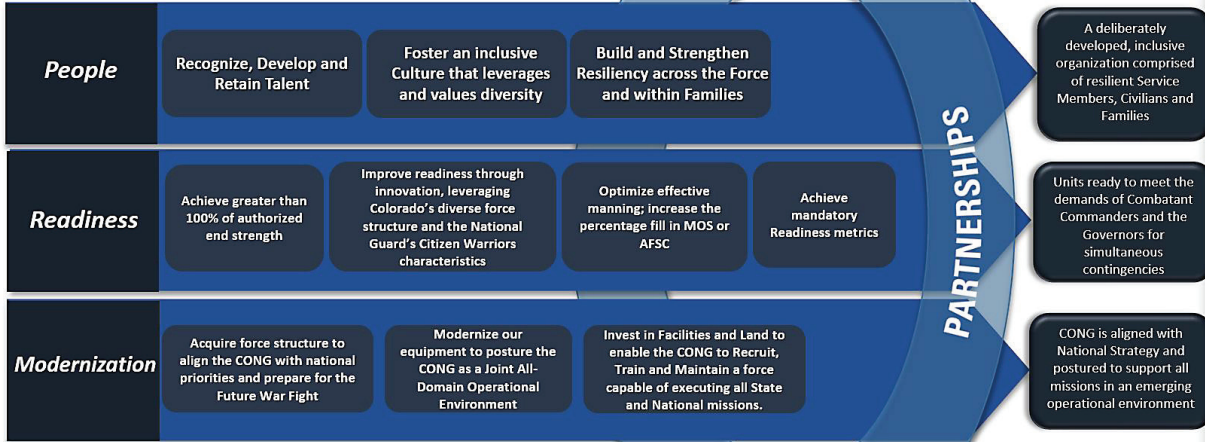
Colorado National Guard Strategic Guidance



CONG Strategic Guidance 2030

Always Ready, Always There

Mission: Ensure war fight and civil support readiness, care for our veterans, and build partnerships that further the objectives of our State and Nation



VISION

We are an inclusive organization that earns and maintains the trust and confidence in those we serve at the local, state and federal levels; we are recognized for excellence in service to our Service Members and Families; and we are the state of choice for future force structure gains, equipment modernization, and infrastructure investment.

A deliberately developed, inclusive organization comprised of resilient Service Members, Civilians and Families

Units ready to meet the demands of Combatant Commanders and the Governors for simultaneous contingencies

CONG is aligned with National Strategy and postured to support all missions in an emerging operational environment



UNCLASSIFIED

Use the QR codes to download the CONG's Strategic Guidance Plan (left) and the DMVA Strategic Communications Plan (below).

DMVA Strategic Communications Plan

The Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has built Strategic Communications guidelines that help us achieve our DMVA vision.

The plan conveys The Adjutant General's priorities: People, Readiness; and, Modernization.

Scan this QR code to learn more about the plan.



Honor our Fallen Heroes



Colorado National Guard to honor fallen warrior with helicopter flyover of Fort Collins

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The Colorado Army National Guard conducted a 3-ship CH-47 Chinook and UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter flyover of Fort Collins, Colorado, Aug. 6, 2021, in remembrance of U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 5 David R. Carter, a Colorado Guardsman killed in action Aug. 6, 2011 in Afghanistan.

> **Read the story** (*right-click, copy & paste link*)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2722264/colorado-national-guard-to-honor-fallen-warrior-with-helicopter-flyover-of-fort/>



Colorado National Guard salutes 9/11 heroes with F-16 flyover of Denver

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs



Warriors of the 140th Wing, Colorado Air National Guard flew F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft over downtown Denver, Colorado, Sept. 1, 2021, at around 7:00 p.m., in support of the Colorado Remembers 9/11 20th anniversary commemoration at Empower Field at Mile High.

