PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY BBR EF

October - December 2022

IN THIS ISSUE: Norwegian Foot March PoM Fire Department open house DPW saves energy, money Chief, Public Affairs Deputy Chief, Public Affairs Command Information Manager Social Media & Webmaster

Commander

Command Sgt. Major

Deputy Commander

Col. Sam Kline Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Traylor Steven P. Bickel

> vacant Noah Rappahahn Winifred Brown vacant

Contributors

Cameron Binkley

Chaplain (Maj.) Benjamin Ellington

The PoM InBrief is a command-authorized publication for the Monterey military community — published by the Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs Office.

We publish information of interest to members of our community — including all service members, military families, civilian personnel and veterans who access services at our installation.

We always welcome story ideas and submissions of original material.

USAG Presidio of Monterey

Public Affairs Office 1759 Lewis Road Monterey, CA 93944 Phone: (831) 242-5555 Email: presidiopao@gmail.com home.army.mil/monterey

In this edition (click on links)

<u>12th Annual Monterey County Veterans Day Parade</u>	3
229th MI Bn. holds Norwegian Foot March	4
PoM Fire Department holds open house	7
DLIFLC student volunteers as yoga instructor	9
Monterey County honors PoM military family	11
PoM celebrates Thanksgiving	12
Employment readiness helps with remote jobs, USAJobs	13
<u>Victim advocate promotes domestic violence awareness year round</u>	14
<u>Energy projects save energy, money</u>	16
USAG PoM urges wildlife caution	18
<u>PoM PD provides holiday crime, safety tips</u>	20
<u>Tax center closed</u>	22
DLIFLC celebrates Veterans Day	25
PoM helps DLIFLC students create plan to alleviate holiday stress	26
Holiday spirit prevails at Presidio of Monterey	28
From the Historian: An Artist in the Aleutians Campaign	30
Remembering the Memorialized: Nakamura	32
<u>Community calendar</u>	33
<u>News briefs</u>	42
<u>Final photo: Knotts knows knots</u>	46

12th Annual Monterey County Veterans Day Parade











Photos by Winifred Brown Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

Top left: Col. Sam Kline and Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Traylor, the USAG Presidio of Monterey command team, wave from a vehicle during the 12th Annual Monterey County Veterans Day Parade in Salinas, Calif., Nov. 11. **Top:** Fort Hunter Liggett community members wave to the crowd. **From left:** Col. Lisa Lamb, commander of USAG Fort Hunter Liggett, serves as the parade's grand marshall. Lt. Col. Christopher Gin, commander of the 229th Military Intelligence Battalion, leads Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center service members as they march in the parade. Retired Navy Lt. Cmdr. Heather Kline, wife of Col. Kline, delivers the oath of enlistment to future service members before the parade's start.

October - December



Resilency, endurance

Story and photos by Winifred Brown Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — More than 200 members of the 229th Military Intelligence Battalion and other local units successfully completed the demanding 18.6-mile Norwegian Foot March at Fort Ord National Monument on Oct. 28.

Most of the participants were service members studying foreign languages at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, and the battalion held the event in conjunction with the school's Resiliency Day. At the start, Lt. Col. Christopher Gin and Command Sgt. Maj. Lourdes Barragan, the 229th MI Bn.'s command team, emphasized their confidence in the service members.

"You can do it," said Gin, who previously earned the Norwegian Foot March pin. "You've already pushed through however much language training you've pushed through. This is just a physical obstacle."

Likewise, Barragan told service members she had full faith in their ability to finish.

"You've done the legwork to prepare for this. Now it's the mental game," Barragan said. "At some point you're probably going to be like, 'Why did I decide to do this?' and you'll say, 'It's my battle buddies who are right here with me.""

The Norwegian military first held the march in 1915 as a test of marching endurance for soldiers, and participants must complete the timed march while carrying a 24-pound ruck. For the Oct. 28 event, service members carried a 25-pound ruck to ensure everyone would make the standard. Also, service members had to pass 6-mile and 12mile qualification marches at the Army standard to participate. Those who successfully completed the challenge will receive a certificate and pin at an upcoming awards ceremony.



Above: Soldiers share an early congratulations near the end of the Norwegian Foot March at Fort Ord National Monument, Calif., Oct. 28. The 229th Military Intelligence Battalion organized the event to maintain readiness, increase resiliency and build esprit de corps. **Below:** A Soldier helps a comrade remove his ruck at the end of the march.

Drill Sgt. Dalton Hogle, assigned to the 229th MI Bn. and the event's noncommissioned officer in charge, said the march was a good way to build morale and esprit de corps. Service members proved him right by providing encouragement, helping each other throughout the event and celebrating their accomplishments at the end.

Preliminary results showed that Pfc. Sam Ferrone of the 229th MI Bn. had the fastest time with a time of 3 hours, 3 minutes. Ferrone said he likes challenges and competing, and the march was a great way to build camaraderie with a battalion-level event.





Above: Lt. Col. Christopher Gin, left, and Command Sgt. Maj. Lourdes Barragan, the 229th MI Bn.'s command team, speak to service members at the start of the march. Below left: Pfc. Sam Ferrone of the 229th MI Bn. runs during the foot march. He had the fastest time and finished in 3 hours, 3 minutes. Below right: A Soldier preemptively changes his socks before setting out on his final 6-mile lap during the march.



Tactical skills (cont.)

Ferrone said he prepared by squatting weight, running, and working out with the Combat Ready Intelligence Team, which did a lot of rucking. His company also held physical training events to help Soldiers prepare.

Spc. Jude Hedman of the 229th MI Bn. also performed well with a time of 3 hours, 20 minutes. The march helped language students by getting them out of the classroom for the day to focus on a physical challenge, he said.

"Our main focus is learning our languages, which is sufficiently challenging in and of itself, so something like this is good to challenge us physically, get us out of the classroom and remind us that we are Soldiers," Hedman said. "It's good to be well-rounded and not just focusing on one thing."

First Lt. Evan Kent, executive officer for Company B, 229th MI Bn., and officer in charge of the event, said events such as the march help distract students so they can return to the classroom with a better mindset.

"They have a very demanding academic program, and they need to have a break from that," Kent said. "Getting them exercise is never a bad thing and it helps them maintain Army standards as well as their own fitness and health."

While most of the participants were members of the 229th MI Bn., some National Guard, Air Force and Navy service members participated as well.

Seaman Andrew Lloyd, assigned to the Information Warfare Training Command Monterey, was one of four Sailors from the unit who participated.

"It was a lot of fun," said Lloyd after the finish. "I just want to thank the Army for letting us come out here. The guys who came out, I think, thought it was a good time. It was a good challenge, and we hope to have some more events like this in the future."

October - December





Above: Presidio of Monterey Firefighter Kai Takaoka helps Cairo Katlin, 3, operate a fire hose during the department's annual open house at Ord Military Community, Calif., Oct. 19. Left: Ignas Auzelis completes an obstacle course for children during the Presidio of Monterey Fire Department's annual open house at Ord Military Community, Calif., Oct. 19. The department holds the open house annually during National Fire Prevention Week so members of the public can visit the station and learn about fire prevention.

PoM Fire Department holds open house

Story and photos by Winifred Brown Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — When Sharon Hill heard about the open house at the Presidio of Monterey Fire Department on Oct. 15, she immediately knew she had to take her grandson Cairo Katlin, 3. He planned to be a firefighter for Halloween.

"We couldn't pass this up because he's so excited about it," said Hill. "That's why we came over. It was wonderful."

Not only did Hill receive several fire-prevention items from Fire Prevention Inspector Wilfredo Sepulveda, but Cairo also got to sit inside two fire trucks, use a real fire hose with water and meet some firefighters. In addition to many families and others interested in fire safety, Col. Sam Kline, garrison commander, his wife Heather, and Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Traylor also attended.

Sepulveda, who has worked for the department for 15 years, said the department has held an open house every year during National Fire Prevention Week since he has worked there, and the tradition probably started long before he arrived.

The open houses are important so community members can not only learn about fire prevention, but meet firefighters under happy, non-stressful conditions, Sepulveda said.

This year the open house marked the end of National Fire Prevention Week and capped several other community events that included fire extinguisher *Story continued next page*

INBRIEF

Open house (cont.)

training, public education, and Sparky the fire dog appearances.

Sepulveda said people can stop by the station or call to set up a tour any time. "This station is for them," he said. "This is not private; this is public, and this is for the people that we serve."

While fire safety has many components, Sepulveda said he emphasizes a few fire-prevention tips. They include learning how to use a fire extinguisher with the "PASS"—pull (the pin), aim, squeeze and sweep— method; making sure smoke detectors are not more than 10 years old and have fresh batteries once a year; and properly using extension cords and power strips.

To learn about extension cord safety, visit <u>https://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Publications-and-media/Blogs-Landing-Page/Safety-Source/Blog-Posts/2020/05/15/always-say-never-practice-fire-safety-with-extension-cords</u>

To learn about power strip safety, visit <u>https://www.</u> nfpa.org/news-and-research/publications-and-media/ blogs-landing-page/nfpa-today/blog-posts/2018/04/20/ nfpa-1-electrical-fire-safety-and-relocatable-power-tapspower-strips-firecodefridays

To learn about the importance of smoke detectors, visit <u>https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Staying-safe/Safety-equipment/Smoke-alarms</u>

To learn about fire prevention in general, visit the National Fire Protection Association website at (<u>https://www.nfpa.org/Events/Events/Fire-Prevention-Week/Safety-Tip-Sheets</u>). Also visit the CALFIRE website for wildfire information at <u>https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/divisions/community-wildfire-preparedness-and-mitigation/</u>

The PoM Fire Department is available for fire extinguisher training and other public education talks. To set up an appointment, or to visit the station, call (831) 242-7701 or (831) 242-7702.



"This station is for them. This is not private; this is public, and this is for the people that we serve."

— Inspector Wilfredo Sepulveda, PoM Fire Department Above: Tomas Auzelis, left, and his son Ignas pose for a photo with Sparky the fire dog during the Presidio of Monterey Fire Department's annual open house at Ord Military Community, Calif., Oct. 19. Right: Fire Prevention Inspector Wilfredo Sepulveda speaks with quests during the Presidio of Monterey Fire Department's annual open house at the Ord Military Community station.



DLIFLC student volunteers as yoga instructor

Story and photos by Winifred Brown Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — When fellow students at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center discovered that Airman 1st Class Ellie Dean practiced yoga, they asked if she would give them a class.

Dean's first thought was that she would like to take a class herself, so she checked to see if the installation's fitness center offered any yoga classes. It didn't. So Dean took the initiative and volunteered to start instructing a class called GI Yoga. Less than a year later, the class is a popular addition to the installation's repertoire of free group fitness classes that promote fitness, resilience and well-being within the community.

"It's grown into this practice of 10 to 25 people," Dean said. "It's teachers; it's students; it's different departments. It's people here on staff from the clinic, who are stationed here and don't have anything to do with DLI. I like that it's become this very neutral community space."

Most of the service members stationed at the Presidio of Monterey are students learning languages at DLIFLC, and at Dean's Nov. 21 class, a majority of the participants were service members. As students, service members spend a lot of time sitting throughout the day, Dean said, and yoga is a good way to preserve and improve their range of motion, among other advantages.

