



FORGING THE

WARRIOR SPIRIT

THE JRTC & FORT POLK GUARDIAN

Vol. 46, No.46

Home of Heroes @ Fort Polk, LA

Nov. 15, 2019



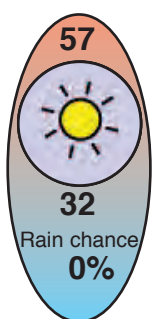
115th FIELD HOSPITAL

115th Field Hospital tackles NTC rotation

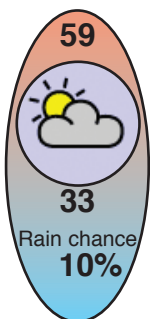
Soldiers with Fort Polk's 115th Field Hospital stand in formation in front of their field hospital set up at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., where the unit took part in a Forces Command Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercise. The unit simulated a deployment in support of large scale combat opera-

tions. The 115th FH treated more than 1,000 patients including simulated patients wearing cut suits that allowed surgical teams to practice as though treating live casualties. The unit redeployed Nov. 12. For additional photos see page 6 of today's Guardian.

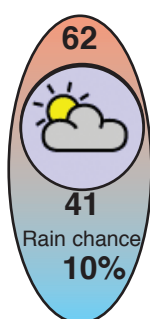
Weekend weather



Today



Saturday



Sunday

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Viewpoint

In our view

Guardian staff asked Fort Polk community members, "What item on your bucket list do you want to do most?" Here are their responses:

Megan Burns: "I really want to travel the world because there a lot of places to see and I never left the U.S."



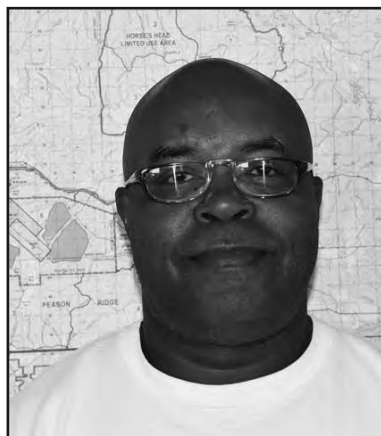
Riana Tartt: "I would go to Egypt. It's my No. 1 place to visit. I have always been interested in the culture."

Amy McKeller: "I want to see the Venus Fly Trap plant in its natural habitat in North and South Carolina."



Doug Hildebrand: "I want to visit Switzerland to view the beautiful landscape and enjoy a month-long vacation."

Kyler McKee: "I would like to hike the Appalachian Trail and just live in nature and see things others don't get a chance to."



Bennie Jordan: "I would either go sit in a log cabin overlooking a majestic landscape, or go to a Pittsburgh Steelers home game."

Brittany Chaumont: "I want to open a doggy day care. I am already a veterinarian assistant and do all kinds of side jobs with pets."



Chantry Simpson: "I would visit our family castle in Ireland to see where my relatives lived."



Guardian

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Briefs

Special Ops brief

Special Operations briefings for Special Forces, 160th SOAR, Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations and held Wednesday at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., and Thursday at 10 a.m., at the Fort Polk Education Center on Colorado Avenue. Call (253) 208-3723 or email matthew.andrakin@socom.mil.

Road repair extended

The closure for Bell Richard, Holmlund and Magnolia Drive at the intersections with Louisiana Avenue have been extended, due to weather, through Nov. 22 between 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Paving from Access Control Point 1 (main gate) to La. Hwy 467, requires changes to the traffic pattern of Corvias housing residents due to these intersections being closed to traffic.

Residents will be required to use detours along these routes to access and depart the housing areas from La. Hwy.

ACP 4 will remain open Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. for outbound traffic.

Through traffic on Louisiana Avenue from Hwy 467 to ACP 1 is open for in and outbound traffic, but motorists are encouraged to use alternate routes due to traffic congestion and rough conditions. Following paving, the final phase will require the placement of permanent pavement markings which is currently projected for Dec. 2-6.

Prescribed burns

Prescribed burns are taking place across the installation throughout housing areas in November.

Prescribed burns is the burning of underbrush, debris and detritus that chars the forest ground into a black carpet. The fires are slow enough that any woodland creatures can easily escape or take cover, and the charcoal produced adds nutrients to the soil that improves the health of local flora. Burning dead or fallen trees in addition to the underbrush also reduces the amount of fuel available for potential wildfires. Prescribed burns take place about every three years.

Appropriate notification of burn days will be coordinated to allow Families to make appropriate plans.

If you don't want to smell the smoke, you will have enough time to leave before the fires are lit. Alternatively, you can stay indoors with the windows and doors closed.

The fires are kept small and any smoke produced is short-lived.

Expanded access coming to installations Jan. 1

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

FORT POLK, La. — The Department of Defense is preparing for the largest patronage expansion for commissary, exchange and certain morale, welfare and recreation retail facilities in more than 65 years.

Starting Jan. 1, the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security are expanding in-store commissary and military exchange shopping privileges as well as Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation retail facility use to veterans who are Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war or with service-connected disabilities and caregivers or family caregivers who are enrolled as the primary caregiver for veterans in the Department of Veteran Affairs Program of Compressive Assistance for Family Caregivers.

Justin Hall, director of the DoD office of MWR and Resale Policy said there are currently about 6 million households eligible for the shopping benefit. As of Jan. 1 that number will increase by about 3 million.

"That's a huge lift across the entire system," Hall said.

Hall said newly eligible patrons should go to the visitors center at the installation where they plan to do most of their shopping to register their credentials.

"Thereafter, they will be able to access the installation in the same way as common access card and DoD ID card holders," he said.

The new customers will pay a fee for using a credit card at commissaries, except for those using the Military Star card. The initial fee for commercial credit cards will be 1.9%; for debit cards, 0.5%. Credit card companies charge transaction

fees to retailers when customers use their credit cards. There will be a flag built into the system at commissaries so that when the card is swiped the fee will be charged. The fee applies only to new patrons using credit cards in commissaries, not to those who were previously authorized to shop.

New customers can avoid the fees by paying by cash, check or using the Military Star card, which they will be eligible to apply for beginning Jan. 1.

Commissary, exchange and morale, welfare and recreation facilities are preparing to accommodate these patrons with little to no impact on current operations. Newly eligible caregivers under the Purple Heart and Disabled Veterans Equal Access Act of 2018 will have DoD access to MWR retail activities including entertainment, clubs, recreational lodging and resorts special interest activities, bowling, golf, restaurants equipment rental, movie theaters, vehicle storage, kennels, AmericanForcesTravel.com and more.

Details regarding identification requirements for both veterans and caregivers are being finalized by the Military, Community and Family Policy office (MC&FP).

At this time it's expected veterans will use a Veterans Health Identification Card (VHIC) and caregivers a letter. Any such credit and/or debit card fees only apply to the groups as stated above. For information on acquiring a VHIC visit www.va.gov/healthbenefits/enroll or visit a VA medical facility. The VA will issue eligible caregivers a letter indicating they are the primary caregiver or family caregiver.

For more information about how this affects Fort Polk, keep your eyes on the Guardian.



Post taxi, ride-sharing policies explained

DIRECTORATE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

FORT POLK, La. — Personnel entering the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk are required to be identified at access control points by security personnel, either by electronic scanning of issued Department of Defense credentials or by a visitors pass issued at the Visitors Control Center.

Taxi and ride-sharing vehicle drivers must have a driver's license and show proof of insurance and their vehicle must be properly registered. Personnel performing such services must be properly registered or aligned with an organized service, such as a taxi company, Uber or Lyft.

Taxi and ride-sharing vehicle drivers must undergo identity proofing and vetting against the National Crime Information Center and Terrorist Screening Data Base to determine fitness. If a retiree or DoD ID card holder wishes to gain employment as a taxi or ride-sharing vehicle driver, they must undergo an NCIC and TSDB back-

ground check.

Drivers on Fort Polk must have a government sponsor; at Fort Polk the Garrison Command is the sponsoring organization. Passes will not exceed one year or the expiration date of the driver's license.

