



UTAH NATIONAL GUARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS

12953 S. Minuteman Drive, Draper, UT 84020

P: (801) 432-4407 - F: (801) 432-4677 - www.ut.ngb.army.mil

Twitter: @UTNationalGuard - [Facebook.com/utahnationalguard](https://www.facebook.com/utahnationalguard)

Press Release 14-030, 8 June 2014

Contact: Lt. Col. Steven Fairbourn, (801) 716-9209

For Immediate Release

Utah National Guard's Honorary Colonels Corps Hosts 53rd Annual Bronze Minuteman Awards Dinner

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah National Guard will host its 53rd Annual Bronze Minuteman Awards Dinner Wednesday, June 11, at 6:30 p.m. at Salt Lake's Little America Hotel.

The Honorary Colonels Corps of Utah is sponsor of the event. The Corps is an organization that promotes goodwill and positive relations between the National Guard and local Utah communities. Members provide annual support for Utah Army and Air National Guard activities such as the Freedom Academy and Veterans Day concert.

At the event Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, retired Brig. Gen. E.J. "Jake" Garn, Honorary Colonels Corps Commander, and Utah Lt. Gov. Spencer J. Cox will present Bronze Minuteman awards to Nell Bright, Mr. Dennis Farnsworth Jr., retired Maj. Gen. John Hafen, Paul Hitzelberger, David Pershing, honorary Col. L. Richard Raybould, Adam Sklute, and Rabbi Benny Zippel for their individual devoted service to and leadership among the citizens of Utah.

Here is a short summary of each recipient's accomplishments:

Nell S. Bright, who goes by "Mickey," received her private pilot's license in 1942. She earned her wings after six months with the Women's Air Force Service Pilot Program and helped train male pilots for combat. In her military career she flew the B-25, B26, AT-011, AT-7, AT-6, A-24, A-25 and P-47. She also was a successful stockbroker and financial advisor.

Retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 F. Dennis Farnsworth served for 35 years in the Army's active and reserve components as a Chinese linguist and intelligence officer. He is also an educator, having taught at Utah Valley University for 40 years.

Retired Maj. Gen. John M. Hafen served nearly 40 years in uniform with the U.S. Air Force and Utah Air National Guard. He was qualified to fly ten different aircraft and he served honorably in Vietnam and as a senior advisor to the Air Force.

Paul W. Hitzelberger is owner of dozens of Del Taco restaurants in Utah. A tremendous supporter of the Utah military community, he and his company have given very generously to the Utah Guard Charitable Trust.

Dr. David W. Pershing is president of the University of Utah, having taught on the faculty since 1977. He has made great strides in improving the undergraduate experience on campus and has opened a satellite campus in Korea.

Honorary Col. L. Richard Raybould served 21 years as an Army officer, seeing intense combat in Korea. He was chief of programming at the Pentagon and in civilian life was director of planning and computing for the State of Utah.

Adam E. Sklute is a distinguished performer, choreographer and director for Ballet West. He teaches and mentors there, at local universities, and he continues to encourage and develop young dancers and choreographers.

Rabbi Benny Zippel leads Chabad Lubavitch, and Orthodox synagogue in Salt Lake City. Born in Italy, he is fluent in seven languages. He started the H.E.A.R.T. outreach program, a resource to help troubled Jewish teens in Utah.

Media Notes: Salt Lake's Little America hotel is located at 500 S. Main. Media are welcome to cover the black-tie event. For more information, please contact Lt. Col. Steven Fairbourn at (801) 716-9209. Recipient pictures are available at <http://bit.ly/2014MinutemanAwards>