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ARMY FLYER

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FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

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PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Earth Day Expo raises awareness, educates

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Although the first Earth Day was celebrated more than 45 years ago, Fort Rucker's commitment to sustainability and awareness remains strong as it celebrated a day dedicated to protecting the planet.

The installation hosted its 2016 Earth Day Expo at the festival fields Monday, where people were able to browse vendors' environment-friendly wares, learn about sustainability and even recycle old electronics, said Darrel Hager, environmental protection specialist for the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Management Branch.

Throughout the event, visitors were able to learn about how waste affects the environment, including how waste can seep into groundwater, as well as learn about all-electric and natural gas-powered vehicles, he added.

"Our hope is to bring awareness of environmental issues, and to showcase what products and services are available to people," Hager said. "I think that the visitors gained a more complete understanding of the changes that need to be made. Many of the displays and demonstrations highlighted what is needed and some things that can be done. People need to understand that the way we currently live can't sustain us for the long run."

The event was also an opportunity for



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Dan Roberts, Army spouse, and his wife, Capt. Stacie Roberts, A Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment, put their names on a pledge tree as they pledge to recycle better throughout the year during the 2016 Earth Day Expo at the festival fields Monday.

people to not just learn, but do through the E-cycling event, where people could bring their old electronics to be recycled, which Hager said should be recycled due to the components in many electronics that con-

tain elements that could be harmful to the environment if disposed of improperly.

For those who missed the E-cycling event, there is still the option to recycle year round at the recycling center in Bldg.

9322, located on Third Avenue.

People are welcome to bring computer towers, keyboards, computer mice, printers, scanners, laptops, wires, microwaves, coffee pots, power cords, battery backups, lead batteries, satellite receivers, cell phones and telephones. No government hand-receipt items are accepted.

Jessica Benet, military spouse, said she and her husband wanted to attend the event initially because they saw the Tesla all-electric vehicle and were curious about it, but ended up learning more about the importance of preservation.

"We're pretty techy, so when we saw the Tesla we obviously wanted to come see it, but we don't really think about the environmental impact it has and that was something that we learned about while we were here," she said. "Also, I would have never really thought about groundwater contamination, either. I knew it was a thing, but I didn't realize how easily things can get into the ground water and it really made me think."

That kind of thinking was exactly what Fort Rucker's environmental specialists wanted to ignite in those who attend the expo.

"You don't know the damage you could be causing to either yourself or the environment if you're not educated on the subject," added Melissa Lowlavar, EMB chief. "This expo is a way to educate people that there are better things that they can do to help the Earth and to be good environmental stewards. That's why we want to get the information out to the Fort Rucker community, as well as people in the Wiregrass, about new, innovative ideas in the environmental field."



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Soldiers of the Warrant Officer Career College and volunteers take their time to wash cars and educate people on sexual assault and harassment during the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention car wash on Shamrock Street Saturday.

AER fundraising campaign continues

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

With a few weeks still remaining in the fundraising campaign, the Fort Rucker community has contributed more than \$90,000 to Army Emergency Relief, committing to "Never Leave a Soldier in Need."

According to Capt. Matthew Leitch, AER campaign coordinator, the donations are a direct reflection of Soldiers helping Soldiers.

"There are so many other ways that Soldiers can secure funds when they encounter hardship, but only AER is a program for Soldiers, by Soldiers," he said. "It doesn't seek to make a profit or to benefit from a Soldier's hardships, but rather to keep the Army team strong through mutual assistance."

As of Monday, AER donations totaled \$96,085.50.

According to Beth Gunter, AER financial counselor, AER donations help alleviate a wide range of stressful financial situations Soldiers may encounter.

"The traditional categories of assistance are emergency travel, rent, utilities, essential privately owned vehicle repairs, funeral expenses, food and gas," she said. "The categories of assistance have expanded to also cover advanced travel funds, if there is a delay in receipt of advance pay or dislocation allowance; minor home repairs, to include repair of the heating and cooling system; purchase or



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repair of stoves, refrigerator, washer and dryer when establishing a new household or to repair if required; and essential furniture when establishing a new household. Providing a no-interest loan to assist in these areas can assist Soldiers and their families from further financial hardship."