Taxis and ride-sharing vehicles will be clearly marked to show they are performing transportation service.

If a driver has a valid credential for entering the installation, they must establish a requirement for each visit by showing the ride sharing hail on a smartphone, or identifying the person and building for pickup. Personnel entering the installation as a passenger that do not possess a DoD command access car, retiree or dependent ID or visitors pass issued from Fort Polk must be vetted through NCIC and TSDB at the installation VCC.

Vehicles entering the installation are subject to, and comply with, Random Anti-Terrorist Measure.

Army's new recruiting effort targets Gen Z

By THOMAS BRADING

Army News Service

FORT MEADE, Md. — With the pool of qualified recruits shrinking, a new Army marketing campaign debuted on Veterans Day to target younger cohorts — known as Generation Z — and focus beyond traditional combat roles.

To do this, the Army is asking 17-to-24-year-olds one question: What's Your Warrior?

The query is at the heart of the new strategy, and is designed to introduce young adults — who may know nothing about the military — to the diverse opportunities on tap through Army service, said Brig. Gen. Alex Fink, chief of Army Enterprise Marketing.

Over the next year, 150 Army career fields — along with eight broad specialty areas — will be interlinked through digital, broadcast and print outlets, Fink explained, and show why all branches are vital to the Army's overall mission.

The ads, designed to be hyper-targeted and highly-engaging, he said, will give modern youth an idea of how their unique identities can be applied to the total-force.

So, instead of traditional ads with Soldiers kicking in doors or jumping out of helicopters, 'What's Your Warrior' pivots toward the wide-array of military occupational specialties that don't necessarily engage on the frontlines — like bio-chemists or cyber-operators.

The campaign will unfold throughout the year with new, compelling and real-Soldier stories meant for "thumb-stopping experiences," Fink explained, regarding mobile platforms.

"We know today's young men and women want more than just a job. They desire a powerful sense of identity, and to be part of something larger than themselves."

RYAN D. MCCARTHY
Secretary of the Army

And, with so many unique Army career-fields to choose from, Fink believes the force offers something to match all the distinctive skillsets needed from future Soldiers.

One of the vignettes featured is Capt. Erika Alvarado, a mission element leader for the Army Reserve's Cyber Protection Team, where she is on the frontlines of today's cyber warfare.

Another example is 2nd Lt. Hatem Smadi, a helicopter pilot who provides air support to infantrymen, engineers and other branches to secure the skies.

Their stories — along with others — will tell the Army mission more abundantly, something



previous marketing strategies "didn't do the best job of," Fink admitted.

"Young adults already know the ground combat role we play. We need to surprise them with the breadth and depth of specialties in the Army," Fink said. "This campaign is different than anything the Army has done in the past — or any other service — in terms of look and feel."

The backbone of the new push isn't just showing the multitude of unique Army branches — such as Alvarado's and Smadi's stories. It goes beyond that, he said, and is meant to show how individual branches come together as one team to become something greater than themselves — a sentiment their research says Gen Z is looking for.

"Team" is also the key-subject of chapter one. An initial advertisement, unveiled as a poster prior to Veterans Day, depicts a team of Soldiers from five career tracks — a microbiologist, signal Soldier, aviator, cyber-operator and ground combat troop — all grouped together.

"By focusing on the range of opportunities available, 'What's Your Warrior' presents a more complete view of Army service by accentuating one key truth — teams are exponentially stronger when diverse talents join forces," Fink said.

Roughly five months after the team in chapter one, chapter two will be unveiled and focus on identity, he said. At this checkpoint, Soldier's personal stories will be shared through 30-60 ad spots, online videos, banner ads and other formats to tell their story.

"We know today's young men and women want more than just a job. They desire a powerful sense of identity, and to be part of something larger than themselves," said Secretary of

the Army Ryan D. McCarthy. "What's Your Warrior' highlights the many ways today's youth can apply their unique skills and talents to the most powerful team on Earth."

The campaign will be the first major push for the Army's marketing force since it moved from their previous headquarters near the Pentagon to Chicago — in an effort to be near industry talent, Fink said.

Although not quite settled in, the force's marketing team started their move to the "Windy City" over the fall. Since then, they have led the charge on a variety of advertisements and commercials, both in preparation of 'What's Your Warrior,' and other ongoing efforts.

At the Chicago-based location, the office makeup is roughly 60% uniformed service and 40% civilian employees, Fink said.

Chicago is also one of 22 cities tapped by Army leaders as part of the "Army Marketing and Recruiting Pilot Program."

The micro-recruiting push — focusing on large cities with traditionally lower recruiting numbers — has utilized data analytics, and been able to tailor messaging for potential recruits based on what's popular in their location, sometimes down to the street they live on, Fink said. How "What's Your Warrior" will target those cities — and others — remains to be seen.

That said, Fink believes the new campaign will speak to today's youth on their terms, in their language, and in a never-before-seen view of Army service and show how their skillsets are needed to form the most powerful team in the world: The U.S. Army.

For more information on "What's Your Warrior" and opportunities in the Army, visit goarmy.com.

46th Engineer Battalion executes airfield obstruction survey

By **ANGIE THORNE**

Guardian staff writer

FORT POLK, La. — Fort Polk's 46th Engineer Battalion is currently performing an airfield obstruction survey across the installation.

The following aspects are just a few of the many vital details the survey ascertains:

- Profiling the runway to include thresholds and runway ends
- Locating navigational aids such as radar towers and non-directional beacons
- Locating and making note of vertical obstructions such as control towers, radio and cell towers, buildings and trees.

The survey was prompted by a deadly airplane accident on the coast of Croatia in 1996. A combination of bad weather, language barriers, lack of accurate aeronautical charts and no GPS equipment led to the plane veering off course several miles and hitting a mountain. The plane was transporting 33 people, including Ron Brown, the United States Secretary of Commerce at the time. There were no survivors.

As a result of the crash, this survey — originally called the Ron Brown Airfield Initiative — was developed. It is used to upgrade any airport that accepts U.S. military personnel more than three times per year.

Airfield obstruction data is primarily used by the United States Army Aeronautical Services Agency to assist Terminal Instrument Procedures personnel in identifying changes at the airfield which might impact existing and planned instrument approach and departure procedures. The surveys are also critical to airfield managers for situational awareness and planning for obstruction mitigation (cutting down trees), if required.

Warrant Officer Edward Reid, 46th Eng Bn construction engineer technician, said navigational aids are updated by gathering current GPS and elevation coordinates.

"Every five years any military airfield has to conduct an obstruction survey. We have to survey navigational aids and tall obstructions. We also have to survey the airfield to include thresholds (markings that denote the beginning and end of the designated space for landing and take-off under emergency conditions) and get a topographic picture of the entire Fort Polk Airfield," he said.

Reid said there are two to three field survey teams heading out each day to gather updated information and one team at headquarters dedicated to processing gathered information.

Two field survey teams were working on Fort Polk Nov. 12.

Sgt. 1st Class Leslie Clement, 46th Eng Bn senior technical engineer, is in charge of the field survey teams gathering GPS coordinates and obstruction information. He said specialized equipment is used to gather points of reference from different angles to provide the exact point and height of the obstructions to the airfield found at Fort Polk.

"If a pilot doesn't know where the obstructions are, a plane might hit them. We are trying to determine the highest point on the water tower. That includes any antenna rising above the top of the tower itself," said Clement. "We have to survey and make note of every obstruction in a seven nautical mile radius of the Fort Polk Airfield."

Clement said it's all about safety.

"Every airplane that flies into Fort Polk will



A 46th Engineer Battalion field survey team measures the GPS and elevation coordinates of a Fort Polk water tower Nov. 12.

have access to the information we are gathering so that they can fly safely," he said.

Clement said in addition to new buildings, towers and tree obstructions, the survey has to be completed periodically because of gravity and the subtle movement of the earth's plates.

