



THE DISPATCH

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE COLORADO DEPT. OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Role of the Regional Training Institute

Parker White, DMVA Public Information Officer & Legislative Liaison

In the dynamic world of the military, training is the backbone of readiness and success. The Colorado National Guard understands this principle well and the Regional Training Institute (RTI) serves as a cornerstone of its training infrastructure. The RTI is not just a mere training facility; it plays a multifaceted role in supporting the Colorado National Guard's mission. In this article, we will explore the various functions that the Regional Training Institute serves, showcasing its crucial role in enhancing the capabilities of our dedicated men and women in uniform.

Providing Specialized Military Training

One of the primary functions of the Regional Training Institute is to provide specialized military training to Colorado National Guard personnel. These courses

cover a wide range of topics, from combat tactics to leadership development. The RTI ensures that soldiers and airmen are equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in their respective roles. These courses include from primary military education courses, Officer Candidate School and Warrant Officer Candidate School.

Supporting Joint Training and Interagency Cooperation

In an increasingly complex and interconnected world, military operations often require collaboration with other branches of the military and various government agencies. The RTI serves as a hub for joint training and interagency cooperation, fostering teamwork and coordination among different organizations.

The RTI is a fully functioning hotel, able to accommodate and house Colorado National Guard units who make use of its facilities. That said, it can also house active-duty units, other state National Guard units, law enforcement agencies, and even foreign military units.

Finally, the RTI is operated in large part by state employees, from lodging to maintenance and operations.

Enabling tomorrow's leaders

Parker White, DMVA Public Information Officer & Legislative Liaison

Richard Smith was born in Ft. Riley Kansas while his father was serving in the Army. When his father's career moved him to Ft. Carson, it brought Smith to Colorado, and he never left.

Richard's father got into the custodial business after he left the Army, and he started working with his father when he was 13. From there, he worked in the restaurant business until he was 22. After which, he started working in maintenance and went on to make a career of it.

Richard currently works as a state maintenance technician at the RTI and has been with the DMVA for 8 years. He specializes in building maintenance, lighting, and does a substantial amount of the high-altitude work.

"I don't mind the heights," said Richard. "Anything I can do to save the state money by doing it in house, is a win in my book."

Richard also taught himself how to convert fluorescent lights to LED. "I'm not an electrician, but it's something I taught myself. It's a learning curve and I've enjoyed doing it."



Outside of work, Richard is involved in his church and choir, and recently taught himself how to play piano.

"After a medical emergency, music became like my therapy," said Richard. "I hadn't been involved in music much before that, but now I want to learn guitar, singing, and continue with piano."

Richard has a son and two grandchildren, and has been married to his wife for 35 year. The family enjoys camping, or rather "glamping" as Richard put it, and fishing.

As a testament to his love of the great outdoors, he currently serves as the Colorado State Director of Good Sam, an international organization of RV owners and the largest such organization in the world.

"Richard is always a professional, friendly, and responsive employee," said G9 Engineer Domenick Scarimbolo. "Make sure you say hi to him next time you're at Ft. Carson." Rick, for your years of service to the DMVA, thank you!

State Holidays for 2024

Actual Date of Holiday (Date observed for those on 5/8 Mo-Fr Schedule)	State & Federal Holiday	Date Observed for Majority of workforce: 4/10 Tu-Fr Schedule
Monday, January 01, 2024	New Year's Day	Friday, December 29, 2023
Monday, January 15, 2024	Martin Luther King Day	Friday, January 12, 2024
Monday, February 19, 2024	Washington's Birthday / President's Day	Friday, February 16, 2024
Monday, May 27, 2024	Memorial Day	Friday, May 24, 2024
Wednesday, June 19, 2024	Juneteenth	Wednesday, June 19, 2024
Thursday, July 04, 2024 (see Note 2)	Independence Day	Thursday, July 04, 2024
Monday, September 02, 2024	Labor Day	Friday, August 30, 2024
Monday, October 14, 2024 (Note 1)	Indigenous Peoples Day / Cabrini Day	Friday, October 11, 2024
Monday, November 11, 2024	Veteran's Day	Friday, November 08, 2024
Thursday, November 28, 2024 (see Note 2)	Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 28, 2024
Wednesday, December 25, 2024	Christmas Day	Wednesday, December 25, 2024
Wednesday, January 01, 2025	New Year's Day	Wednesday, January 01, 2025