> **Read the story** (*right-click, copy & paste link*)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2761593/colorado-national-guard-salutes-911-heroes-with-f-16-flyover-of-denver/>





Colorado National Guard members to provide support to 59th Presidential Inauguration

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs



By order of Gov. Jared Polis, at least 230 members of the Colorado Army and Air National Guard supported a request from the District of Columbia and federal civilian authorities for National Guard support to the 59th Presidential Inauguration Jan. 20, 2021.

> **Read the story** (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2474349/colorado-national-guard-members-to-provide-support-to-59th-presidential-inaugur/>



Governor Polis activates Colorado National Guard for winter storm

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

Colorado Gov. Jared Polis activated the Colorado National Guard to support potential rescue efforts by state and local jurisdictions in Colorado during the winter storm. About 50 CONG Soldiers and Airmen are responding from multiple units along the Front Range.

> **Read the story** (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2535996/governor-polis-activates-colorado-national-guard-for-winter-storm/>

Colorado National Guard supports traffic management during state's mudslide response

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs



Under executive authority, approximately twenty members of the Colorado National Guard supported traffic management during the state's mudslide response along Interstate 70 near Glenwood Canyon and Cottonwood Pass. Gov. Jared Polis declared a state of emergency which authorized the use of unarmed CONG assets for law enforcement purposes supporting statewide burn scar flooding, mudslides, rockslides, and direct consequences of these events.

> **Read the story** (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2724130/colorado-national-guard-supports-traffic-management-during-states-mudslide-resp/>



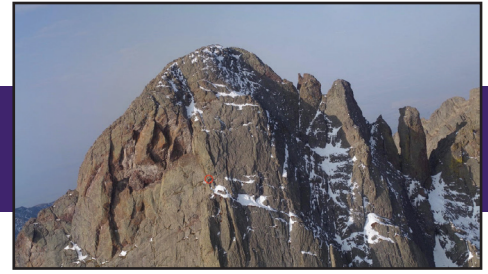
Colorado Army National Guard Aviation and partner receive award for daring alpine rescue

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

A crew from the Colorado Hoist Rescue Team, which included a Colorado Army National Guard aircrew and members of the Alpine Rescue Team, received the DUSTOFF Association's Rescue of the Year award Aug. 28, 2021, in Columbus, Georgia.

> [Read the entire article!](#) (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2753536/colorado-army-national-guard-aviation-and-partner-receive-award-for-daring-alpi/>



DOD Extends 'Firefly,' Related 'FireGuard' Support to Extinguish Wildfires

By C. Todd Lopez, DOD News

Since the launch of a 2019 pilot program, the National Guard's "FireGuard" program, in conjunction with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's "Firefly" capability, has provided actionable information to help fight wildfires on the United States west coast.

> [Read the story](#) (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/2768197/dod-extends-firefly-related-fireguard-support-to-extinguish-wildfires/>

Colorado National Guard provides continued support to state COVID-19 response

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

By order of Gov. Jared Polis, members of the Colorado National Guard provided continued support to the state of Colorado's COVID-19 response efforts.

> [Read the story](#) (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2869542/colorado-national-guard-provides-continued-support-to-state-covid-19-response/>



Colorado National Guard to assist with Marshall Fire, COVID testing

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

Under executive authority, approximately 56 members of the Colorado National Guard supported traffic management during the Marshall Fire response in Boulder County, Colorado. Gov. Jared Polis declared a state of emergency which authorized the use of unarmed CONG assets for law enforcement purposes supporting direct consequences of this event.

> [Read the story](#) (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2886452/colorado-national-guard-to-assist-with-marshall-fire-covid-testing/>





Colorado National Guard Army Space Support Team deploys

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

Six Colorado Army National Guard Soldiers from Army Space Support Team 16, 117th Space Support Battalion, deploying to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility were honored at a departure ceremony at 3:00 p.m. Jan. 21, 2022, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The team of six Soldiers will replace ARSST 22, also of 117th, to continue to carry on their mission to maximize space-based capabilities of U.S. and Allied operations in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

> [Read the story](#) (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2908188/colorado-national-guard-army-space-support-team-deploys/>



First Colorado National Guard's Infantry Company since World War II deploys to Middle East

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The Colorado National Guard will host a private departure ceremony for approximately 70 Colorado Army National Guard warriors from Company A "Attack" 1st Battalion 157th Infantry Regiment (MTN) at the North Colorado Springs Readiness Center, Colo. Springs, CO, Friday, Jan. 29, 2021.