"Things tend to shift, but it's so minute that we wouldn't see it by just looking at it. This survey takes that shift into account and updates the information," he said.

Clement said the survey can take anywhere from two weeks to a month to complete depending on weather and personnel.

As a member of Clement's field survey team, Spc. Anthony Wiggins, 92nd Engineer Battalion technical engineer at Fort Stewart, Georgia (a sister unit to the 42nd Eng Bn), said he came to Fort Polk help with the survey.

"One of the reasons I'm here is that Fort Polk needed people and equipment to help conduct this survey. In addition, I will learn a great deal about how to conduct one of these surveys and bring that information back to my unit. It's a win-win situation," he said.

Sgt. Steven Welch, 46th Eng Bn technical engineer, is a member of the other field survey team. He said what they are doing is important.

"We are making it safer for planes and helicopters to fly low and avoid hitting things like cell towers on Fort Polk. That can be especially important if the helicopters are flying patients to the hospital," he said.

Spc. Thomas Seymour, 92nd Eng Bn technical engineer from Fort Stewart, Georgia, is part of the base station that processes the information the other teams gather around Fort Polk each day.

"We use a specific program to enter the information gathered each day and check it for accuracy. The teams set a base point that we plug into the program. If that data falls within the proper range then it's viable and we add it to the new data," he said.



Sgt. Jonathan Searles, 46th Engineer Battalion technical engineer (left) and Spc. Thomas Seymour, 92nd Eng Bn technical engineer, Fort Stewart, Georgia, make up the base station team that processes the information the other teams gather each day.

Reid said after the survey is complete and all the updated GPS data is compiled, it is uploaded to be used by control towers and aircraft crossing into Fort Polk Airfield space.

Gregory Boykin, National Geospatial Intelligence Agency geodetic surveyor, is at Fort Polk to help the 46th Eng Bn complete the survey.

"I'm here to assist and guide them through the airfield survey process. It's all about the air safety of navigation," he said.

Boykin said carrying out the survey is extremely important because there are always new obstructions being built such as antennas, cell towers, buildings and more that have to be taken into consideration.

"If those new obstructions fall in the flight path, that information has to be made available so that aircraft are aware and can avoid the danger," he said.



Elite unit, elite training

Soldiers with Fort Polk's 115th Field Hospital, returned from the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, Nov. 12. The unit took part in a Forces Command Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercise in which they simulated a deployment in support of large scale combat operations. The 115th FH treated more than 1,000 patients including simulated patients wearing cut suits that allowed surgical teams to practice as though treating live casualties.

Soldiers named honorary captains for NSU home game Nov. 9

By **LEAH JACKSON**

NSU media relations

NATCHITOCHES, La. — Northwestern State University recognized three service members as honorary captains for the Nov. 9 football game continuing the university's tradition of honoring those who serve in the U.S. military.

Saturday was Military Appreciation Night at NSU, with tributes to each branch of service. The Honorary Captains, Capt. Kimberly Crosby, Capt. Jeff Christensen and Master Sgt. Christopher Bolden, performed the coin toss and received certificates of recognition from Congressman Mike Johnson.

Crosby is a 2012 Northwestern State graduate. She commissioned through NSU's ROTC Program in the Army Engineer Corps and currently serves as the S3, operations officer, 46th Engineer Battalion at Fort Polk. Crosby is a Shreveport native and was accompanied by her cousin and current NSU student Makayla Harris.

Christensen is NSU's Reserve Officer Training Corps' assistant professor of Military Science. He has more than nine years of active Army service with one rotation to Afghanistan.

Christensen was joined by his spouse, Rosie, and daughters, Brooklyn and Rachael, who attend Natchitoches Central High School.

The Christensen family hopes to remain in Natchitoches for several years before moving on to their next military assignment. Bolden is an infantryman with more than 19 years of active Army service. With eight de-



Honorary captains for Northwestern State's Nov. 9 football game performed the coin toss and received commendation from U.S. Congressman Mike Johnson. From left are Lt. Col. Wendell Bender, ROTC professor of military science; Alex Whittington, community liaison for Johnson, Master Sgt. Christopher Bolden, Capt. Kimberly Crosby, Capt. Jeff Christensen, NSU President Dr. Chris Maggio, Lt. Arthur Smalley, Chief of Staff, Northwestern Demon Regiment, and Lee Turner, Congressman Johnson's South District

ployments to Afghanistan and Iraq, he brings more than four years of combat experience to NSU's ROTC program as the senior military instructor. Bolden has been awarded the Soldier's

Medal and Purple Heart. His daughter, Jaycee, is a first grader at L.P. Vaughn Elementary School.

Fort Polk cultural resources studied, protected by DPW employees

By KEITH HOUIN

Guardian staff writer

FORT POLK, La. — Long before Fort Polk existed, people of various backgrounds inhabited the lands installation residents now live on and use for a variety of missions.

Artifacts from these cultures are still found today, and the Fort Polk Cultural Resource Office is responsible for land management operations on Fort Polk through compliance with regulations pertaining to cultural resources.

"A wide variety of historic resources connected to early settlers (such as homesteads and cemeteries) and Native Americans can be found here. Our archaeologists help manage these resources and the artifacts collected from them, while also coordinating this information with tribes, state and federal regulators, local organizations and heritage families connected to the land," Brad Laffitte, Fort Polk cultural resources manager, said

Managing these resources requires research.

"We may research previous work conducted at an archaeological site to better understand why it is protected as an eligible resource under the National Register of Historic Places, or research the best way to repair gravestones or clean unique artifacts and materials," Laffitte said.

"The information gathered from archaeological work is used to determine whether sites should be protected as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The paperwork and artifacts are housed in our curation facility. This information is sometimes accessed for management purposes and also retained for potential future academic research."

The research and work done by the office has led to various discoveries and documentation of life in the Fort Polk area.

"We have evidence of human presence here as far back as 12,000 years ago. The conclusion from the work done here is that this area was primarily used by Native Americans to gather natural resources and hunt," Laffitte said. "Most of the more permanent Native American settlements were near major rivers and tributaries."

"We also see some European activity and settlement prior to the Civil War, but most settlement happened here in the latter half of the 1800s and early 1900s," Laffitte said. "The settlers of the Fort Polk area were mostly Scots-Irish immigrants who brought with them a lifestyle of su-



Archaeological display at the Cultural Resource Cen-

sistence farming or a living off the land mentality."

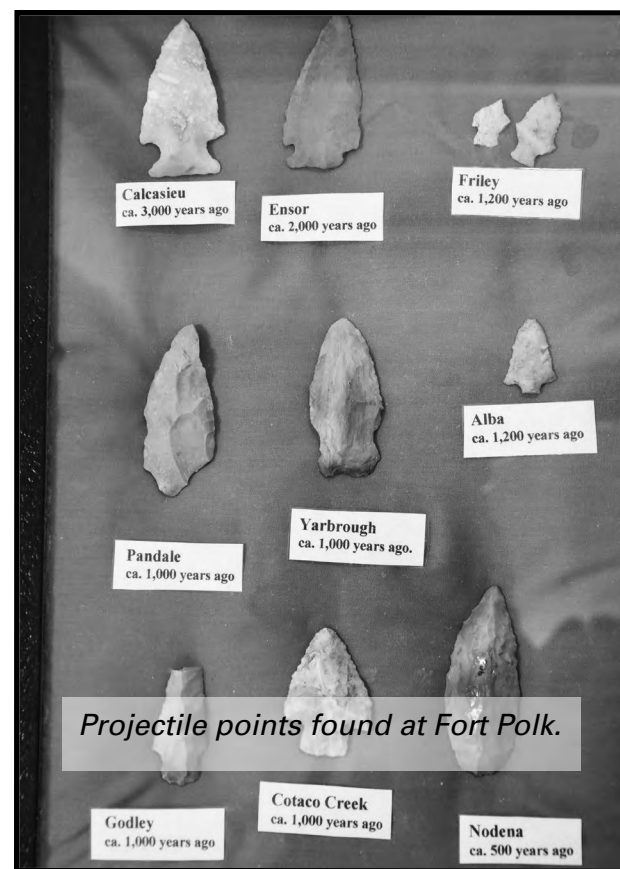
One of the more recognizable programs the office manages is the Fort Polk Heritage Family Program.