<p>Comings</p> <p>Scott Redmon, Structural Trades, North Colorado Springs Readiness</p> <p>Emily Currier, Administrative Assistant, WROS Grand Junction</p> <p>Damian Martinez, ANG Patrol Officer, Greeley</p> <p>Efrain Chavez, ANG Patrol Officer, Greeley Satellite</p> <p>Anjelica Burry, Payroll Accountant, JFHQ Headquarters</p> <p>Joshua McGehee, ANG Patrol Officer, Greeley</p>	<p>Goings</p> <p>For the month of September, the DMVA had no farewells!</p> <p>PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ACCESSIBILITY APPLIES TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emails • Spreadsheets (Excel or Google Docs) • Flyers • Policy Documents • Forms • Manuals • PowerPoint Presentations • PDFs • Word Documents • Dashboards • Webpages • Intranet Pages • Software • Anything that is going to be used by someone other than you (in the present or future), should meet the accessibility guidelines (link is below).
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Job Listings

-Mechanical Engineer

Arapahoe County, CO

-Equipment Mechanic II

Arapahoe County, CO

-Facilities Regional Manager

Arapahoe County, CO

-Budget Analyst II

Arapahoe County, CO

-Airfield and Facility Ground Maintenance

-Arapahoe County, CO

<https://dmvacolorado.sharepoint.com/SitePages/Accessibility-at-DMVA.aspx#training-resources>

-Pipe Mechanic Trades II

Denver, CO

-Purchasing Agent

Arapahoe County, CO

September Events

Division of Veteran Affairs:

-The Veterans Service Officer Annual Conference occurred Sept. 18-21 in Lakewood.

Civil Air Patrol:

-A Change of Command Ceremony took place for the Colorado Wing at their annual conference Sept. 23 in Thornton. Col. Michael Fay assumed command from Col. John Rhoades.

CO National Guard:

-The 140th Medical Group conducted the first "RUSH University Course" in Chicago, Sept. 25-29, to support the needs of our state partners Jordan and Slovenia as well as promote interoperability in the medical field.

October Events

Division of Veteran Affairs:

-Quarterly Honors is occurring at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado in Grand Junction, Oct. 2.

-Veterans Community Living Center visits will occur Oct. 3-4. These will include Walsenburg, Florence, Homelake, Rifle and Fitzsimmons

Civil Air Patrol:

-CAP will hold a Ground and Air Search and Rescue training exercise at Centennial Airport, Oct. 7-8

CO National Guard:

-First Command, 140th Wing Top Three Council, and the First Sergeants Association will host school children to have a close-up look at various STEM-related career fields within the 140th Wing Oct. 3 at Buckley Space Force Base, Aurora.



FALL FESTIVAL
October 26th, 1400-1600
JFHQ campus on the grass in the courtyard

FALL IS HERE AND A NEW SEASON HAS BEGUN! DMVA & THE CHAPLAIN'S OFFICE ARE HOSTING OUR VERY FIRST PUMPKIN FESTIVAL AND WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE EVERYONE JOIN US FOR THIS FUN EVENT!

WE WILL HAVE A PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST AND A CHILI COOK OFF WITH 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD PLACE PRIZES FOR BOTH COMPETITIONS... EVERYONE IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE (BE SURE TO BRING IN YOUR PUMPKINS ALREADY CARVED AND YOUR CHILI ALREADY MADE).

If you are interested in joining either contest, please email Deborah.Salerno@dmva.state.co.us.