> [Read the story](#) (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2485952/first-colorado-national-guard-infantry-company-since-world-war-ii-deploys-to-m/>





Colorado National Guard's Aerial Medical Evacuation unit deploys to Middle East

By C. Todd Lopez, DOD News

The Colorado National Guard hosted a departure ceremony for approximately 60 Colorado Army National Guard members from 1st Battalion 168th Aviation Regiment, Feb. 9, 2021, at 9:45 a.m. at Southeast Christian Church, Parker, Colorado. The deploying Soldiers including aviators, maintainers and logisticians will provide aerial medical evacuation capabilities to coalition forces throughout the U.S. Central Command area of operations in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Spartan Shield.

> [Read the story \(right-click, copy & paste link\)](#)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2497033/colorado-national-guards-aerial-medical-evacuation-unit-deploys-to-middle-east/>



Colorado National Guard infantry company deploys in support of U.S. Africa Command

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The Colorado National Guard hosted a departure ceremony for approximately 130 Colorado Army National Guard Soldiers from Company B "Battle" 1st Battalion 157th Infantry Regiment (Mountain) March 6, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at Southeast Christian Church, 9650 Jordan Rd. Parker, CO 80134. Battle Company will deploy for approximately one year to the Horn of Africa, in support of Task Force Iron Gray.

> [Read the story \(right-click, copy & paste link\)](#)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2527281/colorado-national-guard-infantry-company-deploys-in-support-of-us-africa-command/>



Colorado National Guard deploys three units to Europe to support NATO, U.S. Army Europe

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

Lt. Gov. Dianne Primavera and Colorado National Guard senior leaders bid farewell to about 70 Colorado Army National Guard Soldiers from three deploying units, May 1, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., at Southeast Christian Church, 9650 Jordan Road, Parker CO 80134. "Governor Polis and I are immensely proud of our National Guard members. They have played a key role in our COVID-19 response and will now support vital national security missions abroad." Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera said.

> [Read the story \(right-click, copy & paste link\)](#)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2592070/colorado-national-guard-deploys-three-units-to-europe-to-support-nato-us-army-e/>





Colorado National Guard military police unit returns from deployment to Middle East

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The Adjutant General of Colorado U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Laura Clellan and other Colorado National Guard senior leaders welcomed home about 30 members of the Colorado Army National Guard's 220th Military Police Company Forward during a ceremony outside of the Denver Armory, May 2, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. Family and friends will greet the Soldiers returning from a deployment to the Middle East during which the unit supported U.S. Central Command operations.

> [Read the story \(right-click, copy & paste link\)](#)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2587908/colorado-national-guard-military-police-unit-returns-from-deployment-to-middle/>



Colorado Air National Guard Space team returns from inaugural deployment

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

Members of the 138th Space Control Squadron, Colorado Air National Guard return home on July 30, 2021, following a 6-month deployment to Southwest Asia. The 138th is one of the only deployable Space units in the U.S. Air and Space Forces and is equipped to support combat space control operations by provide combatant commanders with advanced electronic space effects and dynamic space control support.

> [Read the story \(right-click, copy & paste link\)](#)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2714565/colorado-air-national-guard-space-team-returns-from-inaugural-deployment/>



Colorado National Guard deploys 300 Soldiers from field artillery battalion

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The Colorado National Guard said farewell to approximately 300 deploying Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 157th Field Artillery Regiment Dec. 6, 2021. The unit will support U.S. Central Command as part of Operation Spartan Shield. Their mission is essential in demonstrating the United States' commitment to the security and stability of our partners in the Middle East and Central Asia.