Army Emergency Relief is a non-profit 501(c). All funds go to an overall AER account.

Last year, \$270,265 was provided in assistance to Fort Rucker Soldiers, retirees and their family members. In addition, Fort Rucker family members received \$130,650 in AER college scholarships. During the 2015 AER annual campaign, Fort Rucker contributed \$126,072.

"The importance of AER is also seen by the community, which is evident by

SEE AER, PAGE A5

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

Post to honor Asian-Pacific American heritage

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

Attendees are invited to walk together and build legacies during the Asian-Pacific American Heritage month kickoff event from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Friday at the post exchange food court.

The month aims to celebrate the cultural traditions, ancestry, native languages, and unique experiences represented among more than 56 ethnic groups from Asia and the Pacific Islands, said Sgt. 1st Class David Hedgepeth, 110th Aviation Brigade Equal Opportunity adviser, adding that he is working tirelessly to find representation for as many ethnic groups as possible.

This year's kickoff event features food samplings from the Asian and Pacific Islander culture, entertainment by Troy University Confucius Institute's Chinese art and calligraphy class and a traditional Chinese flute song performance, a display and demo table from the Korean South East Alabama Art group, a Tahitian/Polynesian fast hip dance presentation and a Hawaiian dance presentation.

According to Hedgepeth, this year's event will offer something different for those who attended the event last year.

"Last year, this event was a success," he said. "I'm trying to do something different, so people will want to come out and see what's new. This is a great opportunity to highlight the contributions that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made in our military and in America."

According to Hedgepeth, the event features samples of many ethnic groups and cultural traditions.

"The kickoff event is a great opportunity to experience new food and cultural traditions," he said. "It is perfect for anyone who has never been to Asia or tasted kimchi."

"This month and these events provide education to the community," he added. "We hope to educate the community on the contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. There will be displays set up at the kickoff event highlighting



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Deana Dodger, military Family member of Japanese descent, performs a Tae Kwon Do demonstration at last year's Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month kickoff event. This year's kickoff is Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the post exchange.

different Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who've made an impact on our culture throughout history."

The kickoff event is a perfect opportunity for the community to honor Asian-Pacific American heritage and possibly discover something new, according to Hedgepeth.

"Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are part of our community and it is important we honor their heritage," he said. "There is a large Korean community in Daleville who are helping make our kickoff event better."

The kickoff event is the first of many events planned for May, according to Hedgepeth.

The next event will be an origami class and book reading May 6 from 10-11 a.m. at the Center Library.

Government I.D. card holders and their families are invited to attend a free tour of the Confucius Institute of Troy University May 13. The bus departs from the U.S.

SEE DIVERSITY, PAGE A5

PERSPECTIVE

Australian commemoration features Vietnam vets

By Australian Capt. Will Norval
C Sqn., 5th Avn. Regt. CH-47F Pilot

While Australians got together around the country on ANZAC Day to commemorate the landings at Gallipoli of April 25, 1915, a small group of Australian army officers were joined by a number of American and Australian Vietnam veterans at a memorial plinth at Fort Rucker early Monday.

They joined together to not only remember their fallen from that bloody conflict, but also to pay respect to their Australian comrades in arms on this significant day for Australia.

The Vietnam War, an attempt to prevent the spread of communism in Southeast Asia as part of the Cold War by the United States and her allies, saw the involvement of Australian combat units in this conflict.

One distinctive unit formed during this conflict was the 135th Assault Helicopter Company -Experimental Military Unit. It was a unique unit in that 40-60 Royal Australian Navy members of 723rd Squadron, HMS Albatross, were permanently assigned to the U.S. Army's 125-man strong 135th AHC for a one-year tour of duty. The attachment included pilots, maintenance and administrative personnel. This multinational, one-of-a-kind unit was in existence for four years –1967-71. A U.S. Army major commanded the unit and an Australian major was the second in command as the company's executive officer. The 135th was dubbed "the Fighting EMUs" after the Experimental Military Unit moniker – ironic due to the emu's lack of flying ability.