"It just feels good," said Dean, who is studying the Chinese language. "That's the number one reason, because it feels good. I feel better after I do it."



Airman 1st Class Ellie Dean, a student at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, instructs a GI Yoga class at the Price Fitness Center, Presidio of Monterey, Calif., Nov. 21.

The class meets at 5 p.m. for an hour on Mondays and Thursdays at the Price Fitness Center. Nicole Dansby, the center's manager, said she has enjoyed seeing Dean's class grow in popularity.

"After class the patrons come out of class looking so restful, awakened and calm," Dansby said. "Yoga offers a host of physical and mental benefits for people of all ages and skill levels, including strength, balance, pain relief, stress relief, relaxation, increased energy and more."

Airman Senquavion Scott was one of about 15 attendees at Dean's Nov. 21 class, and although he first heard about the class about a month and a half ago, he wishes he had attended sooner. He had tried yoga stretches a couple of

times on his own, but this was the first time he had ever participated in a class.

"I felt so calm during some of those stretches," Scott said. "You would think with how much you're contorting your body that you would be under a lot of pressure, but you kind of feel at one with yourself when you breathe in, and everything just collects together and then it's just like rides out in a wave. I think it's something everyone should try at least once."

Scott said he definitely plans on returning.

Dean said her mother was a yoga teacher when she was

Story continued next page

Yoga (cont.)





growing up, but she didn't start practicing yoga until about 2016. Although yoga is beneficial for physical fitness, she was more attracted to the philosophical and spiritual side of the practice.

"It can be very metaphorical," Dean said. "You experience something on the mat that's a direct parallel to something that you're experiencing in the rest of your life. People say that the attitude that you bring to yoga is the attitude that you bring to everything, and the practice can serve as a mirror for looking into what things you're going through."

Dean said she welcomes all members of the

community who have access to the Price Fitness Center, and beginners should not feel intimidated.

"People like to say that yoga is for every 'body," Dean said. "Getting a perfect score on a PT test is definitely not a requirement for having a positive experience with yoga."

GI Yoga will resume Jan. 9, after the holiday break. The Price Fitness Center also offers spin, Inferno Pilates and Zumba classes, and they are all free. To learn more about the center and everything it offers, visit <u>https://presidio.armymwr.com/programs/pfc</u>







Monterey County shows appreciation for PoM military family

Story and photo by Winifred Brown Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — The County of Monterey honored a Presidio of Monterey family with a framed copy of the county's Military Family Appreciation Month proclamation at a meeting in Salinas on Nov. 22.

Monterey County Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, a former military child herself, presented the proclamation to Nicholas Morgan, 15, the Porter Youth Center's Military Youth of the Year 2021, and his family. The presentation demonstrated the close ties between the Presidio and surrounding communities.

Nicholas accepted the proclamation with his father, Air Force Master Sgt. Vincent Morgan, mother Ashley, sisters Charlotte, 11, and Abigail, 3, and brother Jackson, 9. Elaine Vrolyks, the PoM school liaison officer, recommended the family for the honor and accompanied them at the meeting.

"The Morgan family, they're amazing," Vrolyks said during the presentation. "They're one of our exemplary families. Nick has been an amazing youth of the year for us."

Nicholas said he appreciated the county's recognition of the sacrifices that military families make, such as deployments and frequent moves.

"They're putting their lives on the line for a greater cause," Nicholas said, "but it's a big sacrifice on their part and I think that should be recognized."

Volunteering at the Porter Youth Center has been a great experience, Nicholas said

"There is an entire community of people who understand what it's like, who have been through what you've been through that you can really connect to on a deeper level, and that can really open you up to new things," Nicholas said. "It can really open your



Monterey County Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, left, honors the Morgan family during a Monterey County Board of Supervisors meeting in Salinas, Calif., Nov. 22. The family received a framed copy of the county's proclamation of November as Military Family Appreciation Month. The Morgan family is, from left, Charlotte Morgan, 11, Ashley Morgan, Abigail Morgan, 3, Nicholas Morgan, 15, Air Force Master Sqt. Vincent Morgan and Jackson Morgan, 9. Elaine Vrolyks, the Presidio of Monterey school liaison officer, stands right.

it changed my entire life."

The resolution recognized the sacrifices and challenges that military families make.

Askew said that as a military child she moved almost yearly, and she appreciates the sacrifices that military families make.

Master Sgt. Morgan said he and his family have been in Monterey for about three years, and in that time, Nicholas has thrived at the Porter Youth Center.

entire world, because one day I stepped in there and Ashley Morgan said she began homeschooling her children when they moved to Monterey, and the Presidio of Monterey has provided a lot of support with the center and the homeschool coop.

> As a military family member, Ashley Morgan also said she appreciates the county's recognition. "I think it's good to get recognition when sometimes maybe [military families] don't feel recognized," she said. "Sometimes sacrifices go unnoticed. I think it's nice to shine a little spotlight once in awhile in a crowd that usually doesn't like the spotlight as much."

The Presidio celebrates Thanksgiving









Photos by Noah Rappahahn, U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

Above: Col. Sam Kline, commander of U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey, serves the Thanksgiving meal at the Chay Dining Facility at the Presidio of Monterey, Calif., Nov. 24. Leadership from the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center joined him in serving the meal, which included turkey, all the fixings and more. Military leadership serving holiday meals is a long-standing military tradition that builds community and reinforces the service-over-self mentality.

PoM employment readiness helps with USAJobs, remote work

Story and photo by Heather Kline Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — Katilynn Snow, employment readiness program specialist at the Presidio of Monterey, made navigating USAJobs and finding a remote job easier by providing a class for the military community Nov. 29.

"USAJobs can be daunting at first, but with the right tools and mindset you can have success in finding the perfect remote job for you," Snow told the class at Army Community Service headquarters.

Snow instructed the class of military spouses and veterans on how to understand and navigate through USAJobs and set up a profile for themselves. She presented options on government remote work versus telework positions and reviewed how to use websites such as Remote.co at *https://remote.co*; Arc at https://arc.dev; FlexJobs at https://www.flexjobs. *com*: and IustRemote at *https://iustremote.co*

In addition, Snow told the class she is available by appointment to help them individually. "I will help with anything from education and career planning, to resume writing and applying to internships," she said.

A key take-away for the class is that she can help with master resumes that community members can then build upon themselves, Snow said.

Although remote positions can be difficult to find initially, Snow also offered several websites to help narrow the search.



Katilynn Snow, employment readiness program specialist at the Presidio of Monterey, holds a class on navigating USAJobs and searching for remote jobs at Ord Military Community, Calif., Nov. 29.

"When looking at the correct websites and narrowing said she learned a lot and looks forward to putting down their search they have better chances of getting a position they will enjoy," Snow said. "Educating yourself about what is out there is the best way to get your foot in the door, that's why these classes are provided."

Snow, a military spouse herself, also provided encouragement. "I want spouses to know that they can have a career that follows them through all their remotely," she said.

Those who took the class said they found it useful.

Deeanna Lodzeischi, an Army veteran and spouse,

the information to use. "There's more remote work available than I thought, and I think every spouse should attend these classes to gather the most information possible," she said.

Snow's next class on USAJobs and remote work will be on Dec. 20 at ACS headquarters in the General Stilwell Community Center, Bldg. 4260, Ord Military Community. Contact Snow at (831) 242-7659 and PCS moves and ones that will allow them to work learn more about the PoM Employment Readiness (https://presidio.armymwr.com/ Program at programs/acs/employment-readiness-program). The program also has a Facebook page under "Presidio of Monterey Employment Readiness."

PoM victim advocate promotes domestic violence awareness



Above: Jillian Santillanez, right, victim advocate for the Presidio of Monterey's Family Advocacy Program, participates in the YWCA Monterey County Week Without Violence Seaside Walk in Seaside, Calif., Oct. 19. **Below:** Santillanez hangs a banner in honor of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month at the Presidio of Monterey, Calif., Sept. 30.



"Domestic violence is not just a knock-down, drag-out fight where there's property destruction or people getting severely injured. Domestic violence can include isolation, control, coercion."

— Jillian Santillanez, FAP victim advocate **Story and photos by Winifred Brown** Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — If nothing more, Jillian Santillanez, victim advocate for the Presidio of Monterey's Family Advocacy Program, wants community members to know she is available as a resource.

In addition to providing support to victims of domestic violence, Santillanez can help friends, coworkers and family members who are concerned about someone who may be experiencing domestic violence.

"Domestic violence is not just a knock-down, dragout fight where there's property destruction or people getting severely injured," Santillanez said. "Domestic violence can include isolation, control, coercion. That's what I've seen a lot of coming out of Covid."

Santillanez had a busy month during October, which is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. She kicked off the month by putting up banners on post. Next, she organized an event where Col. Sam Kline and Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Traylor, the U.S. Army Garrison PoM command team, gave away 180 water bottles with the local domestic violence hotline printed on them.

Then she highlighted the month through a Purple Pumpkin Giveaway, participated in the YWCA Monterey County Week Without Violence Seaside Walk and briefed service members about healthy relationships at two events.

Her goal throughout it all was to raise awareness so community members know she is there to help, increase knowledge of the Presidio's domestic violence hotline number and provide information about domestic violence and healthy relationships.

Story continued next page

Awareness (cont.)

Santillanez said it is important for people to know that domestic violence can impact all genders, socioeconomic statuses, and affiliations. It can have deep and long-lasting effects for people from all walks of life.

"If I have an awareness that domestic violence affects people from all these spectrums, then I'll feel comfortable saying, 'You know, can I talk to you about your safety? Do you have a plan? Do you know what the shelter number is?" Santillanez said.

Santillanez started working as a victim advocate nearly 28 years ago after a job coach asked her to name her dream job. She went home, thought about it, and concluded that she wanted to help people in the military or people that have been abused or sexually assaulted. The coach helped find her a job answering a hotline and providing counseling at a domestic violence shelter, and she never looked back.

"What I like about my job is working ground level with people, helping them in times of crisis and being able to be a guide for people," Santillanez said. "I like being a resource to them and to help them navigate through what is probably the worst time in their lives."

In addition to the PoM community, Santillanez works with surrounding communities to fight domestic violence. She attends monthly meetings of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Monterey County, which includes representatives from about 20 local organizations. She also works with her local counterpart for the Navy, Karlette Anderson, victim advocate for the Navy's Fleet and Family Support Center, and they provided information at a table together at the Oct. 19 YWCA Monterey County Week Without Violence Seaside Walk.

At the walk, Christine Duncan, chief executive officer of YWCA Monterey County, said she appreciates Santillanez's support with community domestic



Jillian Santillanez, right, victim advocate for the Presidio of Monterey's Family Advocacy Program, and Karlette Anderson, victim advocate for the Navy's Fleet and Family Support Center, provide information at the YWCA Monterey County Week Without Violence Seaside Walk in Seaside, Calif., Oct. 19.

violence issues, as well as her presence at events such as the YWCA walk.

Santillanez holds domestic violence awareness events throughout the year, but many of them are concentrated in October. The Family Advocacy Program falls under PoM Army Community Service, and Allen Rivera, the organization's head, said ACS and FAP personnel want the events to be fun as well as informational.