> [Read the story \(right-click, copy & paste link\)](#)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2871545/colorado-national-guard-deploys-300-soldiers-from-field-artillery-battalion/>





Colorado Guard aviation and partners train over Denver metro area for wildland fire season



By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The Colorado Army National Guard's 2nd Brigade, 135th General Support Aviation Battalion, based at Buckley Air Force Base, Aurora, Colorado, is hosting an annual wildland fire training conference in partnership with local, state and federal partners to prepare for wildfire season.

> [Read the story](#) (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2568016/colorado-national-guard-aviation-and-partners-train-over-denver-metro-area-for/>



Colorado hosts Region VII Best Warrior competition

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

Sixteen elite Noncommissioned officers and Soldiers from eight states and territories participate in the Army National Guard's Region VII Best Warrior Competition at Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colorado, May 17-20, 2021. This regional event includes the best NCO and Soldier from Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.

> [Read the story](#) (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2618592/colorado-hosts-region-vii-best-warrior-competition/>

Colorado National Guard joins ADRIATIC STRIKE '21 in Slovenia

By 140th Wing Public Affairs



The Colorado Air National Guard's 140th Medical Group has arrived in Slovenia to participate in operation ADRIATIC STRIKE 21. The exercise focuses on processing patients in a field environment while allowing 140th medical experts to train alongside our NATO allies.

ADRIATIC STRIKE 21 strengthens relationships among the U.S. European Command and NATO partners and allies, improving readiness.

> [Read the story](#) (right-click, copy & paste link)

<https://www.nationalguard.mil/News/Overseas-operations/Article/2624628/colorado-national-guard-joins-adriatic-strike-21-in-slovenia/>



Colorado National Guard cyber teams participate in national cyber defense exercise

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs



A team of experts from the Colorado National Guard Defensive Cyber Operations Element and Cyber Protection Team have been participating in Cyber Shield, the Department of Defense's largest national unclassified cyber defense exercise July 10-23, 2021. Exercises like Cyber Shield enhance readiness and strengthen relationships in the community in a cutting-edge training environment.

> **Read the story** (*right-click, copy & paste link*)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2706160/colorado-national-guard-cyber-teams-participate-in-national-cyber-defense-exerc/>



Building greatness: Colorado Army Guard marksmanship program among best in world

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

In less than five years, the Colorado Army National Guard's marksmanship program has gone from practically non-existent to one of the best in the world. In 2014, Colorado commanders sought a way to improve marksmanship and pushed to emulate other successful programs around the country.

> **Read the story** (*right-click, copy & paste link*)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2708935/building-greatness-colorado-army-national-guard-marksmanship-program-among-best/>

Quiet professionals: Soldiers graduate, become Army Warrant Officers

By U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Aleah M. Castrejon



Seven Soldiers, who previously served as Non-commissioned Officers, are now defined as officers appointed by warrant by the Secretary of the U.S. Army, based on a sound level of technical and tactical competence. The Soldiers of Warrant Officer Candidate School Class 21-001 graduated from the WOC course at the 168th Regional Training Institute, Fort Carson, Colorado, Sept. 26, 2021.

> **Read the story** (*right-click, copy & paste link*)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2840858/quiet-professionals-soldiers-graduate-become-army-warrant-officers/>

Colorado Air National Guard's 140th Wing leads the way with agile combat employment

By Maj. Kinder Blacke, 140th Wing

Airmen from the 140th Wing, Colorado Air National Guard became the first ANG unit to successfully execute an agile combat employment exercise, July 28, 2020, at Buckley Air Force Base, Aurora, Colorado. ACE is one of the emerging strategies aimed at making the U.S. Air Force more flexible and adaptable in order to maximize efficiency and lethality in combat.