It has now become a yearly institution for the Australian Army Aviation Detachment at Fort Rucker's U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence to commemorate ANZAC day with the surviving U.S. and Australian members from the Fighting EMUs. The dawn service takes place at the unit's memorial plinth at Fort Rucker. The memorial has a sister memorial erected in



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Veterans of the 135th Assault Helicopter Company read the calling of the honor roll in honor of their fallen brethren during a dawn service in honor of ANZAC Day at Veterans Park Monday.

honour of the unit and other war veterans in Walsh Memorial Park in Bomaderry, New South Wales.

The Australian army currently has a small detachment of Australian Army Aviation Corps officers stationed with various units across the United States. The positions range from initial conversion training onto CH-47F helicopters to exchange officers with the U.S. Army combat Aviation brigades and U.S. Marine expeditionary units. The detachment is commanded by Lt. Col. Eamon Barton, who has responsibility for all matters of Australian army Aviation across the continental United States.

During his ANZAC day address to the guests, veterans, serving members, friends and family, Barton reflected on the sacrifices of the ANZACs and subsequent generations from World War II through Korea and Vietnam, to peace keeping and current operations around the globe.

Barton reaffirmed the importance of the brotherhood Australians share with not only the U.S. Army, but all militaries representing the countries of the free world. Very fittingly, he quoted a passage from the prime minister's ANZAC day address.

"We do not boast of our victories, because we know that they came at a cost – to us and to others. We do not parade mis-

siles and tanks in an ostentatious display of might – we choose to stand as one in a moment of silent contemplation in tribute to those who fought and died so that we could live in freedom."

After the service, there was opportunity for the guests to enjoy coffee and tea, with traditional ANZAC Biscuits baked by Nicole Barton. The Vietnam and Australian veterans got to meet the next generation of Australian Aviators and share some of their memories from their days in the Fighting EMUs.

More information about the Fighting EMUs are available at the following links: 135ahc.net and Hueyvets.com.

Rotor Wash

“The Asian-Pacific Islander Heritage kickoff is Friday at the post exchange from 11:30 to 1 p.m. Why is it important to celebrate diversity in our military?”



Jennifer Youngblood,
military spouse

"People come from all walks of life, so you need to understand that not everyone is the same."



Nick Chauncey,
veteran

"It's that diversity in our military that makes us able to endure any situation and think as a unified force."



Emily Denton,
military spouse

"In the military you meet people from all over the place and you get to travel to different countries and learn different cultures. If you're not willing to learn about the different cultures, you can't expect people to understand yours."



Daniel Masters,
military family member

"People of different cultures have a lot that they can teach others about different ways things are done."



Geoffrey Charles,
military family member

"Being a diverse military is what I think makes our military great."

COMMAND

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FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

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FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

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CHAIRMAN:

Narrative, momentum in anti-ISIL fight shifted to Iraqis

By **Jim Garamone**
Department of Defense News

IRBIL, Iraq — The narrative and the momentum in Iraq has definitely shifted from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant to Iraq and its coalition allies, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said at the conclusion of his latest trip here.

This was Marine Corps Gen. Joe Dunford's fourth visit to the country since being named as the Department of Defense's highest ranking military officer. When he came to Iraq in August last year, ISIL still controlled the plot and momentum in Iraq and Syria.

In August, he said, "the narrative was that there was inevitability in ISIL's success in Iraq, the confidence in Iraqi security forces was really low."

As recently as May 2015, the terror group was still grabbing ground from Iraq, Dunford told journalists traveling with him.

The chairman said he now uses the negative reports from Iraq and Syria in August 2015 as the baseline of the efforts in the country.

"I am not unmindful of the challenges, nor am I going to blow sunshine," he said, "but when I look at August and I look today there (are) a couple of things that are indisputable," he said. "No. 1 is ISIL holds far less ground than they held last year. No. 2, we've had a significant impact on their resources."

A third change is the impact operations have had on ISIL's senior leaders. And finally, "their freedom of movement has been severely limited," the chairman said, and the number of foreign fighters that has been able to get in the country has been significantly cut.

"Another thing that is indisputable is that Iraqi security forces have gone from 'Hey, when are they going to start doing something?' to now having secured Ramadi and most of Hit and they are moving out the Euphrates River Valley farther into Anbar province," Dunford said.



PHOTO BY NAVY PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS DOMINIQUE A. PINEIRO
Marine Corps Gen. Joe Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaks with Massoud Barzani, president of Iraq's Kurdistan region, in Iraq, Friday.

