



State of Wyoming Military Department Office of the Adjutant General

5500 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009-3320
<http://www.wy.ngb.army.mil>

Oct. 1, 2010

For immediate release

Media contact:

Deidre Forster 307-772-5253; cell 307-631-4153; email deidre.forster@us.army.mil.
Master Sgt. Trudy Woodcock, 307-772-5229; email trudy.woodcock@us.army.mil.
2nd Lt. Christian Venhuizen, 307-772-5040; email christian.venhuizen@us.army.mil.

WyMD-10-91

Guard honors Heroes and supporters

CHEYENNE – The Wyoming National Guard is recognizing its Heroes Among Us, and civilian supporters at the annual Governor’s Reception, Oct. 2, at Little America, in Cheyenne.

The Outstanding Civilian Service Medal, the U.S. Department of the Army’s third highest civilian award is being presented to:

- Sen. John Barrasso. For being a vocal advocate in Washington, D.C., to ensure the Navy and Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation would be awarded and presented to the 300th Armored Field Artillery Battalion veterans during their final reunion, this weekend.
- Charles Ziegler, legislative assistant to Sen. Barrasso. For doggedly assisting the Wyoming National Guard in documenting the story of the 300th Armored Field Artillery’s combat heroism in the Korean War, ensuring the unit would be awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation.

The Wyoming Outstanding Service Ribbon is being presented to:

- Col. Tim Sheppard, United States Property & Fiscal Officer for Wyoming. For taking the organizational reins for researching the 300th AFA's award history.

The Wyoming National Guard Association Medal of Excellence is being presented to:

- Joe Moore, director of the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security. For helping to grow and support the Wyoming National Guard's domestic operation capabilities.
- The staff of M&N Aviation's Nerd Hangar, located at the Natrona County International Airport. For hosting homecoming and deployment ceremonies for Wyoming Army National Guard units since 2004.
- The Wyoming Contractors Association's McMurry Training Center, in Casper. For supporting Wyoming's youth by offering scholarship opportunities to the graduates of the Wyoming National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program.
- Rich Cathcart, state of Wyoming construction manager. For being an advocate of Wyoming Military Department facility construction and maintenance.

"Not only do we recognize our supporters, we also recognize our Soldiers and Airmen each year for going above and beyond the call of duty to assist our fellow community members," said Maj. Gen. Ed Wright, Wyoming's adjutant general. "The Airman we are honoring exemplifies the concept of the National Guard Citizen Soldier

and believes in our dual mission to protect and serve the citizens of the nation and the residents of the state extend beyond duty hours.”

This year’s Hero Among Us, recognized for his selfless response to assist others in need is:

- 2nd Lt. Kyle Higgins, 84th Civil Support Team. Higgins witnessed a minivan rollover on Pershing Boulevard, in Cheyenne, and crawled under the van to extricate a mother and two young children from the vehicle. His nominator said, “2nd Lt. Higgins’ actions demonstrated the U.S. Air Force’s core values: integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do.”