



IMCOM Weekly News Sampler

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★★★★ **DID YOU KNOW?** ★★★★★

Memorial Day, a day we honor the fallen, is May 27.
Learn more at <https://www.armymwr.com/memorial-day>



USAEC team supports Earth Day 2024

Every day is Earth Day at the Army Environmental Command, but each year the command joins the national celebration and commemorates Earth Day by providing hands-on activities to hundreds of school children. On April 25, AEC employees joined approximately 120 kindergarten students from Fort Sam Houston Elementary School at Salado Park for "Nature Day."



Fort McCoy holds ribbon-cutting ceremony, grand reopening for renovated fitness center

After 18 months and millions of dollars worth of upgrades, the Rumpel Fitness Center at Fort McCoy was reopened before hundreds of attendees May 1 during a grand reopening and ribbon-cutting ceremony, coordinated by the Fort McCoy Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, which also is in charge of Rumpel.



ID-E garrison leaders meet at USAG Italy

When garrison leaders converged for top-level discussions recently at USAG Italy, among them was SSG Yadira Aspeitia, the IMCOM–Europe noncommissioned officer of the year. The Garrison Leaders Working Group is a semi-annual IMCOM-E event that brings together U.S. Army commanders, senior enlisted advisors and civilian deputies from across Europe to share experiences and best practices.



WCAP Soldier-Athlete SFC Joss aims to medal

Competing in the Paralympic Games for the third time still excites SFC John Wayne Joss III. Joss, a Soldier-Athlete with the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program, finished second in the R6 50m Rifle Prone SH1 during the U.S. Paralympic Trials-Shooting Part Three on April 26 in Talladega, Alabama, that qualified him for the 2024 Paralympic Games in Paris.



Army colonel reflects on how youth spent at Boys and Girls Clubs inspires life of service

If anyone understands the importance of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and the life-changing impact it can have on young people, it's COL John S. Chu. He is currently serving as the executive officer to U.S. Army IMCOM Commanding General LTG Omar Jones.



Appelman engages Fort Johnson workforce, looks at future of installation

U.S. Army Installation Management Command Director-Readiness Patrick Appelman visited Fort Johnson on April 29 to May 2. The tour was part of an initiative to receive Installation Planning Board briefings from senior commanders and garrison teams, explore garrison facilities and lead roundtable discussions with garrison directors.



Camp Zama community hears messages of resilience at prayer breakfast

More than 100 community members attended a National Day of Prayer breakfast May 9 at the Camp Zama Community Club to show appreciation for the right to freely practice one's faith. COL Marcus Hunter, commander of USAG Japan, hosted the event that had several chaplains offer prayers and a motivational speaker share his story of overcoming adversity.



Speaker inspires strength, resilience at Fort Carson's National Day of Prayer event

A packed house listened in silence as retired Green Beret CPT John M. Arroyo shared his road to resilience and his miraculous survival of life-threatening trauma during the National Day of Prayer luncheon May 2 at the Elkhorn Conference Center at Fort Carson.



Fort Buchanan 2024 National Day of Prayer

On May 2, service members, Families, civilians and veterans gathered at the Fort Buchanan community club to celebrate the Joint National Day of Prayer. The event was organized by Chaplain (MAJ) Joseph F. Okpe, Fort Buchanan chaplain, in conjunction with chaplains from the National Guard, the Army Reserve, the Coast Guard and other armed services.



Fort Novosel balances conservation of species, other limitations, to improve environment

Effective natural resource management at U.S. Army installations requires maintaining adequate habitat for flora and fauna as well as providing the vital training areas for Soldiers. At Fort Novosel, Alabama, the natural resources team has the added challenge of dealing with a variety of invasive species.



Fort Moore environmental management division chief committed to natural resources

Brent Widener, who says he grew up “always outdoors,” told his family he was going to college to study hunting and fishing and joked while there he’d play football for the Georgia Bulldogs. Turns out his first love took precedence. “My sophomore year in high school, I stopped playing sports because I decided I wanted to be in the woods all the time,” Widener said.



At Tobyhanna, programmatic planning processes lead to environmental successes

The environmental team at Tobyhanna Army Depot uses a comprehensive, systematic approach to managing the environmental programs at the installation, and that approach in return helps to drive real results in many critical areas. It also has gained them national recognition.



Hiring Our Heroes smooths transition for retiring Fort Belvoir Soldier

MAJ Chris Ehlers was getting ready to transition out of the Army last year and establish his new, civilian career. After 20 years of service, Ehlers was unaware of powerful opportunities at his disposal until he ran into a former colleague and began discussing his upcoming retirement plans.



Fort Cavazos ceremony recognizes volunteers

A group of remarkable individuals were honored April 24 for their invaluable work serving others at the Great Place and within the community. The Volunteer of the Year Awards Ceremony saw nominees, their family members, military leaders and peers gathered at the Phantom Warrior Center for an informal dinner before recognizing each honoree for hours of volunteer work in support of various organizations and causes.



USAG Benelux assists with landmark hospital materiel pull for DEFENDER 24

U.S. Army Soldiers arrived at Army Prepositioned Stock-2 Dülmen, Germany, for a landmark 32-bed field hospital pull for transport to Baumholder, Germany, in support of the DEFENDER Europe exercise May 6-7. During the convoy preparations, USAG Benelux housed numerous deployed Soldiers in the Dülmen Tower Barracks gymnasium.



Natick Soldier Systems Center honors Holocaust Remembrance with keynote speaker

The Natick Soldier Systems Center held a special event May 1 to observe the 2024 Holocaust Days of Remembrance and Holocaust Remembrance Day featuring a presentation by a Jewish man whose family escaped the horrors of the Holocaust by fleeing Germany for Japanese-occupied Shanghai, China, in April 1939.

IMCOM GROUNDBREAKING EVENTS

June 4, Fort Wainwright, Alaska

3 p.m. Ribbon cutting for Denegee Child Development Center

June 6, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Virginia

Ribbon cutting for Building 404, DFAC R&M project

SOURCE: Event information is provided by installation staff, who upload it to the IMCOM HQ G4 SharePoint calendar. **Contact local DPW personnel for more information.**

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