At the Oct. 14 Purple Pumpkin Giveaway, for example, Rivera said, "This event is important for our families to have a certain level of awareness that it's number one: Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and number two: to enjoy themselves, to enjoy Halloween and to just be able to enjoy the holiday."

Likewise, Hugo Ambriz Tena, advisor for PoM's Better

Opportunities for Single Service Members, said service members had a blast at an Oct. 21 pumpkin carving event that featured a briefing by Santillanez on healthy relationships at the beginning.

For those looking for online information about domestic violence, Santillanez said the Military OneSource website provides a lot of good information at <u>www.militaryonesource.mil/family-relationships/</u><u>relationships/domestic-abuse-help</u>

Santillanez said it is also important that people know they can call her and the hotline anonymously; they do not track phone numbers.

People can call Santillanez at (831) 242-5863 Monday through Friday. The PoM hotline number is available 24-7 at (831) 206-2789.

DPW energy projects save energy, money

Story and photos by Winifred Brown Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — A refurbished heating and ventilation system at the Ord Military Community's Post Exchange not only saves \$43,000 in energy costs annually, but also makes the building more comfortable for customers and employees.

Richard Thorne, energy manager for U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey, said the project is one of four energy projects the garrison completed this year that he expects will save taxpayers a total of more than \$52,000 annually. While the garrison planned three of the projects well in advance, a simple observation led to the fourth — showing it always pays to be on the lookout for energy savings.

The PX project is the largest of the four projects, and to accomplish the savings, contractors refurbished all the existing heating and ventilating units that serve the main PX store and adjoining mall stores, Thorne said. They also added new controls to the system.

"The units are from the late 1970s or mid 1980s and had not been overhauled in a very long time," Thorne said. "It was ripe for an energy project."

Given the cool temperatures in Monterey year-round, air conditioning is not necessary, so the system pulls air from outside the building and distributes it inside, Thorne said. The old system ran all day, but the new system, which came online in the spring, runs only 20% of the time.



Richard Thorne, energy manager for U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey, checks on a refurbished control system that more efficiently regulates airflow at a Post Exchange mall at Ord Military Community, Calif., Sept. 22.

"The units are from the late 1970s or mid 1980s and had not been overhauled in a very long time. It was ripe for an energy project."

— Richard Thorne, energy manager

The new unit's air dampers and controls modulate the fan speed and damper position to provide the right amount of air for heating, ventilation and cooling, Thorne said. Energy savings comes from reducing the fan speed in heating and ventilation modes.



The Post Exchange mall has a refurbished heating and ventilation system at Ord Military Community, Calif.

Story continued next page

Energy (cont.)

The system's computerized control panel allows operators to see if something is wrong with the system and fix it before customers and employees even notice there's a problem. Thorne said.

In addition, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service paid for the replacement of aging fluorescent lighting with more energy-efficient LEDs, Thorne said.

"This energy project, along with the AAFES lighting project, as resulted in almost 30% energy savings when comparing FY22 to pre-COVID FY2019," Thorne said. "With the new controls and air dampers, the building is much more comfortable and less stagnate."

Another project in Building 618, Munzer Hall, an administrative building for the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, involved adjusting the heating and cooling airflow rates and the outside airflow for each variable air volume zone box to the correct amounts, Thorne said.

Thorne said that any time technicians can decrease a motor speed, it leads to power savings. "Even small changes in speed changes can result in significant power savings," he said.

In addition, employees often leave the front doors to the building open for an ocean breeze, Thorne said, and this eliminates the need for a fan, Thorne said. "Again, saving quite a bit of energy keeping the fan off when it is not needed," he said.

These simple programming changes resulted in about 20% energy savings comparing FY2022 energy bills to pre-COVID 2019 energy bills, or a savings of about \$3,000 annually, Thorne said.

Another project at Building 4283, the Porter Youth Center, saved about \$6,000 annually by adjusting the heating system controls to better match the occupancy usage, Thorne said.

The heating system was coming on too early, Thorne



The airflow distribution system at the Post Exchange mall at Ord Military Community, Calif., runs well after decades of use. A new, computerized control system, however, has cut the system's run time from 100% to 20%, saving taxpayers a lot of energy and money.

said, and the air systems also came on too early— on to ensure the space is not too hot in the morning. pushing cold air into the building until the heating system started.

To fix the problem, technicians updated the system's schedules to start the heating system first, then the air system about 30 minutes before occupancy, Thorne said. They also programmed in all the federal holidays, for a total of about \$6,000 annually in savings, in addition to making the building more comfortable.

The fourth project Thorne spearheaded himself after noticing that a fan at the World Café across the street from his office was always on.

owner about the fan," Thorne said. "It turns out the fan is controlled by a simple switch. The fan is left

Once that kitchen gets going early, it takes no time before the space is really warm, especially if there was no air circulation before opening."

Thorne submitted a work request, and technicians will a simple programmable timer and reverse the fan's airflow direction to blow air into the space instead of exhaust. Thorne said.

The simple fix will reduce the fan energy consumption by about 70% and save about \$90 annually, Thorne said.

To report ideas that might save energy at USAG PoM, contact Thorne at (831) 242-4296 or "During a recent coffee stop I asked the World Café richard.l.thorne4.civ@army.mil. Learn ways to save energy at the U.S. Department of Energy's website www.energy.gov



Photo by Niki Yoblonski, via the U.S. National Park Service

USAG PoM urges wildlife caution

Story by Winifred Brown Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — After reports of mountain lion activity in the natural areas around the Presidio of Monterey, garrison officials stress that one safety measure is critical if community members encounter one: Don't run.

Joseph Alfonso, safety manager for U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey, said running can stimulate a mountain lion's instinct to chase, so it is necessary for us to overcome our human instinct to run from a large, predatory animal.

"Do not turn your back on a mountain lion; back up slowly," Alfonso said. "Do all you can to appear larger. Raise your arms; open your jacket if you're wearing one; wave your arms slowly and speak in a firm, loud voice."

Mountain lion attacks on humans are rare, especially in places where they have plenty of prey species to eat. Mountain lions like to eat deer, and they are abundant in areas around the Presidio of Monterey, but that does not rule out the possibility of an attack, so it is important for community members to know the basics of mountain lion safety.

Alfonso said that mountain lions, also called cougars, can run as fast as 50 mph, so it's vital for people to understand they cannot outrun a mountain lion. The fastest human ever, Usain Bolt, has a record speed of nearly 27 mph, according to Britannica encyclopedia. Even he wouldn't last long.

Also, do not crouch down, Alfonso said, because a standing human does not resemble a mountain lion's natural prey. It is also important to note that mountain lions can climb trees quickly, so climbing a tree to escape will not help, he added.

Story continued next page

Above: Female mountain lion P-35

in the Santa Susana Mountains of

are adult males. Adult females can

weigh between 65 and 90 pounds.

Mountain lion attacks on humans are rare, especially in places where

they have plenty of prey species to eat. Mountain lions like to eat deer,

around the Presidio of Monterey, but

that does not rule out the possibility of an attack, so it is important for

community members to be cautious.

meanwhile, have short tails and fur

mountain lions are the same as for

bobcat would attack a human is if their young were threatened.

Left: Bobcats are much smaller than mountain lions. Bobcats,

markings even as adults, Leisten said. In general, the safety rules for

bobcats. The only likely reason a

and they are abundant in areas

California. Mountain lions can weigh between 130 and 150 pounds if they

18

Wildlife (cont.)

In fact, Tania Leisten, chief of the garrison's environmental division, said mountain lions like to hang out in trees, so people should maintain situational awareness in forested areas and look up.

Running for exercise is a common activity around Monterey and the former Fort Ord, and Alfonso said people should avoid running alone, especially at dawn or dusk.

Leisten said runners should also be especially careful in forested areas. In addition, parents should stay near their children, talk to them about the importance of not running away from mountain lions, and pick up small children in the presence of a mountain lion.

Mountain lions see children as easier prey because they are smaller, according to the U.S. Forest Service.

Of the 22 documented mountain lion attacks in California since 1986, half of them have been on children ages 10 and younger, according to California Department of Fish and Wildlife statistics.

The same set of statistics does not list any attacks happening in Monterey County during that time. A possible reason could be the large population of deer in Monterey.

Leisten said mountain lion attacks on humans are not typical, especially if their prey species are abundant. Mountain lions mostly like to eat deer, according to the U.S. Forest Service, and there are plenty in the Monterey area.

Mountain lion sightings are common in Monterey, and the Presidio of Monterey usually receives one or two annually, Leisten said. They are typically in September through November.

The sightings often take place in or next to wooded areas, Leisten said, and it is likely the most recent sighting, which is unconfirmed, took place in a forested area near the Post Exchange and Building 630 on the Presidio of Monterey.

Most of the garrison's documented mountain lion sightings have been in the fall season, Leisten said, and sightings are most common at dusk and dawn.



Photo by Noah Rappahahn, Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

Deer are abundant in the Monterey area, and they often congregate in front of the U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey Headquarters.

Alfonso said signs that a mountain lion has been in the have fur markings. area include tracks, scat, scratches and claw marks on felled trees or the lower part of standing trees.

To keep mountain lions away from residences, people should bring pets inside in the evenings, Alfonso said. "Also bring in their food and water as mountain lions often seek out sources of water and food, especially during the drought," he said.

Mountain lion territory can range from 30 to 125 square miles. Alfonso said.

Bobcats are another species of wild cat in the Monterey area, and Leisten said it is easy to distinguish them from mountain lions because mountain lions are much larger, have a long tail that touches the ground, and are a solid color when they are adults. Only young mountain lions

Bobcats, meanwhile, have short tails and fur markings even as adults, Leisten said. In general, the safety rules for mountain lions are the same as for bobcats. The only likely reason a bobcat would attack a human is if their young were threatened.

For more information on mountain lion safety in California, visit (https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/ Mammals/Mountain-Lion).For more information on living with wildlife in California, visit (https://wildlife. ca.gov/Living-with-Wildlife#550022424-who-do-i-callto-report-sick-injured-or-orphaned-wildlife). To report a mountain lion sighting to the USAG PoM Environmental Division, call (831) 242-7632.

PoM PD provides holiday crime prevention, safety tips

By Winifred Brown Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — Thieves steal packages from doorsteps throughout the year, but with the uptick in holiday package deliveries after Thanksgiving, reports of the crime double.

Officer Michael Mancini with the Presidio of Monterey Police Department said there are several steps residents can take to prevent stolen packages and other holiday-related crimes.

For example, at the point of purchase, residents can often provide delivery drivers with instructions about where to place a package, said Mancini, who has 28 years of law enforcement experience. Drivers could place the package behind a bush or other obstruction — anywhere but in plain sight.

Also, security cameras on or near front doors can provide evidence for police to catch a thief and alert a resident to a person at their door and allow them to speak to them remotely via cell phone, Mancini said. The person at the door, however, will not know someone is not home.

The more residents on a block who have door cameras, Mancini said, the better chances police will be able to see evidence such as a license plate.

Residents can also track their packages and try to be home to receive items. Another tip is to coordinate with neighbors to accept packages or remove them for later pick-up.