Advancing up the Tigris

Iraqi forces are also moving up the Tigris River Valley and are now just south of Makhmur and starting to establish positions "that will ultimately lead to operations against ISIL in Mosul," he said.

The trajectory is good for the Iraqi forces, Dunford said. Success breeds success, and Iraqi forces are having successes against the terror group. They are also applying pressure against the group across the country, he noted.

Coalition forces in Iraq operate at the express request of the Iraqi government. "We're filling in the gaps of the Iraqi security forces that are doing the fighting," the chairman said. "We didn't fight for them in Ramadi and we didn't fight for them in Hit, and with two exceptions, we didn't bleed for them. They have been bleeding themselves and conducting the operations."

And, Dunford said, he expects more progress. He met with Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi yesterday. "In terms of

level of cooperation, and his willingness to accept our support and work with us, we have a partner in Baghdad," he said.

Abadi reaches out to Kurds

Abadi not only accepted the forces the coalition has offered but also a U.S. increase in forces, Dunford said.

"Frankly, we spoke last night about the need for cooperation with the Kurds and I was able to deliver a message today to President (of the Iraqi Kurdistan region) Masoud Barzani that Prime Minister Abadi would work with his folks to get a plan developed for Mosul right away, and that he would consult with Barzani soonest to ensure that all the stakeholders agreed upon the plan," the chairman said.

This is a significant change, and will help all the stakeholders in actions against ISIL, he added. "There are definitely challenges and Mosul is not going to be tomorrow," Dunford said. "There are real political issues that need to be worked through in the coming weeks."

First, the chairman said, there has to be what Barzani called "a plan for the day after Mosul." All players need to know what the plan is after Mosul is liberated, he said. Looming questions to be answered include determining who patrols the neighborhoods, who ensures people in the city of around 1 million are fed and who ensures ISIL doesn't just go to ground inside the city, Dunford said.

But it is more than that, the chairman added. "The Sunnis have to be enfranchised," he said. "There's got to be some accommodation for Kurdish interests with the government in Baghdad dominated by, obviously, the Shia."

That's not news, Dunford said, it's what has to happen "to get to a multi-sectarian unified Iraq."

Not all this has to happen before liberating Mosul, "but there has to be an agreed-upon grand vision as the detailed plan for Mosul is written," he said.

Sequence for liberation

The next step in the sequence is the continued generation of forces for the operation, the chairman said.

Dunford stressed that the offensive against ISIL in Mosul has already started, even though Iraqi troops are not yet directly attacking the city.

"It's like tightening a noose," he said. "We tighten the noose with positioning forces. We're tightening it with strikes. We're tightening it with targeted strikes against leadership and we're stopping the flow of fighters between Iraq and Syria."

Under the best circumstances, the chairman said he expects to see Iraqi forces continue to move up the river toward Mosul and make their way into the city to secure it. "It will take time," Dunford said. "This is incredibly difficult and complex. This is a million people in a complex urban terrain with a determined enemy who has had a long time to prepare. This is going to be a tough fight."

Space Symposium panel discusses space, international partnerships

By **Dottie K. White**
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado — Attendees of the 32nd Space Symposium gathered at the Broadmoor here to listen to an international panel of senior leaders April 14.

Brig. Gen. Greg Bowen, deputy commanding general for operations, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, was one of seven panel members who discussed "Global Space Partners on Collective Security."

In addition to Bowen, the panel had representatives from Canada, Australia, Germany, France, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

Each nation gave their perspective on the importance of space and partnerships with one another.

"It's clear to me that none of our countries are ever going to go into combat or any kind of operation by themselves," Bowen said. "It's always going to be a coalition environment. To have a successful coalition, partnerships are absolutely key.

"As we start thinking about space in a coalition environment, we've got to figure out how we're going to operate in a space contested environment," he continued. "Everybody is aware of the jammers, spoofers, antisatellite weapons and cyber vulnerabilities that exist today.

"Our adversaries look at space as something that gives us an asymmetric advantage and it's something they want to take down," Bowen added. "They see it as an Achilles heel that they can attack and perhaps level the playing field."