The program was developed in 2007 to recognize, honor and memorialize the sacrifices made by settlers who were displaced by the establishment of Camp Polk in the 1940s, Laffitte said. The program focuses on access to cemeteries, homesteads and holdings, and at least one Heritage Family reunion a year.

Along with artifacts from these periods, 65 oral histories have been recorded to better document life in the Fort Polk area during the Great Depression, Louisiana Maneuvers and Army displacement. They are maintained at Fort Polk's state-of-the-art curation facility with the artifacts, he said.

"Since 1972, we have generated almost 50 years of information and one of the goals is to share that information with the public. One of the best summaries of cultural resources on Fort Polk is the book titled "Archaeology, History, and Predictive Modeling: Research at Fort Polk, 1972-2002," Laffitte said

For more information on the history of the area, visit www.polkhistory.org.



Man's fascination with flight dates back to the earliest recorded history

GUARDIAN STAFF

FORT POLK, La. — You can often hear the sounds of Army UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters or Air Force C-130s overhead at Fort Polk. Aviation plays a crucial role in the nation's defense, trade and travel, but today's high-tech aircraft started with much humbler beginnings. November is National Aviation History Month and a time to look back at how aviation became what it is today.

Man's interest in flight dates back to the times of some of the earliest of recorded history and literature.

Man toyed with flight in a variety of ways before considering manned flight. The use of balloons for celebration, toy flying spinners and kites can all be found in various records in China

and India.

The first recorded manned flights came from China where kites were used to lift men into the air for military and civil purposes as ways to get a full view of the battlefield or the ruler's lands.

In the 3rd century B.C. the Chinese created the sky lantern. It was a paper balloon with small candles or an oil lamp place inside or under the balloon. General Zhuge Liang (180-234 A.D.) is believed to be the first to use the balloons for military purposes as a way to scare the enemy.

The 12th century historian William of Malmesbury wrote that an 11th century Benedictine monk had attached wings to his hands and feet and flew a short distance. There are stories but no definitive proof of other such attempts from the period.

During the Renaissance period scientist, engi-

neers, artists and others began to define some of the basics of rational aircraft design. Most notable of these was Leonardo da Vinci. His designs were rational but they were not scientific, and he particularly underestimated the amount of arm and leg power needed for powered flight. He did, however, anticipate many aerodynamic principles.

In the 1600s the idea of lighter than air flight was burgeoning, but there would not be a successful attempt until June 4, 1783 when the Montgolfier brothers demonstrated their unmanned hot air balloon at Annonay, France.

They followed that success on Oct. 19, 1783 with the first manned flight at the Folie Tiron in Paris.

Please see **Aviation**, page 8

Aviation

Continued from page 7

By the American Civil War balloon development had made great strides. Non-steerable balloons were employed by the Union Army Balloon Corps. The young Ferdinand von Zeppelin first flew as a balloon passenger with the Union Army of the Potomac in 1863. Zeppelin would become synonymous with rigid lighter-than-air ships by founding the Zeppelin Company.

At the same time lighter than air flying machines were being worked on and improved, others were attempting heavier than air flying machines. In 1647 Italian inventor Tito Livio Burattini built a model aircraft with four fixed glider wings.

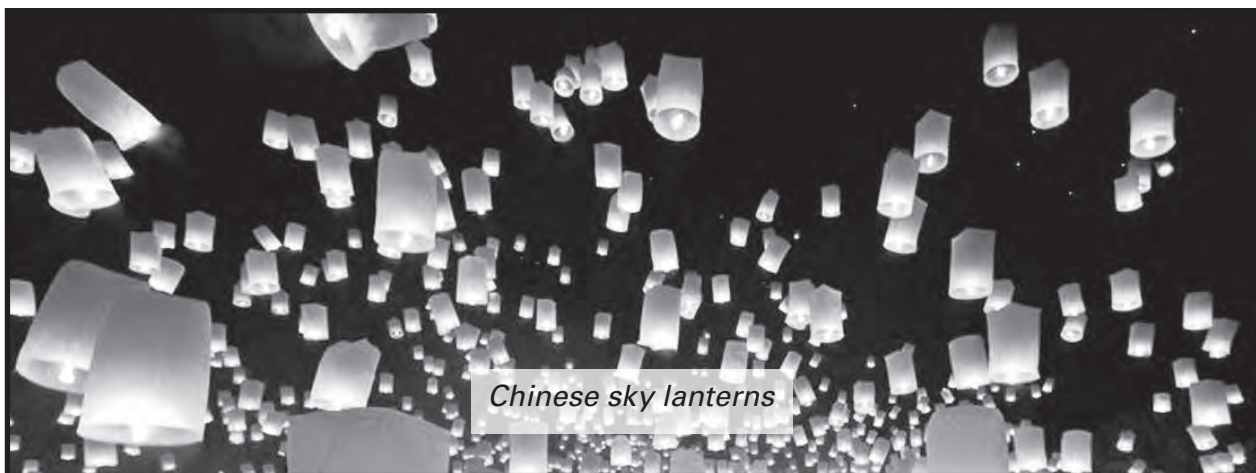
Glider flight technology continued to be studied by the likes of Frenchmen Jean-Marie Le Bris, Alphonse Pénaud, American Hiram Maxim, Germany's Otto Lilienthal and others.

As glider technology continued to prove heavier-than-air flying machines were possible, engineers and flight enthusiast started to test unmanned, powered heavier-than-air machines.

On May 6, 1896 American astronomer, physicist and aviation pioneer Samuel Pierpont made the first successful sustained flight of an unpowered, engine-driven heavier-than-air machine.

Despite his success with a powered heavier-than-air craft capable of carrying a load, it would be others who would claim the right of flying the first manned heavier-than-air flying machine.

Wilbur and Orville Wright made the first sustained, controlled, powered heavier-than-air manned flight at Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, four miles south of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina



Chinese sky lanterns

on Dec. 17, 1903.

The Wright brothers' numerous subsequent flights issued in a new era of flight enthusiast and set the stage for the future of manned heavier-than-air aviation.

Just eight years later aircraft were adopted for military use during the Italian-Turkish war, and in World War I they played a key role in military strategy. The tales of pilots such as is Manfred von Richthofen, better known as the Red Baron, would ignite the imagination of people world-wide.

After the war veteran pilots were eager to show off their talents back home and the age of barn storming and aerial displays began.

Now known world-wide as airplanes, these heavier-than-air machines evolved from low-powered biplanes made from wood and fabric to

high-powered monoplanes made of aluminum and steel.

By the time World War II came around, airplanes were part of almost every major military and industry, and they still are a key element of the world's militaries and an integral part of the world economy.

Aviation technology advancements continue to improve airplane safety and usage, and in some ways go full circle back to the early pioneers of flight. While people like the Wright brothers were determined to make manned flight a reality, today unmanned flight vehicles are where we see some of the most advanced aviation technology and usage.

You can learn more about the history of aviation at the Barksdale Global Power Museum located at 88 Shreveport Road, Barksdale AFB, La.

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Briefs

School lunch menu

The following school lunch menu is for Vernon Parish schools for Monday through Nov. 22. Meals are served with salad bar and choice of milk:

Monday: Chicken shoestrings, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, mixed fruit, whole wheat roll.

Tuesday: Whole grain spaghetti and meat sauce, steamed corn, tossed salad cup, whole wheat garlic bread, cantaloupe.

Wednesday: Sliced turkey, cornbread dressing, giblet gravy, English peas, cranberry sauce, sweet potato crunch, fresh fruit, whole wheat roll.

Thursday: Eggs rolls and fried rice, mixed vegetables, cheese stick, chilled peaches, sherbet.

Nov. 22: Cheese burger on whole wheat roll, vegetable soup, carrots/cukes/broccoli cup, apple wedges.