In addition, the Presidio of Monterey Police Department offers free housing checks twice a day to residents of The Parks at Monterey Bay homes. The



Photo by Winifred Brown, U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

Officer Michael Mancini of the Presidio of Monterey Police Department looks at the license and registration of a driver during a traffic stop at Ord Military Community, Calif., Nov. 8.

Parks is the Army's partner for military housing on the Monterey Peninsula. To request a housing check, residents must visit the department's lobby at 4468 Gigling Road, Ord Military Community.

Mancini said it's also important for residents to keep in mind that the military installations of Ord Military Community and La Mesa Village are open posts, and they do not have the same degree of security as the closed posts residents might have lived on previously. With this in mind, residents should keep items such as bikes and toys out of plain sight on their lawns and porches. In a similar vein, residents should not leave items in plain view in their vehicles at any time.

Also, although the recreational vehicle storage lots at Ord Military Community contain security measures such as fencing, cameras and barbed wire, it is still a good idea for owners to check on their vehicles periodically — once a week if possible — in case of a break-in, Mancini said.

Other holiday-related tips include designating a driver when attending holiday parties and keeping potentially poisonous plants such as mistletoe and holly berries away from children.

To prevent fires, people should place live Christmas trees at least three feet away from heaters; buy *Story continued next page*

Holiday crime (cont.)

artificial trees labeled "fire resistant;" and only use indoor lights indoors and outdoor lights outdoors. It's also critical to shut off holiday lights and extinguish candles before bedtime.

Residents who see anything suspicious in their neighborhood should report it to the police department right away at (831) 242-7851. Prompt reporting helps police respond more effectively. In case of emergency, call 911.



Photo by Officer Michael Mancini, Presidio of Monterey Police Department

To prevent package thefts, residents should direct delivery drivers to place packages behind items such as bushes, coordinate to be home during deliveries or have neighbors pick them up for safekeeping.

Consumer information: CA Bill 1311, Military and Veteran Consumer Protection Act of 2022

By Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

All California service members, active and Reserve, and veterans should be aware of a new California law passed and signed in late September that increases military consumer protections in several ways, including:

• The possible civil penalty for unlawful, unfair, fraudulent, or deceptive business acts or practices against service members and/or veterans has been doubled.

• A service member who has a pending small claim in court now has more flexible options for potentially appearing via video or having a representative appear on their behalf if their duties preclude them from appearing in person.

• It is unlawful for any business to require that a service member scan their Common Access Card, place it in any kind of reader, supply their PIN, or log into any government computer information system, in connection with a transaction or sale of goods and services.

• No military or veterans discounts can be conditioned upon the recipient service member or veteran having to wave any of their rights under state or federal law.



Photo by Winifred Brown, U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs The Presidio of Monterey Legal Services Office can help with questions about consumer legal issues.

- Service members can now cancel a vehicle lease if they received orders to a duty station more than 100 miles away, or if they are activated and/ or deployed for 90 days.
- Protections under the Military Lending Act have been strengthened to cap the annual percentage rates of loans given to military personnel.

Find more information and a full text of the new law here: <u>https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/</u> <u>faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB1</u> <u>311&fbclid=IwAR0seJv5o5v40N7mCPCova3pDY-</u> <u>Yrg4lolr5dQNE0jaDJKyF4GBKATQuT4g</u>

PoM Tax Center closed

By Kristeen Thomas Legal Assistance Paralegal

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. – Effective Sept. 30, the Presidio of Monterey Legal Assistance Office ceased to provide routine tax preparations service. The legal assistance mission has grown significantly to include counseling victims of domestic violence, representing tenants in privatized housing disputes, assisting clients within the Army Adverse Information Process, advocating for parents of special needs students, and continued assistance with mandatory mission sets which require legal competency and skill.

Based on these increased demands on our services, and a concomitant reduction in funding, tax centers can no longer be operated by Army Legal Assistance Offices.

Assistance with substantive tax inquires for all clients and preparation services to surviving families will continue as a part of the Army Legal Assistance Program per AR 27-3. Service members and dependents may find free of charge tax preparation programs by visiting the IRS website at https://www.e-file.com or Military One Source at

https://www.militaryonesource.mil/

Should you have any questions or concerns, please call our office at (831) 242-5083/5084.

DoD initiative will reduce prices at commissaries

By Defense Commissary Agency and Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. – Service members and their families will soon see a 3-5% decrease in pricing on most grocery items in their commissaries as part of a Department of Defense initiative to bolster the economic security and stability of the military community. DoD's "Taking Care of Service Members and Families" initiative lays out comprehensive actions to support military members struggling with the financial impacts of inflation, supply chain disruptions and the pandemic.

"The department's added investment in our budget allows us to reduce commissary prices at the register about 3-5% on most items – particularly on food staples that struggling military families need most such as bread, eggs, milk and more," said Bill Moore, director and CEO of the Defense Commissary Agency. "With this boost we can achieve at least 25% in overall savings for eligible patrons who shop their commissaries."

Officials expect commissary customers to see price changes at most locations by mid-October. Pricing on some products and categories will vary.

"We're excited to implement this



program here locally to benefit the military community on the Central Coast," said Alex J. King, director of Ord Community and Fort Hunter Liggett commissaries. "This program helps us fulfill our commitment to give the best possible benefit to our service members and their families, and all members of our military community who shop at the commissary."

King also encouraged commissary shoppers to consider making use of the "Click 2 Go" online ordering system.

"For those patrons who may not have time to shop or come into the store, Click 2 Go is a great time saver. You can shop right from your phone the night before and schedule a pickup the next day without having U.S. Army photo

to get out of your car. It's very convenient for those shoppers with time constraints," King said. Before the additional DoD funding, DeCA was able to provide service members and their families with discounted groceries that cost on average 22% less than civilian grocery stores for fiscal year 2022. "Going forward with the department's initiatives, we want to sustain the increased savings through fiscal year 2023 and exceed the 25% benchmark to the extent our resources allow," Moore said. "In addition to the savings, we provide healthy food options, clean and safe stores, convenience and premier customer service for our service members and their families." Moore said.

Chaplain's Encouraging Word: Getting even with good

By Chaplain (Maj). Ben Ellington

Have you ever had that person you could not just seem to get along with? A co-worker, family member, or friend of a friend suddenly becomes the bane of your existance. You find yourself actively avoiding them or becoming a



different agitated person when you are around them. The temptation is to harbor anger towards them and become bitter.

However, as Mark Gungor the famous relationship counselor says, "Bitterness is like taking poison hoping the other person dies, it never works." So, how do you treat people who mistreat you? What is the best approach?

Consider Proverbs 25:21-22, "If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

Kindness is the key. It will either change their heart and yours or make them not want to be around you. Either way it solves the situation and allows you to treat everyone with dignity and respect. Remember, you cannot control their behavior, but you are accountable for yours!

Halloween trunk or treat at La Mesa



Photos by Winifred Brown, U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey

The "2022 Spooktacular" at La Mesa Village on Oct. 21 featured a trunk-or-treat, face painting, pony rides, a petting zoo, a cake walk and much more. The Parks at Monterey Bay held the event to kick off Halloween festivities and bring the community together. Hundreds turned out, with all the children and many of the adults in costume.

229th MI Bn. hosts trunk or treat, haunted house





Photos by Noah Rappahahn Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

The weekend before Halloween was full of fun activities, to include the 229th Military Intelligence Battalion trunk or treat event at the Presidio of Monterey. Hundreds of ghouls, goblins and other mysterious creatures swarmed Soldier Field and then went to a haunted house across the street at the Weckerling Center. If the evening had a theme, it was clearly friendship. Two T-Rex dinosaurs found one another and began holding hands. A pair of ghosts in classic ghost attire roamed the event together. And apparently, as the photo to the left shows, Chuckie and Jason found one another, and instead of going on the attack, simply held their weapons on high.

INBRIEF



OCTOBER - DECEMBER

DLIFLC celebrates Veterans Day

By Natela Cutter DLIFLC Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center held a Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 10 on the upper Presidio of Monterey with military personnel, veterans, faculty, staff and students in attendance.

"I'd like to start today by thanking all those among us who, despite the risk and sacrifice, served and continue to serve our nation with honor and distinction," remarked DLIFLC Commandant Col. James A. Kievit.

The ceremony took place in DLIFLC's central courtyard, overlooking the Berlin Wall memorial, featuring three individual partitions of the wall that once divided East and West Berlin. Guests included local community leaders, service commanders representing the Army, Marines, Navy and Air Force. About 20 students from the Carmel River Elementary School also attended.

"Every society requires warriors to defend its version of civilization. As the Yale University historian Timothy Snyder wrote, 'If none of us is prepared to die for freedom, then all of us will die under tyranny," stated guest speaker, retired Col. Kevin Rice, referring to the reasons why veterans serve.

Rice presented some statistics about veterans to the audience. "About 7% of the adult population are veterans. About one in eight men are veterans. Roughly one in 100 women are veterans, but so what?" he questioned.

"Let's consider the human element of our veterans." Quoting former U.S. Senator John McCain, Rice said, "Friendship, sacrifice, and romance are what those



Photo by Leo Carrillo, DLIFLC Public Affairs

From left: Retired Col. Kevin Rice, former head of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center; DLIFLC Command Sgt. Maj. Ernesto Cruz and DLIFLC Commandant Col. James Kievit place a Veterans Day wreath at the Presidio of Monterey, Calif., Nov. 10.

who serve honorably in our Armed Forces feel for one another. Serving a cause greater than yourself. No man is an island within himself, ask not for whom the bell tolls."

During Rice's tenure as commandant from 2000 to 2003, 9/11 took place.

"Thanks to him [Rice] and his extraordinary management capabilities, DLI was able — within three months — to produce training materials for the War on Terror in multiple languages," explained Kievit. "His team created predeployment materials and piloted laptops and smart boards in the classrooms, paving the way for what we have today

... an agile and innovative organization."

The event concluded with the commandant, Command Sgt. Maj. Ernesto Cruz, and the guest speaker presenting a wreath in honor of all veterans.

DLIFLC provides resident instruction in 14 languages at the Presidio of Monterey, California, with the capacity to instruct another 65 languages in Washington, D.C. More than 230,000 linguists have graduated from the institute since 1941.

In addition, multiple language training detachments exists at sites in the U.S., Europe, Hawaii and Korea. They span all the U.S. geographic combatant commands in support of the total force.

PoM helps DLIFLC students create plan to alleviate holiday stress

Story and photo by Winifred Brown Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — The cookies that military service members decorated during the "Holiday Cookie Decorating" event at the Hobson Recreation Center on Dec. 9 disappeared into their mouths almost as quickly as they made them.

Jillian Santillanez, however, victim advocate with the Presidio of Monterey Family Advocacy Program, hopes that the information she shared with them about how to combat holiday stress at the event's beginning will last long after the holidays are over.

"Whatever you're going home to this holiday season, I want to stress that you have a stress management plan," Santillanez told the crowd of more than 50 service members. Santillanez organized the event with Hugo Ambriz Tena, PoM Better Opportunities for Single Service Members advisor, and it took place on a busy Friday night at the center, which is support. In addition, she passed around a sheet that "It's only been 30 minutes at my first time at BOSS, also BOSS headquarters. Most service members at PoM are students at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, and service members from all military branches attend the school.

up with a long list of activities that would help alleviate stress: going for a walk, wrestling, playing an instrument, taking a nap, journaling, meditating, going to see a movie, playing video games and "not getting married," as one service member suggested.

