



# NEWS RELEASE

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March 24, 2019

## CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD TO RE-DEDICATE TWO INSTALLATIONS

*Windsor Locks and Niantic facilities to be officially named for CTNG Medal of Honor recipients*

HARTFORD, Conn. - Maj. Gen. Fran Evon, the Adjutant General and commanding officer of the Connecticut National Guard, announced that ceremonies will be held on March 25, 2019, to forever honor the Connecticut National Guard's two Medal of Honor recipients.

**A rededication of Camp Hartell will take place at 9:00 a.m. and a similar ceremony will be held at Camp Niantic at 3:00 p.m. Media are invited to attend.**

Although Camp Hartell has been named as such for over four decades, Public Act No. 18-21, *Act Honoring Connecticut National Guard Medal of Honor Recipients*, will make it official for the Guard's Windsor Locks-based facility.

The same act will see Camp Niantic renamed as Camp Nett at Niantic, in honor of Col. Robert Nett. As a lieutenant in the Philippines during World War II, Nett spearheaded an attack against a Japanese stronghold despite suffering multiple wounds, leading his company to the capture of a vital strongpoint, according to his Medal of Honor Citation.

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Malloy signed the act into law in 2018 with an effective date of March 25, 2019 when Medal of Honor Day is celebrated nationally.

“These men embodied the bravery and patriotism this nation’s freedom was built upon,” said Evon. “From this moment forward, two of our largest facilities will bear the names of true American heroes. It is the least we can do to pay tribute to two of Connecticut's greatest sons.”

First Lt. Lee Hartell was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for actions taken on the date of his death. According to his Medal of Honor Citation, Hartell continued to radio for artillery fire, despite already suffering a wound to his hand and an enemy onslaught closing in on his position. His actions stemmed the enemy attack and enabled friendly forces to fight off the advance and maintain their strategic stronghold.

Until 2010, Camp Nett at Niantic was named after the sitting governor.

**Access to both events requires prior coordination. Contact Maj. Mike Petersen at 860-524-4857 or 860-883-5336 for more information.**

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