BJACH hours

Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital will observe the following hours of operation during the Thanksgiving holiday:

- Nov. 28-29 — Outpatient clinics, outpatient pharmacy, laboratory and radiology closed.

Inpatient services and the emergency room will remain open. Call 531-3784 for more information.

BJACH construction

The Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital emergency check-in and lobby area will move to the radiology department today as part of ongoing hospital construction.

There will be no interruption of services during the temporary move. Signs will direct patients to the temporary emergency room entrance.

Call 531-3111 or email kathy.l.ports.civ@mail.mil for more information.

Toy drive

The Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk holds its annual Toy Drive through Dec. 10. As part of the event there is a ruck march Wednesday. Toys will be distributed Dec. 12.

Contact your unit Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers representative, call 531-1948 or visit polk.armymwr.com for more information.

Patriot Turkey Bowl

Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, and their Families and friends, are invited to Perez Field at the corner of Colorado and BellRichard avenues Nov. 22 from 1-4 p.m. as the unit hosts its annual Turkey Bowl to select its representative for Fort Polk Turkey Bowl Nov. 29.

Enjoy tailgating, corn hole games, Frisbee and children's games as you root for your favorite team.

Vernon Parish schools earn "A" rating

VERNON PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

LEESVILLE, La. — The Louisiana Department of Education released district and school performance scores Nov. 6 and once again Vernon Parish was one of the top rated school systems, even as the state transitions to higher standards.

Vernon Parish earned an "A" rating and ranked fourth among public school systems in the state.

Last year the district scored 88.9 and this year its score was 92.1. Vernon Parish was just 0.7 points behind the highest scoring district in the state — Vermilion Parish — and scored 15 points higher than the state average.

There were nine "A" districts in the state and Vernon Parish had an "A" rating in four of the five areas graded.

No district rated ahead of Vernon achieved that. Vernon also had the highest ACT index in the state.

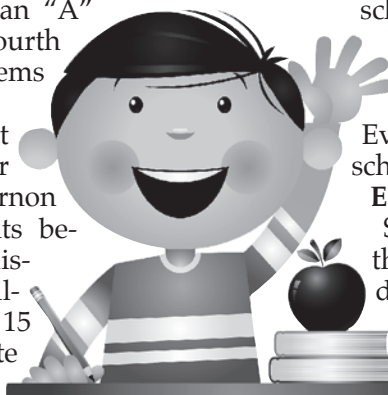
Top Gain Schools

Of the 16 schools in Vernon Parish, 13 were recognized as Top Gain Schools, meaning they earned an "A" on the progress index. Those schools included Anacoco, Parkway/North Polk, West/East Leesville, Pickering and Rosepine elementary schools; Anacoco, Pickering, and Rosepine high schools; and Evans, Hicks, Hornbeck, Pitkin and Simpson schools.

Equity honorees

Schools are labeled as an Equity Honoree if their subgroup scores among students with disabilities and economically disadvantaged are in the 90th percentile.

Eight Vernon Parish Schools earned this distinction: Anacoco, Leesville, Pickering and Rosepine high schools; Pickering Elementary School; and Evans, Hornbeck and Pitkin schools.



Justice meted out to Fort Polk Soldiers

STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE

FORT POLK, LA. — The preamble to the Manual for Courts-Martial states, "[t]he purpose of military law is to promote justice, to assist in maintaining good order and discipline in the armed forces, to promote efficiency and effectiveness in the military establishment, and thereby strengthen the national security of the United States."

At the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, the commanding general and subordinate commanders take good order and discipline seriously.

Across Fort Polk, the following disciplinary issues continue to be prevalent: Sexual assault, driving under the influence, wrongful use/possession of controlled substances, fraternization, inappropriate relationships and domestic violence.

Below are recent examples of adverse legal actions across the installation.

A captain, assigned to 32nd Hospital Center, was issued a General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand (GOMOR) for misuse of a Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC), in violation of Article 92, UCMJ.

A sergeant, assigned to Joint Readiness Training Center Operations Group, was issued a GOMOR for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol in violation of Article 113, UCMJ.

A specialist, assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, had a GOMOR permanently filed in his Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR) for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol in violation of Article 113, UCMJ.

A private, assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, was administratively separated under Chapter 14-12c(2) (Commission of a Serious Offense) for wrongful use of a controlled substance (cocaine) in violation of Article 112a, UCMJ. The Soldier's characterization of service was general, under honorable conditions. Generally, this characterization of service results in the loss of a servicemember's Mont-

gomery GI Bill benefits.

A private, assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, was administratively separated under Chapter 14-12c(1) (Commission of a Serious Offense) for being absent without leave from July 16 - Aug. 17, in violation of Article 86, UCMJ. The Soldier's characterization of service was general, under honorable conditions. Generally, this characterization of service results in the loss of a servicemember's Montgomery GI Bill benefits.



CORVIAS housing survey lets residents speak out, be heard

CORVIAS MILITARY HOUSING

FORT POLK, La. — If you have thoughts on Corvias Military Housing, the Army wants to hear from you. The 2019 Fall Resident Satisfaction Survey is the way to make sure current and recently departed residents' voices are heard.

Resident feedback is essential for the Army and Corvias to plan future improvements to on-post living and helps shape the services that housing offers.

The past year had a challenging start for Corvias at Fort Polk, where there were concerns about the levels of service they were providing. They listened earnestly to where the friction points were with residents and worked diligently to improve operations. This

fall survey is an opportunity to check back in with residents to determine where housing is on this road to recovery.

Feedback is also important when it comes to planning future capital improvement budgets; in 2020 the program has allocated additional funding towards road and sidewalk repairs, playgrounds and shaded structures at pools, and additional vinyl laminate flooring because these were the areas most requested by residents.

In addition, Corvias is working on major plans that will see housing implement exterior renovations and road repaving starting in November.

The surveys are confidential, and personal data is not used to identify residents in any way; however, self-identifi-

cation is necessary for ability to be entered into the drawings. Best of all, the survey only takes a couple minutes to complete.

This survey is an opportunity to provide feedback about homes, grounds, facilities and other aspects of living on post.

The intent of these housing surveys are to provide the Army with honest feedback that will better the quality of life for military Families living on post; they want to hear what is going well and where there are opportunities for improvement.

This will ensure Corvias continues to provide the services and amenities that are most valuable to residents in the future.

The link to complete the survey has been emailed from ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com

If a resident has not received an email they should contact their local community office for assistance.

Residents who complete the survey will be included in a drawing for one of five \$100 gift cards.

The drawing will choose winners from the first 200 respondents.



Corvias embarks on \$15.8 million Fort Polk renovation project

CORVIAS MILITARY HOUSING

FORT POLK, La. — Corvias, a partner to the U.S. military for the construction and management of on-base housing, has announced its latest investment project: A \$15.8 million renovation project at Fort Polk beginning in November with work slated to be complete in 2021.

As a long-term solutions partner to the U.S. Army, Corvias continually develops innovative plans for direct investments into its network of 13 installations across the country. By upgrading base infrastructure and providing renovations to homes, Corvias can manage maintenance and customer needs to directly address resident feedback.

Corvias' 50-year partnership with Fort Polk is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative (MHPI), which leverages private-sector capital and expertise, to reverse the military's housing deficiency by expanding and modernizing housing, with predictable, stable long-term operating costs and performance. This \$15.8M renovation project utilizes remaining Basic Allowance for Housing funds accumulated over previous years which are now being reinvested back into Fort Polk housing.

"Corvias understands the importance of reinvesting in our properties as part of our strong partnership with the Army and Department of Defense and we saw the challenges they were facing — aging housing and infrastructure — and were ready to evolve and transform," said John Picerne, founder of Corvias and Corvias Foundation. "Our approach to investment enables us to be a more proactive partner, anticipating and managing challenges down the road, all while providing military service members, their families and their communities with the next generation of assets."