Santillanez also taught service members breathing techniques and asked them to think of one person they could call or text who would provide them with



Jillian Santillanez, victim advocate with the Presidio of Monterey Family Advocacy Program, teaches military service members breathing techniques to eliminate stress during the "Holiday Cookie Decorating" event at the Presidio of Monterey, Calif., Dec. 9. Better Opportunities for Single Service Members also sponsored the event, and Hugo Ambriz Tena, BOSS advisor, stands next to Santillanez.

contained hotline numbers. "I want you to take a but it's been great so far," said Army Spc. Conor screen shot of this because if you don't need this, somebody you know might need this," she said.

Tena told service members he encourages them Together, Santillanez and service members came to visit the Hobson during the break if they are staying in Monterey. Not only will the Hobson be open throughout the break, but BOSS has 15 events planned, including a basketball free-throw contest, a trip to a go-cart center and Christmas movies, hot cocoa and snacks from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Dec. 25.

> Service members said they enjoyed the event and appreciated the stress briefing.

O'Malley.

O'Malley said he is staying in Monterey for the break and looks forward to participating in some of the BOSS events. He also appreciated Santillanez's succinct briefing that encouraged service members to have a strategy going into the holidays.

Army Pvt. Sarah Sitton said she had fun decorating cookies and using the art supplies that Santillanez and Tena provided.

Story continued next page

Stress (cont.)

"I'm an artist and I will never pass up the opportunity to draw," Sitton said. "I enjoy decorating cookies because it reminds me of my sister. She loves making cookies and cakes and decorating them."

Learning a language can be stressful, Sitton said, and it is great that the installation provides events such as "Holiday Cookie Decorating" so service members can let loose steam.

Santillanez provided the following list of resources and ways to combat holiday stress:

"Chill Drills" is a collection of simple audio mindfulness exercises designed to relax the body and mind. The Defense Department developed the exercises for the military community, and they are available through a mobile app or the Military OneSource website. For more information, visit <u>https:// www.militaryonesource.mil/health-wellness/</u> prevention-care/chill-drills-by-militaryonesource-app/

How you are feeling – your mood – is a big factor in how satisfied you are with your life. It also impacts the quality of your relationships with others. To help you improve your mood and enjoy life more, Military OneSource offers "MoodHacker," a free resilience tool that lets you track, understand and improve how you're feeling. Find it at <u>https://www. militaryonesource.mil/confidential-help/interactivetools-services/resilience-tools/improve-your-moodwith-moodhacker/</u>

"CoachHub" is a resilience tool from Military OneSource that gives you access to a personal online coach. It is one of several coaching solutions available to service members and their families. And unlike commercial life coaching programs, it's free. Learn more at <u>https://www.militaryonesource.mil/</u> *confidential-help/interactive-tools-services/resiliencetools/coachhub-a-mobile-coach-for-your-life/*

PoM Domestic Violence Hotline: (831) 206-2789



also impacts the quality of your relationships with others. To help you improve your mood and enjoy life more, Military OneSource *Above: Students at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center decorate cookies during the "Holiday Cookie Decorating" event at the Presidio of Monterey, Calif., Dec. 9.* **Right:** The "Holiday Cookie Decorating" event was popular with students.

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: (800) 273-8255 or call 988

Sexual Assault DoD Safe Helpline: (877) 995-5247

RAINN National Sexual Assault Hotline: (800) 656-4673 (available to military and civilian)

National Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233.

National Alliance on Mental Illness: https://nami.org/

PoM Family Advocacy Program: <u>https://presidio.</u> <u>armymwr.com/programs/acs/family-advocacy</u> or (831) 242-7653



Holiday spirit prevails at Presidio of Monterey









Story and photos by Winifred Brown Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY, Calif. — Not only did the weather report not look good for the Presidio of Monterey's Holiday Fun Run on Dec. 10, but the weather itself did not look good. It was spitting rain and gusts of wind blew ominously.

Santa had to hold down the run's inflatable start-finish line so it wouldn't blow away, and the race director looked nervous.

In true military fashion, however, more than 150 runners showed up, showing their holiday spirit dressed in ugly sweaters, elf attire and Santa hats galore. That's when the holiday magic happened. It did not rain. The wind abated. The sun came out a little. Runners had fun. The event captured the holiday spirit that has pervaded the installation this holiday season.

Better Opportunities for Single Service Members sponsored this year's tree lighting at the Hobson Recreation Center on Dec. 2 with Col. Sam Kline and Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Traylor, the U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey command team, in attendance.

Story continued next page

Top: Santa high fives a runner at the finish of the Holiday Fun Run at Ord Military Community, Calif., Dec. 10. **From left:** Santa rings his bell in front of the lit holiday tree at the Hobson Recreation Center, Presidio of Monterey, Calif., Dec. 2, during the first Community Tree Lighting at the facility. Col. Sam Kline, left, and Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Traylor, the U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey command team, clap as the holiday tree lights up. Lucy, 3, meets Santa at the Community Tree Lighting.

InBrief

OCTOBER - DECEMBER









Top: Zoe Merritts, standing left, director of the Presidio of Monterey New Parent Support Program, meets with families during the program's special playgroup Holiday Cookie Decorating event at PoM Army Community Service, Ord Military Community, Dec. 13. **Above left:** A mother and child decorate holiday cookies together during the PoM New Parent Support Program's special playgroup Holiday Cookie Decorating event at PoM Army Community Service, Ord Military Community, Dec. 13. **Above right:** Nicole Dansby, manager of the Price Fitness Center, registers a woman for the Holiday Fun Run during the Winter Expo at Ord Military Community, Calif., Dec. 8. **Left:** A mother smiles as her daughter colors a bookmark during the Winter Expo.

Holiday spirit [cont.]

"Remember what this season really means," Kline told the crowd. "It's a symbol of togetherness, of unity, of hope, of friendship."

Most service members at PoM are students at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, and they hail from all branches of the military. Many attended the tree lighting, and Kline told them to look out for one another during the upcoming holiday break.

"If you haven't done so already, take a phone number from your battle buddy," Kline said. "Check in on them once in a while. Give them a little phone call or send a text. 'Hey, how are you doing? Is everything OK?' Because that's what families do, we look out for each other, and we're all part of the [Department of Defense] family."

Hugo Ambriz Tena, BOSS advisor, said he always wants service members to think of the Hobson as their home away from home, and it will be open throughout block leave so service members will always have a place to go.

BOSS officials decided to host the tree lighting because it is a big morale booster, Ambriz Tena said. "The fact that we were able to do something small but make it so meaningful is just awesome for us," he said.

The Presidio community also celebrated the holidays by decorating a lot of cookies.

On Dec. 9, BOSS and the PoM Family Advocacy Program teamed up to host the "Holiday Cookie Decorating" event at the recreation center. More than 50 service members attended, and Jillian Santillanez victim advocate with PoM FAP, taught them holiday stress relief techniques before they started decorating cookies.

Then, on Dec. 13, the PoM New Parent Support Program hosted a special "Holiday Cookie Decorating" playgroup at the Stilwell Community Center at Ord Military Community. The playgroup, for infants through 4-yearold children, meets normally from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. each Tuesday, and the group kept its usual schedule, but the children decorated cookies with frosting and sprinkles instead of their usual activities.

Another holiday favorite was the Winter Expo, where military families picked up free donated stocking stuffers, visited information tables, enjoyed refreshments and made holiday-themed crafts.

Elaine Vrolyks, PoM school liaison officer and event organizer, said the event not only got the community together for fun activities, it also helped the community at large share their holiday spirit with the military community.

"I know I tell every parent as they're walking through the toys that these come from [the community]," Vrolyks said. "It just shows how the community supports military families. It's amazing the amount of toys we get."

PoM FMWR has several holiday block leave events scheduled. Find a complete list at <u>https://presidio.</u> <u>armymwr.com/calendar/event/holidayblock-leave-events/5813177/74960</u>

FROM THE HISTORIAN: An Army Artist in the Aleutians Campaign

By Cameron Binkley

DLIFLC Command Historian

Few World War II campaigns are as forgotten as the 14-month effort to expel Japanese forces from the Aleutian Islands from June 1942 to August 1943. Then part of the Territory of Alaska, the Aleutians stretch across the Bering Sea and could be used strategically to hamper any possible U.S. attack on Japan across the Northern Pacific or to threaten home-front Americans from bomber bases within range of major West Coast cities like Anchorage, Seattle, San Francisco or Los Angeles.

The campaign involved land and sea forces of the United States and Canada. Besides geography and weather, these allies had to overcome good defensive strategy and fierce resistance that enabled the Japanese to stave off a much larger force for an unexpectedly long time. However, Japan failed to secure Dutch Harbor on Unalaska Island and a naval engagement off the Komandorski Islands blocked Japanese surface resupply of its occupation forces on Attu and Kiska islands, signaling ultimate defeat.

Allied forces, including regiments of the 7th Infantry Division deployed from Fort Ord, landed at Attu on May 11, 1943. After three weeks of difficult fighting, the Japanese launched one of the war's most horrific banzai charges – a "fight to the death" attack that ended in brutal handto-hand combat, collective suicides, and left only a few Japanese soldiers alive to be interrogated by the 7th's Nisei linguist detachment. The attack was so traumatizing that the Army bombed Kiska Island for nearly three weeks prior to invading it next despite intelligence indicating that Japanese forces had already abandoned the island. During that invasion, American and Canadian troops mistook each other for the enemy, leading to numerous friendly fire deaths. Less disastrously,



Courtesy Command History Office Fort Ord Collection

This Ernie Hardenstein watercolor shows that few harbors, runways or even roads existed in most of the Aleutians, so amphibious operations were needed to resupply American and Canadian troops even after successfully expelling Japanese forces during World War II.

the Navy attacked

a mysterious group of enemy warships after technicians using a new technology called radar detected strange signals ... later thought to be a flock of birds.

One of the biggest challenges for both sides was the remote environment, rugged terrain, and challenging weather of the Artic region. To help tackle these problems, the Army organized a platoon of Alaskan Scouts composed of outdoorsmen who could conduct reconnaissance and live off the land. It also deployed cartographers to help map the landscape and guide Army efforts.

Story continued next page

Historian (cont.)

One of the Army's mapmakers was Ernie Hardenstein, who deployed from Fort Ord to Attu in 1943 with the 7th Infantry Division and returned in 1944 after completing photo interpretation training at Camp Richie, Maryland. Having studied at the Delgado Trade School and the New Orleans Art Academy before the war, Hardenstein documented his wartime experience in the Aleutians by composing numerous drawings and watercolors. Demobilized in 1946, Hardenstein settled near Fort Ord where he continued to make a living as a painter. In 1997, the Fort Ord Alumni Association organized a showing of Hardenstein's wartime work at the Stilwell Community Center in Seaside, California, called "From Fort Ord to the Aleutians, 1942-1944" from which the images shown here are derived. Hardenstein died in 2007 at the age of 92.

