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The Association of the U.S. Army has contributed \$42.5 million to the museum's construction, making it the single biggest contributor so far. (U.S. ARMY ILLUSTRATION)

## National Army museum to open June 2020

**T**he National Museum of the United States Army is expected to open to the public on June 4, 2020, in time for a major June 14 celebration when the Army turns 245.

The Association of the U.S. Army has contributed \$42.5 million to the museum's construction, making it the single biggest contributor so far.

"Without AUSA's commitment, no National Museum of the United States Army," said retired Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, the 32nd Army chief of staff who serves as chairman of the Army Historical Foundation, which led the effort to raise funds for the museum. Sullivan is a former president and CEO of AUSA.

AUSA's current leader, retired Gen. Carter F. Ham, said the large financial commitment was an action that fulfills the educational nonprof-

it's founding mission of educating, informing and connecting the U.S. Army with the public.

"We are proud contributors. Since we were formed in 1950, AUSA has been a voice for the Army, we've supported soldiers and honored those who have served as part of our foundational effort to advance our nation's security," Ham said.

"The National Museum of the United States Army will be a national landmark, a teaching institution and a place where visitors will be able to understand and appreciate the role America's Army has in the past and will continue to have in our future," he added.

Decades in the planning, ground was broken for the museum at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, on Sept. 14, 2016, for a 185,000-square-foot facility lo-

cated on 84 acres.

Once open to the public, the U.S. Army will own and operate the museum, which will be part of the U.S. Army Center of Military History.

The Army Historical Foundation will manage the museum's store, cafe and catering services for special events.

"The Army has served American citizens for 244 years, protecting the freedoms that are precious to all of us. Millions of people have served in the Army, and this museum gives us the chance to tell their stories to the public, and show how they have served our nation and our people," acting Army Secretary Ryan D. McCarthy said in an Army announcement.

A look at some of the planned exhibits and features can be found here: <https://thenmusa.org/index.php>.

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## McCarthy: Army faces long-term recruiting challenges

**T**he Army is on track to meet its recruiting goal this fiscal year after falling short last year, but the service faces long-term challenges when it comes to sustaining and growing the force, acting Army Secretary Ryan D. McCarthy said.

A 3.6 percent unemployment rate and a population where about 70 percent of 17- to 24-year-olds need a waiver to join the military present a “real challenge” to the Army, he said.

The need for waivers, including for drug use, mental health or challenges with the law, makes an already small pool of potential recruits even smaller, McCarthy said.

McCarthy, who spoke at an Aug. 20 event hosted by the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, said the Army has been “laser-focused” on how it can better reach and connect with young people and their parents.

This includes getting senior Army leaders out into communities across the country to meet with “mayors, su-



The Army’s goal is to continue growing by about 2,000 new soldiers a year until it reaches an end strength of about 500,000. (U.S. ARMY/SPC. SAMUEL D. KEENAN)

perintendents of schools, directors of parks and recreation,” he said. “We need civic leaders to help us communicate to young men and women.”

The Army needs to find a way to show prospective recruits that they can choose from more than 150 military occupational specialties and the Army can help them get an education and reach their potential, McCarthy said.

“We’re getting a wonderful reception, but we have to do it,” he said.

“We’re an all-volunteer force, so we’ve got to get out there and shake hands and talk to people.”

McCarthy added that the Army should reach its goal of 68,000 new recruits before the new fiscal year begins on Oct. 1. Last year, the Army missed its recruiting goal by about 6,500.

The Army’s goal is to continue growing by about 2,000 new soldiers a year until it reaches an end strength of about 500,000.

## AUSA community partner wins DoD Freedom Award

**A** Colorado-based community partner of the Association of the U.S. Army is one of 15 businesses recognized by the Defense Department for support of National Guard and reserve members.

Delta Solutions & Strategies, LLC, a Colorado Springs company providing technical assistance, engineering support and consulting and adviser services for electronic, space and missile systems, received a 2019 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award during an Aug. 23 ceremony.