The work at Fort Polk will include updates to the exteriors of 1,146 homes including the roofs, fascia, gutters and paint. The interiors were al-

ready renovated by Corvias during the initial development period. Corvias will also make road improvements to more than three miles of roads throughout the base including mill work to level, smooth and repave roads in three neighborhoods on the installation.

"These renovations are just one of several other development plans Corvias has in the pipeline for Fort Polk," said Matthew McGee, operations director at Corvias Property Management. "We are dedicated to raising the bar and look forward to completing this work and unveiling other plans likewise aimed at supporting the quality of life of our residents and revitalizing our base community for the military Families who call it home."

In addition, Corvias will soon complete the final phase of a \$34 million geothermal project including the installation of more than 2,400 geothermal heat pumps and upgrades across the installation, which are estimated to save the Army more than \$1 million dollars annually in energy savings and operational cost avoidance and, in turn, revert those dollars back to Fort Polk for

capital improvements. Over the last two years, Corvias has invested \$49 million in renovations at Fort Polk to improve the standard of living for residents.

Throughout 2019, Corvias has continuously reaffirmed its dedication to military Families with the launch of "The Corvias Commitment" in February and the announcement in September of a \$325 million capital investment into its military portfolio, which is on top of the \$15.8 million investment at Fort Polk. The Corvias Commitment and the various investments being made across the company's military portfolio are geared toward improving quality of life as well as responsiveness and communication for residents. Corvias' capital investment will continue to fund improvements in service, as well as modernization and renovations to homes across its military properties.

Corvias' partnership with Fort Polk includes the management of 3,661 homes, supporting an average of 732 direct annual jobs and generating approximately \$133 million in total tax revenues for the state of Louisiana.



TC BRADFORD / GUARDIAN

Fort Polk forges leaders with development program

Editor's note: This story was written by Mark Leslie, Directorate of Emergency Services deputy director, and Bobbie Parks, Department of Human Resources Workforce Development.

FORT POLK, La. — The Fort Polk Forging New Leaders program is an intense 10-month leader development course open to civilian grades GS-06 to GS-12. It is nested in the Fort Polk installation campaign plan and the leader development line of effort.

This competitive based program begins Jan. 1 and concludes Oct. 30 of each calendar year, and challenges employees with “out of the box” training and education in a non-traditional method meant to augment the existing formal civilian education system. One of the program’s goals is to professionalize the Army civilian corps at Fort Polk and develop civilian leaders at Fort Polk internally with the strong set of organic leadership tools available at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk.

The skills learned not only enhance the employee’s ability to perform at the next level but also to understand, comprehend and contribute at echelons above that of their current position. This program gives them a greater understanding, picture and appreciation for their individual directorate, unit or organization contributions to the overall mission at Fort Polk and the installation’s contribution to total Army readiness. It arms them with the skills to apply to Fort Polk problem sets to make it a better, safer, more efficient organization.

Each student is trained to understand the concept of a team and is assessed using the Strength Deployment Inventory (SDI 2.0 Personality Assessment). This process gives the students a strong base to build from. Students learn how to define, analyze and recommend courses of action, by employing the Army Design Methodology.

What sets the Fort Polk FNL program apart from other installation FNL programs is the inclusion of instruction on the Military Decision Making Process. This instruction educates and trains Army civilian corps staffers on the “common language” of the Army and of their uniformed counterparts. This instruction is key to training Army civilians that are experts in their field in becoming experts at operationalizing their projects, concepts and events to better nest with their uniformed counterparts and present it successfully to the commander to approval. The difference in an Army civilian that understands the difference in a CONOP, story board, course of action (and subsequent brief), the orders process and a decision brief (just to name a few) and a civilian that does not is noticeable. The most noticeable impact is the reduction in time it takes for leader/supervisors to understand and approve a course of action. This level of efficiency in the Command, Control and Communication process unites the military and civilian workforce under one common operating picture.

This became clear in several real world events at Fort Polk since the inception of this program. Many of the FNL candidates or graduates also serve as crisis action team members for the installation. The CAT is comprised of directorates and units on Fort Polk and is activated in anticipation of a pending crisis or during an actual crisis. These crises could be anything from a real world severe weather event (like Hurricane Barry), during a planned exercise, such as last year’s



The Fort Polk Forging New Leaders program graduation took place Nov. 14. Col. Ryan K. Roseberry, Fort Polk garrison commander (left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher M. Ausbun, garrison command sergeant major (right) stand with the graduates. Front row l to r: Stormie Tippit, Maria Smith, Amber LaMons, Tammy Summers and Queenetta Parris. Back row from l to r: Tiesha Markwell, Michael Buterbaugh, Michael Breaux, Jamicka Harri-gan, Rebecca Jackson and LaKeitha Stander.

full scale exercise or during an event like a vehicle crash, flooded areas or even an aircraft accident.

When the CAT is activated, plans and courses of action are developed to prepare, mitigate, respond or recover from a crisis. These plans are developed and briefed using the MDMP process to the commander to enable him to make the best informed decision for the installation. The FNL candidates that have had the training are much more aware, prepared and better contributors to the CAT than prior to the training. This is a true readiness enabler and better postures the installation for any crisis, ultimately making Fort Polk a safer, better protected and more resilient installation.

While no graduate of the FNL program will be an “MDMP Master,” neither is any senior NCO or officer upon graduation of a professional development course. But the FNL course does lay the foundation for the graduates, like their uniformed counterparts, to take their newly learned skills back to their directorate and hone them through using process and operationalizing their directorates function.

The graduation for the current class of students took place Nov. 14 at the Army Career and Alumni Program center, bldg 4275.

As guest speaker at the graduation, Col. Ryan Roseberry, Fort Polk garrison commander, told graduates and guests that this program is a big deal.

“I’m excited about a course that trains our civilian employees to be better leaders, take on more responsibility and become forward strategic thinkers,” he said.

Roseberry said he was impressed by the students who completed 160 hours of intense training while still maintaining full time jobs.

Roseberry congratulated the 11 graduates and told them their first task is to become ambassadors of the program.

“You need to encourage other garrison employees to take this course,” he said.

Stormie Tippit, graduate, was also awarded an

honor graduate certificate — meaning she graduated at the top of her class.

Tippit said the course included several elements of leadership and a behind the scenes look at different aspects of how the installation works.

“That kind of knowledge helps you become a more well rounded employee,” she said.

Tippit said leaning how to change and adapt while working on course projects was intense.

“Completing some of these projects forced us to step out of our comfort zones and learn new skills. Though it was challenging, I think it will benefit my work in the future,” said Tippit.

Graduate LaKeitha Stander, was also awarded the leadership award — voted on by her classmates.

Stander said she was glad she took the course because it taught her how the different directorates work together to make Fort Polk a better place.

“We tend to get tunnel vision working within our own organizations. This program taught us to reach out, communicate and take advantage of the resources available to us through our counterparts to make Fort Polk a success,” she said.

Stander said she would encourage civilian employees to take this course. “It sheds light on the inner workings of garrison leadership and has helped me grow into a better employee and made me a better individual overall,” she said.

Bobbie L. Parks, Forging New Leaders Program project manager, said the program helps students learn skills that will help them in their current position and beyond.

“They build relationships with other students and gain exposure to garrison and installation leadership, which gives them a broader perspective of the Joint Readiness Training Center mission and the skills needed to help accomplish it,” he said.

The next Fort Polk Forging New Leader’s class starts Jan. 1 and applications are now being accepted with class selections made by Dec. 20. The point of contact is Bobbie Parks at 531-1102 or bobbie.l.parks.civ@mail.mil.

Education Center hosts open house featuring colleges, universities, trade schools

EDUCATION SERVICES OFFICE

FORT POLK, La. — Fort Polk's Education Center hosted a plethora of institutes of higher education during an open house Nov. 14.

The event culminated the center's celebration of National American Education Week Nov. 12-15.

Education week was instituted when, during World War I, 25% of draftees were found to be illiterate. Many educational organizations came together to try to enhance public education awareness and enlist support for education enhancements.

