



U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hunter Liggett & Parks Reserve Forces Training Area

July 3, 2020



Highlights for FHL: Joel Pean was the guest speaker for the Caribbean Heritage Observance, tribute to Soldiers past and present, FMWR facilities murals, bird banding, new DHR employees, farewell to Staff Sgt. Eda, BOSS Soldiers hiking trip,

Highlights for PRFTA: Command Sgt. Major Johnson departs and Master Sergeant Michael Rivera assumes installation command sergeant major duty, NCOA conducts Father's Day BBQ, biologist responds to injured owl report.

FHL and Parks Reserve Forces Training Area provides base operations support enabling total force readiness while providing for the well-being and security of Soldiers, Family members and Civilians on post. It is the seventh largest Army installation and the largest Army Reserve installation in the country. Along with this bi-weekly storyboard, FHL & CPRFTA produces a variety of command information products which are available on the Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System (DVIDS). Produced by the FHL Public Affairs Office, Bldg 238 California Ave, Fort Hunter Liggett CA 93928. For additional info, click on icons on right.



dvids



GARRISON READINESS

PRFTA Change of Responsibility Ceremony



Parks Reserve Forces Training Area, Command Sergeant Major Jason Johnson, transfers his Command Sergeant Major responsibilities to Master Sergeant Michael Rivera during a Relinquishment of Responsibility Ceremony at Parks Reserve Forces Training Area, June 25, 2020. The Relinquishment of Responsibility and passing of the garrison colors signifies the relinquishment of his duties and gratitude for the opportunity to care for Soldiers, families and Department of the Army civilians of the Parks Reserve Forces Training Area Community. Johnson received the Army Commendation Medal for his services to the installation. (Photos by Jim O'Donnell, PRFTA Public Affairs)



GARRISON READINESS

I Serve Because



U.S. ARMY HERITAGE

JUNE 14, 1775

I serve because...

I wanted to do something different in my life and take care of my family. I continue to serve because I love the military and I enjoy everything about it.

SSG Christopher Northlewis
Truckmaster
Range Operations
Fort Hunter Liggett



To commemorate the Army's National Hiring Days, several Soldiers and veterans at Fort Hunter Liggett gave an insight into why they served. Their mini-stories appeared on the installation Facebook page starting the week of the Army Birthday through July 3, 2020.



GARRISON READINESS

Murals at FMWR Facilities



The Fort Hunter Liggett Family, Morale and Welfare facilities are enhanced by murals painted by King City artist Steven "Stitch" Campos. Paintings at the Child Youth Services depict well-known childhood story characters while those at the Teen Center promote math, science and healthy recreational activities. The De Anza Sports Center (and soon, at the Center's expansion facility as well) depict military pride, sports and physical fitness activities. Stitch was part of a group of local artists commissioned by King City in Bloom that painted historical murals found throughout King City. (Photos by Amy Phillips, FHL Public Affairs)



GARRISON READINESS

New Employees at DHR



Fort Hunter Liggett's Directorate of Human Resources added several new employees recently. Left to right: Mail Clerk Samantha Usrey, MILPO Chief Richard Martinez, Army Substance Abuse Program Specialist Janette McLaughlin, and HR Assistant Brittney Ortega. The DHR SharePoint has many resources available to you. (Photo by Talia Wesley, DHR)



GARRISON READINESS

Environmental Team Bands Birds



FHL's Environmental Division spends a lot of time in the field documenting the natural resources the Army is obligated to protect. Many of the wildlife and plant surveys are done in partnership with other governmental or scientific organizations that keep records on the health of the ecosystem. Jackie Hancock (left), wildlife biologist, holds a Nuttall's woodpecker caught in a mist net during a banding survey. Kim Guillian (right), photographs a white-breasted nuthatch prior to release. Records are kept on the weight, size, and approximate age of each bird. They are given USGS aluminum numbered bands, and if recaptured, can reveal migratory patterns, longevity, and even the health of an ecosystem. "One of the Army's goals is to conserve biodiversity," said Hancock. "One of the benefits for mission readiness is to have a natural landscape. We maintain our natural resources for the Army training requirements, and we work with federal laws such as the Endangered Species Act, and National Environmental Policy Act." (Photos by Cindy McIntyre, Public Affairs)