> [Read the story \(right-click, copy & paste link\)](#)

<https://www.140wg.ang.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/2303787/colorado-air-national-guards-140th-wing-leads-the-way-with-agile-combat-employ/>



Colorado National Guard honors new partnership with Colorado business

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The Adjutant General of Colorado U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Laura Clellan and the Colorado Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion conducted a signing ceremony to recognize Xcel Energy for joining the U.S. Army's Partnership for Youth Success program at 12 p.m. at Xcel Energy, 1123 West 3rd Ave., Denver, Nov. 5, 2021.

> [Read the story \(right-click, copy & paste link\)](#)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2827459/colorado-national-guard-honors-new-partnership-with-colorado-business/>

Colorado National Guard's Biathlon Team kicks off pre-season training

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The Colorado National Guard Biathlon Team executed its pre-season training camp and team try-out at Snow Mountain Ranch, Granby, Colorado, Dec. 17-19, 2021. Nine Colorado Army National Guard Soldiers participated in the training camp.

> [Read the story \(right-click, copy & paste link\)](#)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2911786/colorado-national-guards-biathlon-team-kicks-off-pre-season-training/>



Colorado National Guard's 140th Wing receives Outstanding Unit Award

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The 140th Wing, Colorado Air National Guard, based at Buckley Space Force Base, Aurora, earned the U.S. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for 2019 through 2020. During that period, the Wing passed a 4-year inspection, deployed to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, pioneered Agile Combat Employment, and supported the war against COVID-19 during the longest and largest state response in Colorado history.

> [Read the story \(right-click, copy & paste link\)](#)

<https://co.ng.mil/News/Archives/Article/2879608/colorado-national-guards-140th-wing-receives-outstanding-unit-award/>



Colorado Air National Guard breaks ground on Space facility

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The 138th Space Control Squadron, Colorado Air National Guard will host a groundbreaking ceremony at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, May 25, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

This facility is the newest Space Force missioned building since the Space Force was established. This facility represents the crossroads of the Colorado Air National Guard, the United States Air Force and the United States Space Force.

The 138th Space Control Squadron is one of the only deployable Space units in the Air and Space Forces and

is equipped to provide combatant commanders with advanced electronic space effects.

The 138th Space Control Building will be the foundation of Colorado's offensive space control capability. This building, which has been in planning and development for years, will incorporate maintenance, planning and training of advanced Colorado space operators.

The 138th is among the youngest units in the Colorado Air National Guard, falling under the 233rd Space Group, 140th Wing. The unit received federal recognition May 8, 2019.



Colorado Division of Veterans Affairs reorganizes

By Colorado National Guard Public Affairs

The Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has completed a reorganization process in which the Division of Veterans Affairs East and West Divisions have been consolidated into one division effective March 26, 2021, to better serve Colorado Veterans and their families.

A collaborative effort between many entities with a vested interest in serving the state's veterans and their families resulted in the reorganization, which will improve internal processes and practices and streamline operations.

“Our veterans and their families deserve the very best service, and that’s exactly what we plan to deliver,” Interim Deputy Executive Director Dave Callahan said. “It is our vision to earn and maintain the trust and confidence of all those we serve and make Colorado a state of choice for all veterans.”

The move is focused on: improving customer service by providing prompt and efficient assistance and support to all veterans; reimagining state government by seeking opportunities to use space differently, maximize efficiency, and reduce costs without reducing service; creating partnerships that build and strengthen relationships among County Veteran Service Officers and commissioners across the state; achieving unity of effort which synchronizes operations and provides a unified voice; and, team building and development

which facilitates collaboration among all veterans service officers across the state.



The Colorado Division of Veterans Affairs will announce the director position during the coming weeks. Interim DVA Director Joanne Iglesias will continue to oversee the State VSO operations, support the Board of Veterans Affairs, engage with a variety of veteran entities who support and partner for veteran services, and provide oversight of the Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado and the Western Region One Source, both located in Grand Junction, Colorado.