Established in 2000, the certified service-disabled veteran-owned business has global operations and previously was named a Pikes Peak Workforce Youth Employer of the Year and a Best Workplace in Colorado Springs.

The Freedom Award is the highest recognition from the U.S. government for employers who go above and beyond



James N. Stewart, performing the duties of the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, speaks during the Freedom Awards ceremony at the Pentagon.

(U.S. NAVY/PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS JAMES K. LEE)

to support employees who serve in the National Guard or reserve.

More than 2,400 businesses were nominated this year.

The award was created in 1996 by then-Defense Secretary William Perry. Nominations must be made by an employee who is in the Guard or reserve or a family member acting

on their behalf. Award recipients are selected by a board of senior defense officials and business leaders.

The other 14 recipients this year are: Archer Daniels Midland, Chicago, Illinois; Barclays, New York, New York; Callison Tighe & Robinson, LLC, Columbia, South Carolina; Chevron, San Ramon, California; Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Lebanon, Tennessee; Direct Supply, Inc., Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Eversource Energy, Berlin, Connecticut; Houston Police Department, Houston, Texas; Kauai Auto Repair, Kalaheo, Hawaii; Levi Rodgers Real Estate Group, San Antonio, Texas; LG&E and KU Energy, LLC, Louisville, Kentucky; Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, Columbus, Ohio; The Steel Network, Durham, North Carolina; and West Valley City, Utah.

The full list can be viewed online at <https://bit.ly/2KMnJTr>.

## Patton highlighted in 'Army Matters' podcast, new book, upcoming lecture

By Joseph Craig

**G**en. George S. Patton is in the spotlight for this week's episode of "Army Matters," the Association of the U.S. Army's podcast series, which is available online at <https://podcast.ausa.org> and everywhere podcasts are found.

The "Army Matters" podcast launched in February and has seen tremendous growth in its first six months. It features four different programs on a rotating schedule: Soldier Today, Army Real Talk, Family Voices, and Thought Leaders.

As one of the hosts of the Thought Leaders program, I have interviewed military history authors such as Rick Atkinson and Adam Makos to get information on their latest work.

In the latest episode, I sat down with Jon Mikolashek, professor of history at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and American Military University, to talk about his book, *Blood, Guts, and Grease: George S. Patton in World War I*.

The book is also the latest addition to the AUSA Book Program.

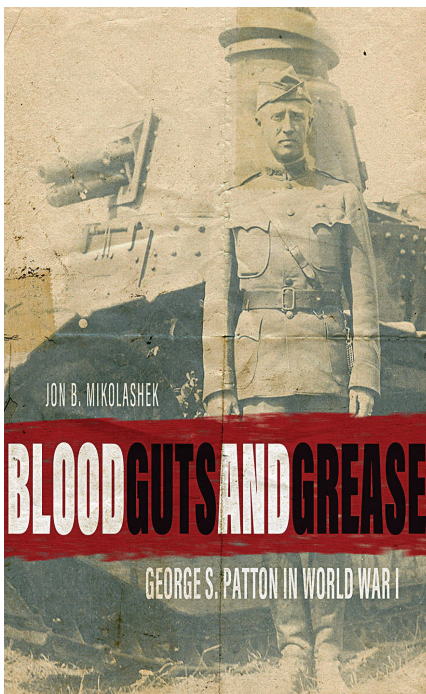
For the podcast, Mikolashek and I discussed Patton's work to organize and train the U.S. Army's first tank brigade, and how he then led it into battle during the Great War.

Patton's early experiences as a tank commander laid the groundwork for the success of our armed forces in World War II.

Listeners eager to learn more about Patton's time as a tanker in the First World War can come to AUSA headquarters on Nov. 13, when Mikolashek will present a Lemnitzer Lecture on the subject and sign copies of his book.

Those unable to travel to Arlington, Virginia, can watch the livestream on the AUSA website.

Details about the lecture are available at <https://bit.ly/2Pk054y>.