GARRISON READINESS

PRFTA Biologist in Action



Parks Reserve Forces Training Area Wildlife Biologist Jacob Daly responded to an “injured owl” report. Fortunately, the owl found near the Post Exchange was only a fledgling bird and was not injured. “The uninjured owl did appear helpless,” said Daly, “Flapping its wings from the ground is part of the fledging process that young birds undergo when they leave their nests.” The fledgling Great Horned Owl had recently left its nest and was learning to fly. Great Horned Owls and many other birds of prey regularly nest at Camp Parks. If you find wildlife in distress, please do not try to rescue it on your own, instead contact the Camp Parks Environmental Office at 831-718-7554 to request assistance. Camp Parks Environmental Office records migratory bird breeding activity on the installation and works to monitor and protect migratory birds in accordance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. (Courtesy photos)



SOLDIER RECOGNITION

Garrison Soldier PCS Award Recognition



Range Safety Inspector Staff Sgt. Mark Eda received the Army Commendation Medal for his outstanding service from 2017-2020. He also received a plaque from co-workers of the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security. Some of his major accomplishments include support to eight major training exercises ensuring safety standards were adhered to. Eda competed on the first-ever Fort Hunter Liggett SGT Audie Murphy Board in 2018 and 2019, and the IMCOM-level Best Warrior Competition 2018. He also volunteers many hours for community events on- and off-post, such as two Operation Surf events for wounded warrior and King City events. He is pictured on left with Garrison Commander Col. Charles Bell and Garrison HHC Commander Maj. Michael Dyrdahl. Eda's next assignment is in Hawaii. Aloha! (Photos by Amy Phillips, FHL Public Affairs)



SOLDIER PROGRAMS

BOSS Hiking Trip and BBQ



Fort Hunter Liggett's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) program conducted a 2-mile hike June 19, 2020 to the White Cross on the hill above the cantonment, and a BBQ at Range Operations afterward. The event gave all single Soldiers an opportunity to get out the barracks and get to know each other. All participants received a safety brief on potential hazards, hydration, and social distancing. Once at the White Cross, Soldiers were able to enjoy the view and fellowship with peers. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Julius Williams, BOSS President)



SOLDIER-FAMILY PROGRAMS

Father's Day at PRFTA



Parks Reserve Forces Training Area held a socially-distanced Father's Day BBQ at the garrison chapel parking lot, with families driving up to collect their meals. The food was cooked by Chaplain (Capt.) Charles Ross and his wife Jody, the NCO Academy Parks Deputy Commandant Sgt. Major Aaron M. Stubenvoll and his wife Lora, and Religious Affairs Specialist Sgt. Yahaira Ocasio. Members from the NCO Academy Parks who assisted in preparing and serving were Commandant Command Sgt. Maj. James C. Stoots and his wife Christy, Allison Stubenvoll, 1st Sgt. Melissa M. Solomon, Chief of Operations Master Sgt. Leon P. Nelson and his wife Davina. The new installation Commander, Lt. Col. Serena D. Johnson, also attended and supported the event by serving and preparing plates. (Courtesy photos)



EMPLOYEE PROGRAMS

Guess Who?



USAG Fort Hunter Liggett/Parks Reserve Forces Training Area workforce is staying ready and resilient, and preventing the spread of COVID-19. Can you guess who these employees are? This is an on-going project so please send the Public Affairs Office your funny photos with face covering. Answers for June 19 storyboards (L-R) Lori Fash, FHL DPTMS; Kelly Atwell, FHL Safety Officer; Talia Wesley, FHL DHR) (Courtesy photos)



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Caribbean Heritage Observance



We celebrate and learn about the diverse workforce at USAG Fort Hunter Liggett/Parks Reserve Forces Training Area through ethnic observances. Army leaders are committed to fostering an environment that promotes and practices diversity equity and inclusion. Family, Morale and Welfare hosted a Caribbean Heritage Month event at both installations featuring guest speakers, music and ethnic food samplings. At FHL, Management Analyst Joel Pean was the speaker of Haitian decent. He shared stories from his childhood, and about the people that he holds dear and that play a significant role in his personal and professional development. At PRFTA Pleasanton-based musician Ashton Craig performed at both events. (Photos by Amy Phillips, FHL Public Affairs)