Across time combat artists have made a lasting impact by capturing people, places and events that can elude photojournalism. Inherently a malleable medium, fine art lends itself to storytelling and can visualize history with less trauma than photography, allowing the interpretive power of the artist's hand to communicate without words messages that can help teach and heal while grappling with feelings or ideas that are often difficult to express. Recognizing this tradition, the U.S. Army **Center of Military History maintains** the U.S. Army Combat Artist Program, which you can learn more about at: https://www.history.army.mil/museums/

armyArtists/index.html



Courtesy Command History Office Fort Ord Collection

Clockwise from above: An Ernie Hardenstein watercolor depicts Soldiers transferring supplies from naval craft offshore. Soggy tundra and rugged topography often thwarted motor vehicles, forcing Soldiers to haul supplies on their own backs. Next, a floating barrage balloon is tethered to an Army transport enroute to Alaska from California during WWII. Barrage balloons dissuaded enemy aircraft from approaching vessels too closely. Next, Soldiers bide their time on an Army transport enroute to Alaska from California during WWII. Right, Hardenstein, ca. 1998. Hardenstein served as an Army cartographer and image analyst with the 7th Infantry Division in the Aleutians Campaign during WWII.



Remembering the Memorialized: Nakamura

Memorialization #21

Sgt. George Nakamura 1919-1945

Sgt. George I. Nakamura, 1919-1945, was from Santa Cruz, California. The government sent Nakamura and his family to the Japanese-American internment camp at Tule Lake, California, during World War II. While in the internment camp in 1942, Nakamura enlisted in the Army and became a translator. The Army assigned him to the Philippine Islands to translate and negotiate with Japanese soldiers and prisoners.

On June 29, 1945, he received orders to obtain the surrender of a group of Japanese soldiers. He called for them to surrender but to no avail. He then moved within 25 yards of the soldiers, rose up and urged them again to give up. The enemy's response was a single shot, which fatally wounded him. The Army posthumously awarded him the Silver Star.

To learn more about Nakamura, visit <u>https://</u> <u>home.army.mil/monterey/application/</u> <u>files/3515/9174/4017/Nakamura.pdf</u>

To learn more about the men and women memorialized at the Presidio of Monterey, visit

<u>https://home.army.mil/monterey/index.php/about/</u> <u>memorialization</u>



A defense language school article about Nakamura said that as a young man growing up in Santa Cruz, California, he showed no signs of becoming a hero. "He was a typical boy committing his share of pranks and mishaps. But he was also a very dedicated and hardworking child. He had high hopes for his future and earned the love and respect of friends and family," the article states.

Right: Sgt. George Nakamura

Far right: A memorial plaque at the Presidio of Monterey that includes information about Nakamura.

Courtesy photos





COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December 19 -January 3 Holiday gate hours

During the holiday break, the Franklin and Taylor gates will be open, inbound and outbound, from Dec. 19-23 from 7-9 a.m. and 3-5 p.m.; closed from Dec. 24-26; open inbound and outbound from Dec. 27-30 from 7-9 a.m. and 3-5 p.m.; and closed from Dec. 31-Jan. 2. Regular hours will return Jan. 3. Regular 24-7 operations at Pvt. Bolio Gate will continue throughout the holidays. Gate closure information is also posted online at <u>https://home.army.mil/monterey/</u> index.php/about/presidio-gate-hours

Dec. 19-Jan. 3 & March 20-31 School Breaks at PYC

The Porter Youth Center provides full day care for MPUSD's school breaks. Each day consists of activities based around our 5 Service Areas and include field trips, special guests, and specialty clubs to extend academic, social/emotional and extracurricular experiences. To sign-up, please contact Porter Youth Center at (831) 242-7823.

January 1 BOSS Happy New Year

Join BOSS at Hobson Recreation for a great time as we celebrate 2023. Contact (831) 242-0895 for more information.

January 3 Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the installation? It's mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM) Next classes: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; March 7, 14, 21, 28. For more information, contact Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail.mil.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join the group every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

Walk and Talk Through OMC

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10-11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at ACS and walk along in Ord Military Community. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

January 4 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss various topics such as infant routines, sleeping, development and more. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

January 5 Licensure Reimbursement

Are you a military spouse who wants to learn about how to get reimbursed for a professional license? Join us the first Thursday of every month at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. Email katilynn.m.snow.civ@army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit down with Katilynn.

Help Me Plan a Smooth PCS Move / Out-Process Briefing

Need help with understanding a PCS move? Yes, it can be very stressful, and you can prevent all that stress by attending this important briefing. Plan My Move helps you create personalized moving checklists, and offers tips about housing, transportation, finances and more. Registration is required. Please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS at (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons. civ@mail.mil. Next classes: Jan. 19, Feb. 2, Feb. 16, March 2, March 16.

January 6 BOSS Welcome Back Fiesta

Grab your friends and come out for our welcome-back fiesta at 8:30 p.m. at Hobson Recreation. Door prizes, music, snacks and a whole lot of fun for everyone. For more information, please contact (831) 242-0895.

January 7 Wear Blue: Run to Remember

Join us at the Wear Blue: Run to Remember 5K Run and Brunch. Every first Saturday of the month at the PoM Museum at 8:30 a.m. The first run of the New Year will be Jan. 7. For more information, please contact nathaniel.e.pleasantbey.civ@army.mil.

January 9 Lactation Education and Support Group

For any mother breastfeeding or breast pumping or any parent who may want more information. Topics include Introducing Solid Foods, Returning to Work, Breast Pumping and more. Every Monday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army. mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page. Babies welcome.

January 10 OMC Walk and Talk

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10 – 11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at ACS and walk along in Ord Military Community. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army. mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

BOSS Council Meeting

Single service members are invited to attend PoM Better Opportunities for Single Service Members (BOSS) council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, 4:30 p.m. at the Hobson Recreation Center. To learn more about the organization, contact (831) 242-0895.

Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the current installation? This briefing will tell you all you need to know to thrive at the Presidio of Monterey. It's mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM) The next classes are: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28. For more information, please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail. mil.

January 11 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss various topics such as infant routines, sleeping, development and more. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

January 12 Baby Boot Camp

This is an educational class for expecting parents. Topic will include Nutrition for Mother and Baby, Newborn Care, Labor and Delivery and more. Registration is required. Please email Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page. Each family will receive a gift bag so please RSVP.

Job Success and Interviewing Skills

Want to learn more about interviewing skills? What to wear for an interview? Questions you should ask? Join ACS for Job Success classes every second Thursday. Email Katilynn.m.snow.civ@ army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit down with Katilynn to get ready for your next interview.

January 16 BOSS MLK Day Breakfast

Come out and enjoy a free parfait on us, 9 a.m. at Hobson Recreation Center. Active-duty service members only. For more information call (831) 242-0895.

January 17 Walk and Talk Through OMC

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10 – 11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at ACS and walk along in Ord Military Community. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the current installation? It's mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM). The next classes will be Feb. 14, 21, 28; March 7, 14, 21, 28. For more information, please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail. mil.

Navigating USAJOBS

Want a new job but need tips and tricks for navigating USAJobs? Join us every third Tuesday of month in the ACS Gold Room at 1 p.m. Email Katilynn Snow at katilynn.m.snow.civ@army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit down with Katilynn.

January 18, 19, 20 Savor the Flavor

Join us at Soldier Field from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be a different food truck over the three days in support of the FAO conference, but everyone is welcome. Contact is Price Fitness Center at (831) 242-5557.

January 18 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss various topics such as infant routines, sleeping, development and more. This is a great opportunity for children and parents alike to meet new friends and socialize. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

Spouse Orientation

Open to all military and Department of Defense spouses. Join us once a quarter in the ACS Gold Room. From 9 a.m. to noon will be the Spouse Orientation and from 1-3 p.m. be Career Exploration. (We encourage everyone to bring their resume if they have one.) Email Katilynn.m.snow.civ@army.mil or call (831) 242-7660 for more information or to register.

January 19 Parent Participation Program

For current Monterey Road Child Development Center patrons only. Join us every month at 5 p.m. in the CDC lounge as we being to make a difference in our center by planning morale boosting activities and events. For more information, please contact the front desk at (831) 583-1050.

Help Me Plan a Smooth PCS Move / Out-Process Briefing

Need help with understanding a PCS move? Yes, it can be very stressful, and you can prevent that stress by attending this important briefing. Plan My Move helps you create personalized moving checklists, and offers tips about housing, transportation, finances and more. Registration is required. Please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS at (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@ mail.mil. Next classes: Feb. 2, Feb. 16, March 2, March 16.

Resume Building

Ready to get that master resume started? Join us every third Thursday of the month in the ACS Gold Room at 10 a.m. This class will help you build a master resume you can tailor for a variety of jobs. Email katilynn.m.snow.civ@army. mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit down with Katilynn.

January 23 Lactation Education and Support Group

For any mother breastfeeding or breast pumping or any parent who may want more information. Topics include Introducing Solid Foods, Returning to Work, Breast Pumping and more. Join us every Monday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page. Babies welcome.

January 24 Walk and Talk Through OMC

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10-11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at Army Community Service, General Stilwell Community Center and walk along in Ord Military Community. Lace up your sneakers, bring your water, and put on your sunscreen. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. Join us every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army. mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information? This briefing will tell you everything you need to know to thrive at PoM. It's mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM) Classes: Jan. 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; March 7, 14, 21, 28. For more information, please contact (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons. civ@mail.mil.

BOSS Council Meeting

Single service members are invited to attend PoM Better Opportunities for Single Service Members (BOSS) council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, 4:30 p.m. at Hobson Recreation Center. For more information, contact (831) 242-0895.

January 25 New Parent Support Group

Have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss various topics. Contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

January 27 Presidio Has Mad Talent

Presidio Has Mad Talent is a premier singing competition for individual performers and talent show competition. This competition allows active-duty military and their families to showcase their talents to the world. Must be 17plus to participate. There will be prizes. Stop by HRC (Bldg. 843) to sign up.

January 28 Billiards Tournament

Join us at HRC at 6:30 pm to compete for the first place prize of a \$50 gift card. Active-duty service members only. Call (831) 242-0895 for more.

January 31 OMC Walk and Talk

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10 – 11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at Army Community Service, General Stilwell Community Center and walk along in Fort Ord Community. Lace up your sneakers, bring your water, and put on your sunscreen. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page. Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the current installation? It's mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM) The next classes will be Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28. For more information, please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail. mil.

February 1 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS

Gold Room as we discuss various topics such as infant routines, sleeping, development and more. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

Food Truck Stop Wednesday

Join us this Wednesday in the General Stilwell parking lot from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

February 2 Plan My Move/ Out-Process

Need help with understanding a PCS move? Yes, it can be very stressful, and you can prevent it. Plan My Move helps you create personalized moving checklists, and offers tips about housing, transportation, finances and more. Registration is required. Please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS at (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@ mail.mil. Next classes: Feb. 16, March 2, March 16.

Food Truck Thursday

Join us every first Thursday of the month at Soldier Field from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Spouse Licensure Reimbursement

Want to learn about how to get reimbursed for a professional license? Join us the first Thursday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. Email katilynn.m.snow.civ@army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit down with Katilynn.