In 1921, American Education Week was adopted and observed annually to keep the public abreast of the accomplishments and needs of public education.

As an added initiative, the goal was to secure the cooperation and support for public involvement and financial support for public education.

As the movement evolved, several organizations became co-sponsors including the U.S. Department of Education, National Parent Teacher Association, American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, American Association of School Administrators, National School Boards Association, American Federation of Teachers, American School Counselor Association, Council of Chief State School Officers, National School Public Relations Association, National Association of Elementary School Principals and the National Association of Sec-

ondary School Principals.

Prospective students were able to peruse the offerings from 22 institutions: American Intercontinental University; Ashford University, Indiana Wesleyan University; Lamar State College — Orange, Tx.; Liberty University; Louisiana State University — Shreveport; Southern University and A&M College; Trident International University; Universal Training Institute; American Military University; Columbia College; Louisiana State University — Alexandria; Northwestern State University of Louisiana; Toastmasters; Upper Iowa University; Central Louisiana Technical Community College; Central Michigan University; Central Texas College; Embry Riddle Aeronautical University; McNeese State University; and Purdue University Global.

On Dec. 5, a Fall Combined College Recognition Ceremony is held at 5 p.m. in Bayou Theater.

For more information on educational opportunities offered by the Education Center, call 531-5269.

Education Week

(Top) Students discuss technical career opportunities with a representative from Universal Training Institute.

(Right) Institutions offered a variety of 'swag' for prospective students to take home.

(Below) Colleges and universities gathered at Fort Polk's Education Center to meet prospective students.



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Not too late to show you care: CFC runs through Jan. 12

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

If you've been in the military or worked for the government for a while, you've heard about the Combined Federal Campaign. Every year, unit representatives go to work in support of the CFC to help ensure its success.

But what is the Combined Federal Campaign?

The CFC is a method for federal employees, military and civilian, to donate to qualifying charities.

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is a 58-year federal workplace giving tradition that has raised more than \$8.3 billion for charitable organizations.

The funds raised each fall through the campaign help neighbors in need around the corner, across the nation and throughout the world.

Through the contributions of civilian and military federal employees, the campaign continues to make a difference by generating more than \$93 million in 2018 for the thousands of participating local, national, and international charities.

You can choose a specific charity or contribute

to a general fund where your dollars will be distributed amongst all charities. The charities focus on supporting communities in areas such as veteran issues, health care, and research, education, homelessness, animal shelters, religion and more.

All your contributions made through the CFC are tax-deductible.

You can choose to make donations through a payroll deduction or a one-time donation. Payroll deduction

pledges or one time contributions can be made online or by filling out the paper pledge form. The preferred online payroll deduction method is through myPay.

There is a minimum donation of \$1 per pay period for payroll deductions.

While that doesn't seem like much, every donation helps.

The 2019 campaign officially kicked off at Fort

Polk on Oct. 18, and will run through Jan. 12, 2020. In addition to pledging money, federal employees can pledge volunteer service hours to participating nonprofit organizations.

Fort Polk has identified Campaign Key Workers to meet with every unit and directorate to ensure the success of this year's campaign.

These representatives will be distributing material, educating and collecting pledges.

If you would like to contribute or have questions, see your unit CFC coordinator or contact the installation CFC Program Manager at (337) 531-8765.

You can also make your pledge by going to <https://cfcgiving.opm.gov/welcome>. This site offers the full range of service and pledge options:

Participating charities

Payroll deduction

Credit/debit card

E-check

Volunteer hours

Start thinking about the causes you want to support and how much you can give to help those in need.

Check out the list of participating charities to find those with programs that support your chosen causes. Not sure how much to give? Last year, the average gift in our Mississippi Delta Gulf zone was \$491.

Consider whether you're able to match or even exceed that amount.

However you choose to give, every little bit makes a difference for those in need.

Don't let Fido freeze in frosty, freezing falling temperatures

HUMANE SOCIETY

Exposure to winter's dry, cold air and chilly rain, sleet and snow can cause chapped paws and itchy, flaking skin, but these aren't the only discomforts pets can suffer. Winter walks can become downright dangerous if chemicals from ice-melting agents are licked off of bare paws.

To help prevent cold weather dangers from affecting your pet's health, please heed the follow-

ing advice from our experts:

Repeatedly coming out of the cold into the dry heat of your home can cause itchy, flaking skin. Keep your home humidified and towel dry your pet as soon as he comes inside, paying special attention to his feet and in-between the toes. Remove any snow balls from between his foot pads.

Never shave your dog down to the skin in winter, as a longer coat will provide more warmth. If your dog is long-haired, simply trim him to minimize the clinging ice balls, salt crystals and de-icing chemicals that can dry his skin, and don't neglect the hair between his toes. If your dog is short-haired, consider getting him a coat or sweater with a high collar or turtleneck with coverage from the base of the tail to the belly. For many dogs, this is regulation winter wear.

Bring a towel on long walks to clean off stinging, irritated paws. After each walk, wash and dry your pet's feet and stomach to remove ice, salt and chemicals—and check for cracks in paw pads or redness between the toes.

Bathe your pets as little as possible during cold spells. Washing too often can remove essential oils and increase the chance of developing dry, flaky skin. If your pooch must be bathed, ask your vet to recommend a moisturizing shampoo and/or rinse.

Massaging petroleum jelly or other paw protectants into paw pads before going outside can help protect from salt and chemical agents. Booties provide even more coverage and can also prevent sand and salt from getting lodged between bare toes and causing irritation. Use pet-friendly ice melts whenever possible.

Like coolant, antifreeze is a lethal poison for dogs and cats. Be sure to thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle, and consider using products that contain propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol.

Pets burn extra energy by trying to stay warm in wintertime. Feeding your pet a little bit more during the cold weather months can provide much-needed calories, and making sure your pet has plenty of water to drink will help keep her well-hydrated and its skin less dry.

Make sure your companion animal has a warm place to sleep, off the floor and away from all drafts. A cozy dog or cat bed with a warm blanket or pillow is perfect.

Remember, if it's too cold for you, it's probably too cold for your pet, so keep your animals inside. If left outdoors, pets can freeze, become disoriented, lost, stolen, injured or killed. In addition, don't leave pets alone in a car during cold weather, as cars can act as refrigerators that hold in the cold and cause animals to freeze to death.



Dental Insurance

This is real dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company that helps pay for over 350 procedures – cleanings, fillings, crowns, even dentures.

- **No annual maximum**, no deductible
- See any dentist you want – including your own
- Over 50? Coverage as low as \$1 per day

Call now to get this **FREE** Information Kit
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dental50plus.com/statewide

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Fort Polk Soldiers participate in Anacoco Elementary School Veterans Day program

By **ANGIE THORNE**

Guardian staff writer

ANACOCO, La. — The students and faculty of Anacoco Elementary School celebrated Veterans Day with a program held at the school Nov. 8. Fort Polk's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 353rd Regiment participated in the observation by providing a color guard and flag folding demonstration.

Capt. Shiloh J. McGruder, HHC, 3rd Bn, 353rd Reg commander, was the guest speaker.

Angie Schraven, Anacoco Elementary School principal, said she was honored that the Soldiers of the 353rd participated in the program. She said they have also helped at a couple of other events at the school, including chaperoning at a dance.

"We don't have a lot of contact with Fort Polk Soldiers on a day-to-day basis, so it's been wonderful when they have stepped up to help us and we appreciate everything they have done," she said.

Schraven said the Veterans Day program was a way to say thank you to Soldiers past and present.

"We appreciate the many sacrifices they make every day for our country," she said.

McGruder said he was happy to speak at the program because he wanted to convey to the students the importance of a Soldier's values including selflessness, teamwork, trust and effort.

"By sharing those values with them, I hope to provide a framework for success in their own lives," he said.

McGruder said he thought helping the students meant a great deal to his Soldiers.

"When you define service, it brings home that we are serving the community in a personal way beyond the gates of Fort Polk," he said.