The Adjutant General of Colorado U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Laura Clellan is the Executive Director of DMVA. The DMVA consists of the Colorado National Guard, Division of Veterans Affairs, and Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, totaling more than 6,700 Soldiers, Airmen, state employees, and volunteers. The DMVA works to support the National Guard to mobilize for overseas contingency operations, coordinates National Guard disaster response in Colorado and the region, supports the missions of the Civil Air Patrol and provides services to our veterans to receive the federal benefits that they deserve. The CONG also supports National Guard State Partnerships with Slovenia and Jordan and a strategic partnership with Israel's Home Front Command.



Division of Veterans Affairs

Western Slope cemetery expansion assures Colorado veterans, families dignified final resting place

By Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

In 1999 the Colorado Legislature authorized the Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado to honor Colorado veterans and their families. The United States Veterans Administration provided a grant to build the cemetery. Construction began in June 2001.

The cemetery opened in Grand Junction, Colorado, Sept. 5, 2002, with a capacity of 3,337 units: 1,758 units for casketed remains and 1,579 units for cremated remains, of which 861 were columbarium niches. Additionally, 775 memorial garden plots available for veterans whose remains were scattered, not recovered or buried at sea.

Since 2011, the cemetery has improved infrastructure and expanded, adding 14 new columbaria and providing an additional 2,352 niches and 1,979 additional gravesites as well as improvements to the irrigation and retention ponds.

Two of the added columbaria are double-sided, designed to reduce footprint and allow for future land space needs. The cemetery's capacity can continue to expand, as necessary, to meet future needs.

“As Americans, we have a responsibility to remember our veterans and their families who sacrificed to make victory and freedom possible,” Deputy Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Military and

Veterans Affairs Michael Bruno said. “The people of the State of Colorado have forged a commitment from that responsibility.”

The cemetery is located on 22.5 acres at 2830 Riverside Parkway (formerly D Road, just east of the Grand Junction Regional Center and south of the Grand Junction Readiness Center.

The cemetery is intended to be a dignified final resting place for Colorado's veterans of the Armed Forces, their spouses and eligible dependents. It has been designed to

provide a place of meditation and quiet contemplation for veterans and their families and friends. There are memorial walks on either side of the creek running northeast to southwest through the cemetery. There are landscaped areas, which are enhanced by thoughtful placement of



trees, shrubs, and other plantings. These areas provide additional places for individual reflection.

The Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado conveys the appreciation of the people of Colorado to its veterans and their families for answering the call to duty and faithfully and honorably serving the United States of America and the State of Colorado.

Civil Air Patrol cadet becomes U.S. Air Force trailblazer, returns to roots

By Michael Daniels, Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. (Ret.) Rochelle Kimbrell started her career as a Civil Air Patrol cadet with the Colorado Wing's Parker Composite Squadron. She received an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy and, upon graduation, proceeded to become the first female Black fighter pilot in the Air Force, serving as a trailblazer for generations to come.

After 22 years of service, Kimbrell retired from the Air Force and rejoined the Civil Air Patrol's Colorado Wing as a senior member. She is now a CAP cadet flight orientation pilot encouraging young men and women of all backgrounds to embrace aviation.

Kimbrell is an inspiration to all ages and continues to make a difference in others' lives. She enjoys speaking with young people who may not realize the sky's the limit until they meet her.

"I see the lights turn on in kids' eyes when I talk to them as they realize that someone like me can do something as cool as being a fighter pilot," she said. "They come to see that they can go out and do whatever they want to do. That's what I focus on and think is really important. CAP can help achieve dreams."

Recently, Kimbrell was asked to take part in the filming of a documentary on Bessie Coleman who was an American aviator and the first Black woman to earn a pilot's license.

Kimbrell had a chance to talk about her early interest in aviation and the opportunities provided through her cadet membership in the Civil Air Patrol. The film included footage of her flying a CAP aircraft as an O-Ride (orientation) pilot with a Colorado Wing female cadet.



CIVIL AIR PATROL
U.S. AIR FORCE AUXILIARY





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