February 3 Presidio Has Mad Talent Singing Competition

Presidio Has Mad Talent is a premier singing competition for individual performers and talent show competition. This competition allows active-duty military and their families to showcase their talents to the world. Must be 17plus to participate. There will be prizes. Stop by HRC (Bldg. 843) to sign up.

February 4 Wear Blue: Run to Remember

Join us at the Wear Blue: Run to Remember 5K Run and Brunch. Every first Saturday of the month at the PoM Museum at 8:30 a.m. Feel free to walk and bring children. For more information, please contact Nate Pleasantbey at nathaniel.e.pleasantbey. civ@army.mil.

February 7 Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the installation? It's mandatory

for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM) Next classes: Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28. Call or email Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail. mil.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

OMC Walk and Talk

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10 – 11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at Army Community Service, General Stilwell Community Center and walk along in Ord Military Community. Lace up your sneakers, bring your water, and put on your sunscreen. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

February 8 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss various topics such as infant routines, sleeping, development and more. Contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

February 9 Baby Boot Camp

This is an educational class for expecting parents. Topic will include Nutrition for Mother and Baby, Newborn Care, Labor and Delivery and more. Registration is required to attend. Please email Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page. Gift bags will be given to each family in attendance so please RSVP.

Job Success and Interviewing Skills

Want to learn more about interviewing skills? What to wear for an interview? Questions you should ask? Join ACS for Job Success classes every second Thursday of the month. Email Katilynn.m.snow.civ@army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit down with Katilynn to get ready for your next interview.

February 10 The 5 Love Languages

Join the Family Advocacy Program and BOSS as we take the quiz to find out our love language and how to promote healthy relationships. Participants will also get to make their own burritos. Active-duty service members only. For more information, contact Jillian Santillanez at ACS 242-7660/5863 or jillian.j.santillanez.civ@mail.mil.

February 12 Super Bowl at HRC

Join us at Hobson Rec Center to watch the Super Bowl game with free pizza and wings at 5 p.m. For more information, contact (831) 242-0895.

February 14 Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the current installation? It's mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM). Next classes: Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28. For more information, please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail.mil.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

OMC Walk and Talk

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10 – 11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at ACS and walk along in OMC. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

BOSS Council Meeting

Single service members are invited to attend PoM Better Opportunities for Single Service Members (BOSS) council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, 4:30 p.m. at Hobson Recreation Center. For more information, contact (831) 242-0895.

Smash Bros Tournament

Join us for this single elimination game to win an Amazon Gift card or just come to enjoy pizza. \$5 cover charge; please pay at the front desk at Hobson Rec Center. For more information, contact (831) 242-0895.

February 15 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss various important parenting topics. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

CYS Parent Advisory Board Meeting

This meeting is a chance to enhance services programs, promote positive parent involvement, a venue to ask questions, raise concerns and make suggestions in CYS programs. You can attend the meeting via zoom or join us in the CYS Conference room located in the General Stilwell Community Center at Ord Military Community at 4:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Latoya Maben at (831) 242-5820.

February 16 Resume Building

Ready to get that master resume started? Join us every third Thursday in the ACS Gold Room at 10 a.m. Email Katilynn Snow at katilynn.m.snow.civ@army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit-down with Katilynn.

Help Me Plan a Smooth PCS Move / Out-Process Briefing

Need help with understanding a PCS move? Plan My Move helps you create personalized moving checklists, and offers tips about housing, transportation, finances and more. Registration is required. Please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS at (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail.mil. The next classes in this series will be March 2 and March 16.

Parent Participation Program

For current Monterey Road Child Development Center patrons only. Join us every month at 5 p.m. in the CDC lounge as we being to make a difference in our center by planning morale boosting activities and events. For more information, please contact the front desk at (831) 583-1050.

February 21 Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about PoM? It's mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM) Next classes: Feb. 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28. Contact Charles Lyons at (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail. mil.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

Walk and Talk through OMC

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10-11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at ACS and walk along in OMC. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

Navigating USAJOBS

Want a new job but need tips and tricks for navigating USAJobs? Join us every third Tuesday of month in the ACS Gold Room at 1 p.m. Email katilynn.m.snow. civ@army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit down with Katilynn.

February 22 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss various topics such as infant routines, sleeping, development and more. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

February 24-26 Gold Star Parents Honor and Remembrance

Celebrating Gold Star families of Fallen Service members. For more information, please contact Nate Pleasantbey at nathaniel.e.pleasantbey.civ@army.mil.

February 25 BOSS Beach Clean Up

Join us as we clean up Del Monte Beach. Meet at Hobson Rec for free transportation at 9 a.m. Save a whale, don't be one! For more information, contact (831) 242-0895.

February 28 Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the current installation? It's mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM). The next classes will be March 7, 14, 21, 28. For more information, please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail.mil.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

Walk and Talk through OMC

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10–11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at Army Community Service, General Stilwell Community Center and walk along in Ord Military Community. Lace up your sneakers, bring your water, and put on your sunscreen. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

BOSS Council Meeting

Single service members are invited to attend POM Better Opportunities for Single Service Members (BOSS) council meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month, 4:30 p.m. at Hobson Recreation Center. For more information about the organization, contact (831) 242-0895.

March 1 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss various topics such as infant routines, sleeping, development and more. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

Food Truck Stop Wednesday March 4

Join us this Wednesday in the General Stilwell parking lot from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

March 2 Spouse Licensure Reimbursement

Want to learn about how to get reimbursed for a professional license? Join us the first Thursday of every month at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. Email katilynn.m.snow.civ@army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit down with Katilynn.

Plan My Move / Out-Process

Need help with understanding a PCS move? Yes, it can be very stressful, and you can prevent it. Plan My Move helps you create personalized moving checklists, and offers tips about housing, transportation, finances and more. Registration is required. Please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS at (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@ mail.mil. The next class wil be on March 16.

Treat Yourself Thursday (Food Truck Thursday)

Join us every first Thursday of the month at Soldiers Field from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wear Blue: Run to Remember

Join us at the Wear Blue: Run to Remember 5K Run and Brunch. Every first Saturday of the month at the PoM Museum at 8:30 a.m. The first run of the New Year will be Jan. 7. For more information, please contact nathaniel.e.pleasantbey.civ@army.mil.

BOSS Big Sur Hike

Join us for an adventure. We will meet at the HRC at 9 a.m., transportation and lunch provided. For more information, contact (831) 242-0895.

March 7 Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the current installation? It's mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM). The next classes will be March 14, 21, 28. For more information, please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail.mil.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

OMC Walk and Talk

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10–11

a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at Army Community Service in the Gen. Stilwell Community Center and walk along in Ord Military Community. Lace up your sneakers, bring your water, and put on your sunscreen. Please feel free to contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

March 8 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss various topics like infant routines, sleeping, development and more. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

March 9 **Job Success and Interviewing Skills**

Want to learn more about interviewing skills? What to wear for an interview? **Ouestions you should ask? Join** ACS for Job Success classes every second Thursday of the month. Email Katilynn.m.snow.civ@army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit down with Katilynn.

March 14 Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the installation? It's mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM). The next classes will be March 21 and 28. Call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail.mil.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

OMC Walk and Talk

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10-11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at ACS, General Stilwell Community Center and walk along in Ord Military Community. Lace up your sneakers, bring your water, and put on your sunscreen. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

BOSS Council Meeting

Single service members are invited to attend POM Better Opportunities for Single Service Members (BoSS) council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, 4:30 p.m. at Hobson Recreation Center. For more information, contact (831) 242-0895.

March 15 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss various topics such as infant routines, sleeping, development and more. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

March 16 Resume Building

Ready to get that master resume started? Join us every third Thursday of the month in the ACS Gold Room at 10 a.m. Email katilynn.m.snow.civ@army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit-down.

Help Me Plan a Smooth PCS Move / Out-Process Briefing

Need help with understanding a PCS move? Yes, it can be very stressful, and you can prevent it. Plan My Move helps you create personalized moving checklists, and offers tips about housing, transportation, finances and more. Registration is required. Please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS at (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@ mail.mil.

Parent Participation Program

For current Monterey Road Child Development Center patrons only. Join us every month at 5 p.m. in the CDC lounge as we being to make a difference in our center by planning morale boosting activities and events. For more information, please contact the front desk at (831) 583-1050.

March 17 BOSS St. Patty's Day

Put on your green swag and meet us at Hobson Recreation Center for a fun theme night event. Green liquids for purchase. For more information, contact (831) 242-0895.

March 18 Youth Sports Coaches Meeting

Coaches meeting and new coach certification March 18, at General Stilwell Community Center at Ord Military Community. For more information please contact the Youth Sports Program Director Andy Lipsig at (831) 242-7809 or Assistant Director Garett Martinez at (831) 242-4510.

March 21 Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the current installation? This important briefing is mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM). The next class after this one will be March 28. For more information, please feel free to call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail. mil.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

Walk and Talk Through OMC

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10 – 11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at Army Community Service, General Stilwell Community Center and walk along in Ord Military Community. Lace up your sneakers, bring your water, and put on your sunscreen. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

Navigating USAJOBS

Want a new job but need tips and tricks for navigating USAjobs? Join us every third Tuesday of month in the ACS Gold Room at 1 p.m. Email katilynn.m.snow. civ@army.mil for more information or to register. Can't make the class? Schedule a sit down with Katilynn.

March 22 New Parent Support Group

Do you have children between the ages of 0-12 months? Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room as we discuss important parenting topics. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

March 25 BOSS Free Clothing Exchange

Swap, don't shop. Open to everyone. Hobson Rec from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. No donations needed. For more information, contact (831) 242-0895.

March 28

Joint Services Inprocessing Briefing

Newly arrived and need information about the current installation? It's

mandatory for service members and optional for spouses. 6:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., Tin Barn, (PoM). For more information, please call or email: Charles Lyons at ACS (831) 242-7660/6890 or charles.a.lyons.civ@mail.mil.

Playgroup

Children and parents: Playgroup is for infants to 4-year olds. This is a fun place to play and bond with your child. Join every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the ACS Gold Room. For more information, please contact Zoe at zoe.r.merritts.civ@ army.mil or direct message her through the New Parent Support Facebook page.

Walk and Talk Through OMC

Come walk and talk with EFMP every Tuesday (weather permitting) 10 – 11 a.m. This is a child-friendly event, and you're welcome to bring items such as strollers and tricycles. Meet up at Army Community Service, General Stilwell Community Center and walk along in Ord Military Community. Lace up your sneakers, bring your water, and put on your sunscreen. Contact EFMP at (831) 242-7660 for more information.

BOSS Council Meeting

Single service members are invited to attend POM Better Opportunities for Single Service Members (BOSS) council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month, 4:30 p.m. at the Hobson Recreation Center. For more information, contact (831) 242-0895.

Ongoing Youth Sports

Youth Basketball (Age groups 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13). Games: Jan. 7-March 4Price: \$65 first child (15% discount for additional children). Please contact Parent Central Services to see if there are spaces still available for your child's age groups at (831) 242-7765. For questions regarding the Youth Sports Program call Andy Lipsig at (831) 242-7809 or Garett Martinez at (831) 242-4510.