Anacoco Elementary School student, Ruth Rodriguez, 12, said it makes her feel good that the Soldiers came to spend time with students.

"They helped us learn different things about life," she said. "I liked saying thank you for their service and all they do for us," she said.



Anacoco Elementary School students perform several songs at the Veterans Day program held Nov. 8



Capt. Shiloh J. McGruder, HHC, 3rd Battalion, 353rd Regiment commander, was the guest speaker at the Anacoco Elementary School Veterans Day program.



The 3rd Battalion, 353rd Regiment provided a color guard for the Anacoco Elementary School Veterans Day program held Nov. 8.



Staff Sgt. Thomas Bolton (left) and Sgt. Raymond Flick, with the 3rd Bn, 353rd Reg, demonstrate how to properly fold a flag Nov. 8 after the Veterans Day program. The students from left to right are Casen DeFoor, 11, Dawson Colflesh, 11, Kenzie Attenburger, 9, Brylee Goins, 10 and Madison Blackburn, 12.

Lagniappe

BOSS

Take note of Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers upcoming events and volunteer possibilities.

• Football fun

The Home of Heroes Recreation Center is your football headquarters for NFL Sunday Ticket. For more information call 531-1948.

• Lemon lot

Trying to sell your vehicle? Bring it to the BOSS Lemon Lot. Registration is \$5 for 30 days. Cars that are not registered will be towed.

Register at the Home of Heroes Recreation Center. For more information call 531-1948.

Festivals

Texas renaissance

The annual Texas Renaissance festival, located in Todd Mission, Texas, 21778 FM 1774, about 55 miles northwest of Houston, takes place Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 23-24, Nov. 19-Dec. 2.

The theme Saturday and Sunday is barbarian invasion. Join the great horde and feast, drink and plunder your way through the village. General admission per day is \$23.95 per adult and \$11.95 per child. Parking is \$15. There are special deals and packages on the website.

For more information visit

www.texrenfest.com or call (800) 458-3435.

Louisiana Renaissance

Louisiana Renaissance Festival, 46468 River Rd, Hammond, takes place Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 23-24, Nov. 29-Dec. 1 and Dec. 7-8. The theme Saturday and Sunday is Celtic weekend. Wear your kilt, colors or tartan and have a good time.

Veterans and active duty military get 50% off at the ticket booth. For more information visit www.la-renfest.com or call (985) 429-9992.

• Choir performance

The Vernon Parish Community Choir presents Handel's "Messiah" at the Leesville High School auditorium, 502 Berry St. Leesville.

The performance is held Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. For more information call (337) 424-7118, (337) 238-1036 or (337) 238-2540.

• Discovery Days

Chimp Haven's Chimpanzee Discovery Day is open to the public Saturday. It is an entertaining and educational event for the entire family.

Visitors to Chimp Haven will have the chance to observe the chimpanzees in forested habitats; talk to staff about their personalities and natural behavior and discover the wonders hidden on the nature trail.

Admission for adults (13 and older) is \$10 per person. Admission for children (6-12 years old) is \$5 per child and children (5 under) get in free. Chimpanzee Discovery Days is held from 9 a.m. until noon. For more information visit <https://chimphaven.org>.

Clubs/groups

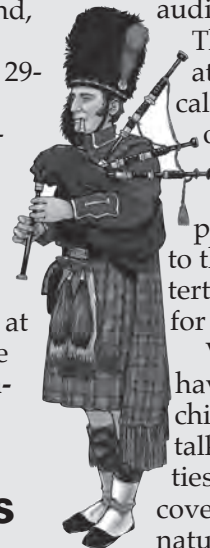
• Bass Masters

Join the Fort Polk Community Bass Masters. The club meets monthly on the Tuesday before each tournament. Meetings are held at 6 p.m. at the New Llano American Legion, Post 387, 500 Vernon St.

The November tournament takes place at Sam Rayburn Lake Saturday. The entry fee is \$40. For more information visit www.fortpolkcommunitybassmasters.com.

• Lose weight

Join Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) every Thursday at the Vernon Parish Library meeting room. Weigh in is 5-5:50 p.m. The meeting starts at 5:50 p.m. For more information call (337) 208-0896.



Miscellaneous

• Seasonal dinner

A community dinner takes place Dec. 14 at 2 and 6 p.m. at the Wooten Theatre, 102 East First St., DeRidder. Those invited include the lonely, widowers, needy, veterans and anyone who would like to share a meal with others. No one will be turned away.

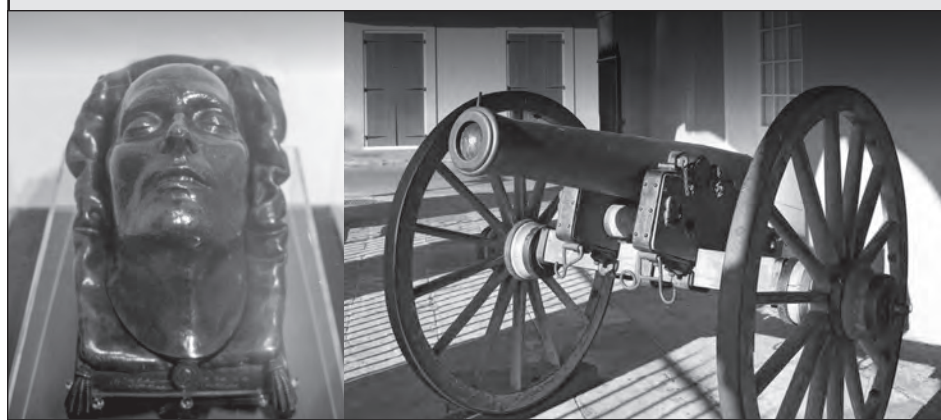
The purpose of the dinner is to show those who need a good meal and fellowship that even though the season can be rough, there are people who care. If you would like to volunteer call (337) 396-8083 or email brian13f2003@yahoo.com.

• Museum exhibit

The Alexandria Museum of Art hosts the "Pelican State Goes to War" — a look at Louisiana's contribution to World War II on loan from the New Orleans World War II Museum.

The event can be seen through Feb. 22. There will also be panels, performances and discussions in conjunction with the exhibit throughout its stay.

Admission is free. For more information visit <https://themuseum.org/#>.



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REAL ESTATE

NOTICE: All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination. The Guardian will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

STATEWIDES

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HAVE 10K IN DEBT? Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Personal Loans. Be Debt Free in 24-48 Months. Call **NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF!** Know Your Options. Get a **FREE** debt relief quote; Call 1-844-290-9978 (LA-SCAN)

PROBLEM CREDIT REPORT? LEXINGTON Law helps works to challenge inaccurate negative items including: identity theft, collections, late payments, liens and more from your credit report. Call for a free credit repair consultation: 1-877-804-2354. John C. Heath, Attorney at Law, PLLC, dba Lexington

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Fort Polk Guardian

www.thefortpolkguardian.com

Tradin' Post Ads

Published for the community of Fort Polk, La.

Deadline For All Classified Ads Is Noon Tuesday

Turn in ads to the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 4919, Magnolia Dr. or fax to: 318-352-3667 or email to tradingpostads@yahoo.com



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* Advertising is FREE for soldiers, family members and DA civilians.

* Businesses will not receive free advertising. All business ads must be prepaid. We accept Visa and Mastercard. (This includes child care, quarters-cleaning, or the sale and/or breeding of multiple pedigreed/registered animals)

* Only single soldiers living in barracks may list numbers with 531 prefixes.

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Deadline for FREE ads is NOON Tuesday.

Category: ☐ Household Appliances ☐ Furniture ☐ Sporting goods ☐ TV/Radio/Stereo
☐ Motor Vehicles ☐ Computers ☐ Pets ☐ Garage Sales ☐ Real Estate ☐ Misc.

Advertisement: In 25 words or less (one word per block) give description, price, telephone number and other pertinent information. For garage sales, list time, date and location.

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In signing this form, I certify that the items I am advertising will be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Phone: _____

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