*Blood, Guts, and Grease: George S. Patton in World War I* by Jon Mikolashek is the latest entry in the AUSA Book Program to feature Gen. George S. Patton. (AUSA PHOTO)

Patton's appeal is pervasive, as evidenced by the many biographies and history books about the man.

Over the years, the AUSA Book Program has featured many books about "Old Blood and Guts."

In addition to Mikolashek's *Blood, Guts, and Grease*, the program currently includes *Advance and Destroy: Patton as Commander in the Bulge* by John Nelson Rickard, *Forward with Patton: The World War II Diary of Colonel Robert S. Allen* edited by John Nelson Rickard, and *Pershing's Tankers: Personal Accounts of the AEF Tank Corps in World War I* edited by Lawrence M. Kaplan.

Combined with the podcast and forthcoming lecture, Patton fans are being well served by AUSA.

Please visit [www.ausa.org/books](http://www.ausa.org/books) to order your copies of these titles.

**Joseph Craig** is AUSA's Book Program Director.

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## Chapter highlights AUSA's mission, impact in Congress

**A**t the quarterly general membership breakfast of the Association of the U.S. Army's Fort Rucker-Wiregrass chapter, retired Col. Mark Jones, the chapter president, discussed how the association works with Congress to provide for the needs of the Army.

"One thing that is not necessarily known at the local level is the impact AUSA has with members of Congress," Jones said during the August event, noting that educating and informing Congress about the Army's needs is one of AUSA's missions.

"You can imagine, the Army is a very large, very bureaucratic, very expensive undertaking, and we need what we need to make sure that these people in these uniforms have everything they absolutely need to deter any threat to this country, and if deterrence fails, to fight, survive and win our nation's wars," Jones said, according to an article in *The Southeast Sun*.

He also spoke positively about the chapter's recent efforts, saying that membership is at a historic high.

"As a matter of fact, the Fort Ruck-



Retired Sgt. Maj. Sam MacMaster, left, receives a token of appreciation for his service to AUSA from the chapter president, retired Col. Mark Jones. (DALEVILLE SUN-COURIER/CASSIE GIBBS)

er-Wiregrass chapter is the fastest growing chapter in the entire association right now," Jones said. "Membership equals capability, and as such, obviously, this chapter would fail to exist, and the association would cease to exist [without members]."

Also during the breakfast, retired Sgt. Maj. Sam MacMaster was honored for his longtime service to the Fort Rucker-Wiregrass chapter and AUSA as a whole.

MacMaster first became involved

with AUSA in Kentucky in 1996, Jones said. He then served on the association's National Advisory Board of Directors for NCO and Enlisted Affairs from 1997-2003.

After joining the Fort Rucker-Wiregrass Chapter Board in 2000, MacMaster went on to serve in a variety of leadership roles, including vice president for membership, vice president for awards and chapter president.

He recently retired from his position as chapter treasurer.

**Fort Rucker-Wiregrass**

## Chapter honors its 2019 Volunteer Family of the Year

**T**he Association of the U.S. Army's Redstone-Huntsville chapter recently named David and Judith Carney as its 2019 Volunteer Family of the Year.

"They've donated so much back to military families in addition to the programs that they've started," said Jim Rountree, the chapter's vice president for Family Programs, who nominated the couple for the award.

**Redstone-Huntsville**

David Carney, a Vietnam veteran who retired from the Alabama National Guard in 2005, has worked tirelessly to help veterans and active-duty troops by organizing send-off



David and Judith Carney. (COURTESY PHOTO)

and welcome-home ceremonies, Purple Heart ceremonies and Veterans Day activities, to name just a few.

Judith Carney is always nearby, often working behind the scenes.

"I just feel like they are still so active and so focused on soldiers, on

their families that they need this recognition," Rountree said, noting that the Carneys were also named Family of the Year by AUSA's Third Region, which includes Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and a chapter in Panama.

Both David and Judith Carney have also written several books, often donating the proceeds to military family causes.

David Carney said that it "is pretty humbling" to be honored for the couple's years of service to the military community.

"You don't do things to be honored or for the glory," he said.

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