Karate and Jujitsu (Ages 6-18) Price: \$90 per 3 month session (15% discount for additional children). Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:30-7:30 p.m. or Monday and Wednesdays 6:30-7:0 p.m. Location: Porter Youth Center. Please contact Parent Central Services to register at (831) 242-7765. For questions regarding the Youth Sports Program call Andy Lipsig at (831)242-7809 or Garett Martinez at (831) 242-4510. Next session will begin in April and Registration will open in March.

Start Smart Basketball (Ages 4-5 as of Jan. 1, 2023). Registration: Dec. 5-Jan. 18 Activity Dates: Jan. 21- Feb. 18. Classes on Saturdays from 9-10 a.m. Location: Porter Youth Center. Price: \$25 for the first child (15% discount for additional children). Please contact Parent Central Services to register at (831) 242-7765. For questions regarding the Youth Sports Program call Andy Lipsig at (831)242-7809 or Garett Martinez at (831)242-4510.

Youth Program Friday Nights

Middle school and teens (DoD and military families) are welcome to hang out at Porter Youth Center for free from 6-10 p.m. For fun activities like open mic/ karaoke, movie nights, guest speakers, skill building clinics and more. Dinner is provided so if your teen is interested, please contact Porter Youth Center (831) 242-7823.

Fitness Classes at Price Fitness Center

Zumba: Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and every Friday at 3:30 p.m.

GI Yoga: Mondays and Thursdays at 5 p.m.

Spin Class: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 a.m.

Inferno Pilates: Wednesdays at 5 p.m.

Massage Therapy

Choose from a variety of massage treatments including Aromatherapy, Deep Tissue, Swedish, Reflexology, and Chair Massages. Call Price Fitness Center at (831) 242-5557 to book an appointment with our Certified Massage Therapist Kim Allain.

Intramural Sports

If you're interested in joining intramural sports, please contact the Price Fitness Center at (831) 242-5557 or email pommwr.intrmural@gmail.com.

News Briefs: Army

DOD recognizes USMA professor for STEM outreach

Christmas traditions in Germany

Pilot program helps thousands of future Soldiers



WEST POINT, NY — Lt. Col. Andrew Lee, assistant professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the United States Military Academy, recently received the Department of Defense's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Advocate of the Quarter Award for the third quarter in Fiscal Year 2022.

The award recognizes outstanding STEM education and outreach efforts that advance the DOD mission. Lee's mentorship and advocacy for STEM education, particularly planning, coordinating and executing West Point's virtual and in-person summer STEM camps, has been integral to encouraging the next generation of scientists and engineers.

Cadets from the Center for Leadership and Diversity in STEM seek to recruit and retain under-resourced populations in STEM and serve as mentors.

Click here to read more



GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — Christmas is right around the corner. While there are many similarities between Christmas celebrations in the United States and Germany, there are some differences and special events that U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria community members should know while celebrating overseas.

Forexample, the advent calendar, or "Advent scalendar" in German, is long part of the German tradition to help children countdown the days until Christmas Eve. The calendar has 24 doors with little surprises inside and starts Dec. 1. Each day, children open a calendar door until Christmas Eve arrives. Advent calendars are often theme-based, with candy, toys, make-up, or cooking spices, and the fun is not only restricted to children anymore. Advent calendars are getting more and more popular outside of Germany as well.

Click here to read more

WASHINGTON, DC — When the Army announced

WASHINGTON, DC — When the Army announced the Future Soldier Preparatory Course pilot program this summer, the hope was to help eligible Americans overcome academic and physical fitness barriers to service. A little over three months since it began at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, the program is starting to bear fruit with some of the first students now graduating from basic combat training.

The ASVAB, Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, is an aptitude test that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success. Scores are used to determine eligibility for military occupational specialties. The percentage of eligible Americans meeting Army enlistment standards has steadily declined over the years with only 23% currently meeting requirements.

Click here to read more

News Briefs Air Force

US, Israeli air forces execute fighter escort, refueling exercise

Increased firepower provides unique capability for combat rescue

Pease ANG crew flies recordbreaking endurance mission



TEL AVIV, Israel — Ninth Air Force F-15E Strike Eagles, F-16 Fighting Falcons, and KC-10 Extenders participated in a bilateral exercise with Israeli air force F-35 Lightning IIs and F-16s over the Eastern Mediterranean Sea Nov. 29 and 30.

"This bilateral exercise demonstrates CENTCOM's commitment to regional security," said U.S. Army Gen. Michael "Erik" Kurilla, commander of U.S. Central Command. "CENTCOM routinely demonstrates the ability to rapidly insert combat airpower into operations and exercises with our partners, and our ability to do the same across all domains decisively is a powerful deterrent." This exercise marks what is anticipated to be the first of several designed to improve bilateral aerial capability between the U.S. and Israeli air forces since the Joint Declaration on the U.S.-Israel Strategic Partnership was adopted in Jerusalem earlier this year.

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. — The 943rd Rescue Group designed a concept to mount four additional M240 machine guns onto the HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter to provide more firepower to the 920th Rescue Wing's personnel recovery task force in contested environments.

The wing searched for an innovative way to bring more firepower to the fight and with the HH-60G scheduled to be retired, it had to be cost effective and easily transferred to the new HH-60W Jolly Green II because of the similar design structures. The 943rd RQG operated within three constraints: utilize only available resources; work within Air Force manuals and technical orders to the maximum extent possible; and have minimal impact to manpower. The team had a goal of adding four additional weapons onto the aircraft and examined what would work on both platforms.

Click here to read more



PEASE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, N.H. — In a feat of air mobility endurance, a KC-46A Pegasus from the 157th Air Refueling Wing flew a non-stop mission halfway around the globe and back, Nov. 16 to 17.

The point-to-point, 36-hour, 16,000-mile, multicrew, total force sortie was the longest such mission in the history of Air Mobility Command, the active duty major command to which the 157th ARW is aligned.

Gen. Mike Minihan, AMC commander, has driven the command to find new ways to employ assets. "This extended mission is yet another example of capable Airmen taking charge and moving out to accelerate our employment of the KC-46A," Minihan said. "This total force mission boldly highlights the imperative to think differently, change the way we do business, and provide options to the joint force."

Click here to read more

Click here to read more

News Briefs: Marines

Marines and Thai military start humanitarian mine disposal training

3rd Marine Aircraft Wing activates new air defense unit

Marine Forces Reserve eyes a new small craft mission



RATCHABURI, Kingdom of Thailand — U.S. Marines from 3rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, commenced Humanitarian Mine Action Levels 1 and 2 Explosive Ordnance Disposal training with Royal Thai Military Thailand Mine Action Center counterparts, in Ratchaburi, Kingdom of Thailand, Nov. 14.

HMA is an ongoing program between the U.S. and Kingdom of Thailand to provide training in order to build partner capacity in safe disposal of existing landmines and explosive remnants of war. The courses combine classroom instruction covering basic to intermediate EOD techniques, detailed ordnance classes, and disposal techniques, along with several range days for practical application of the skills learned.

Click here to read more





CAMP PENDLETON, CA — The 3rd Marine Aircraft TAMPA, Fla. — Aligned with its Campaign Plan 2030 Wing activated a new air defense battery on Nov. 18, as part of its ongoing efforts to modernize its existing ground-based air defense capabilities to continue responsibly modernizing the force.

Charlie Battery, which belongs to 3rd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion, Marine Air Control Group 38, increases 3rd MAW's ground-based air defense weapon systems and capabilities. The activation demonstrates the Marine Corps' investment in growing the ground-based air defense community.

The unit's activation sets the foundation for the arrival of Marine Air Defense Integrated System Increment 1 to the battalion. This system modernizes the existing ground-based air defense capabilities by mounting a mix of legacy and emerging technologies and capabilities onto the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle.

Click here to read more

strategic themes, "relevant, ready and responsive," Marine Forces Reserve is pursuing the rapid acquisition of small expeditionary watercraft to provide capacity and platforms in support of Servicelevel Force Design 2030 experimentation efforts.

By partnering with the Defense Innovation Unit and leveraging their Commercial Solutions Opening solicitation process, the collaborative effort narrowed the list of potential commercial craft down to four finalists. The chosen small boat(s) will offer the opportunity for service-level experimentation and analysis in the realm of littoral operations, reconnaissance and counter reconnaissance. signature management and operations in support of expeditionary advanced base operations. These assets will afford MFR the ability to provide additional evaluation of a new, relevant capability. Click here to read more

News Briefs: Navy

First woman to serve as submarine XO reports for duty

USS Tripoli returns home from first deployment

NATO demonstrates maritime electronic warfare capability during exercise in Italy



PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii — "It's 2022 and women are still doing the 'first' of things?" is how Lt. Cmdr. Amber Cowan started her conversation in the Public Affairs office at Submarine Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

The submarine officer stopped by for an interview between classes while completing the Submarine Command Course in Pearl Harbor. The Colorado Springs, Colo., native has two grandfathers who served in the U.S. Air Force, and she attended the University of Washington on a scholarship from the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps, her head full of dreams of becoming an aviator. Her eyesight kept her grounded, but then the opportunity to be among the first women to serve aboard submarines opened up. It was everything she was looking for, and she's never looked back. On Nov. 12, Cowan became the executive officer of the Gold Crew of the Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine USS Kentucky.

SAN DIEGO — Tripoli's deployment to the U.S. 3rd and 7th Fleet areas of operations was particularly significant for its diplomatic and military engagements with regional partners and Allies, as well as successful integration with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) to support maritime security operations, theater security cooperation, crisis response, and maintaining a forward Navy-Marine Corps presence.

"I am proud of Tripoli for a successful first deployment," said Rear Adm. James Kirk, commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 3. "The ship and crew are on the leading edge, setting the example and testing the limits of the assault ship. LHAs are designed to support the future of the Marine Corps Air Combat Element, and Tripoli has done just that. I am excited to see what else they can bring to the fight."

SPLIT, Croatia — Standing NATO Maritime Group Two participated the semi-annual NATO exercise Dynamic Guard 22-2 in the Gulf of Taranto off the coast of Southern Italy Nov. 20-25. Dynamic Guard 22-2 is an electronic warfare exercise that provides tactical training for the NATO Response Force and Allied national units. Its aim is to enable units assigned to the SNMGs to maintain required levels of proficiency in electronic warfare and anti-ship missile defense.

Dynamic Guard is led by NATO Allied Maritime Command and supported by the NATO Joint Electronic Warfare Core Staff. It is held twice annually, "Dynamic Guard proved that NATO units in the Mediterranean can operate in a denied electronic warfare environment," said U.S. Navy Rear Admiral Scott Sciretta, commander of SNMG2.

Click here to read more

<u>Click here to read more</u>

<u>Click here to read more</u>



Final photo: Knotts knows knots

Photo by Noah Rappahahn, U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs

Marine Corps Pfc. Aidan C. Knotts, left, assigned to the Marine Corps Detatchment - Monterey, demonstrates his knot tying talents during a Marine Corps squad competition at the Presidio of Monterey, Calif., Oct. 27. True to his name, Knotts was a knot-tying whiz, proficient in every knot challenge leadership threw his team.