Bowen went on to explain the Army's heavy dependence on space.

"The Army is the largest user of space and also a large contributor to space capabilities within the United States," he said. "We provide global satellite communications, space control, force tracking, theater missile warning, and space situational awareness, tracking and identification. We're essentially bringing strategic capabilities to the tactical fighter. That's what we do in direct support of our brothers and sisters in harm's way. We're leveraging those joint national capabilities



PHOTO BY DOTTIE K. WHITE
Brig. Gen. Greg Bowen, deputy commanding general for operations, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, gives remarks during an international panel focused on 'Global Space Partners on Collective Security' at the 32nd Space Symposium in Colorado Springs April 14.

and providing an increased capability not only to our own forces but to our coalition partners."

One of the successes Bowen spoke about is the Wideband Global Satellite Communications system, or WGS. WGS is a constellation of large communication satellites in geosynchronous orbit.

Bowen said we've had a very close partnership with Australia since 2007. And in 2012, we signed a multilateral agreement on WGS that includes some of the countries that are represented on the panel –

Canada and New Zealand.

"It's a very interesting situation in that the countries provide funding essentially to purchase the satellites, launch the satellites, and then do operations and sustainment," Bowen said. "In exchange for that, they get access to the entire global communications network. That's very powerful because it enables us to talk. It enables us to operate in a coalition environment."

Another area of success Bowen talked about is Equivalent Value Exchange. Basically it enables

countries to exchange things they need.

"If there is a natural disaster that happens in your country and you need more SATCOM bandwidth, you can borrow it from us," Bowen explained. "And in the future sometime when we need it, we can borrow a transponder from you.

"It works out extremely well," he added. "We've been able to use that on a number of occasions. It is a very clean way to do business between nations."

In closing, Bowen reiterated how the partnerships are extremely important to us when it comes to space.

"We don't go to space alone; we need everybody out there with us," Bowen said. "And we need to be able to be interoperable, to talk to one another. Part of my job and probably one of the things that I enjoy the most is working the international partnership piece because I can see the benefits for the Soldier, Sailor, Marine or Airman on the ground.

"I never want to send our young men and women into a fair fight," he added. "We want overmatch. Space gives us that overmatch, but we can't do it alone. And I appreciate the help of everybody here."

News Briefs

Retirement ceremony

Fort Rucker will host its quarterly retirement ceremony Friday at 2 p.m. at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. All are welcome to attend and honor the post's latest retirees for their service.

Commissary employment program

The Pathways Summer Employment Program is under way. Announcements for the Pathways Program at the Fort Rucker Commissary are listed on the USAJOBS website at www.usajobs.gov. Students who will be in the Fort Rucker area between May 16 and Sept. who are interested should submit an application before Saturday.

This summer employment program is for students of all ages – they do not have to attend college in the Fort Rucker area, but rather can be visiting the area during the summer timeframe, according to commissary officials.

Prescription Take Back Day

Installation Management Command will host another National Prescription Take Back Day at Fort Rucker Saturday at the Fort Rucker Post Exchange in front of the barber shop from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 255-7509.

National Day of Prayer service

The Fort Rucker Religious Service Office will host the National Day of Prayer service May 5 at noon in the Headquarters Cha-

pel, Bldg. 109 on Shamrock Street. The Headquarters Chapel will also be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for people who prefer to pray alone or in small groups. Chaplaincy officials invite Fort Rucker community members to attend to pray for the world, the nation, the state, the local community, and Soldiers and families.

For more information, call 255-2989 or 255-2012.

College graduation

The Army Continuing Education System will host the Fort Rucker Post-wide Graduation Celebration May 13 at 11 a.m. at the post theater. The ceremony is for students – service members, veterans, family members and civilians within the Fort Rucker community – who graduated or will graduate during the 2015/16 school year from an accredited college, whether local or online. Friends and family are invited, as well, and a reception will follow the ceremony.

For more information, stop by the Fort Rucker Education Center, Bldg. 4502 on Kingsman Street, or call 255-9288.

Memorial Day ceremony

Fort Rucker will host its Memorial Day ceremony May 27 at 8:30 a.m. at Veterans Park, located in front of the U.S. Army Aviation Museum near the Daleville Gate.

Resident survey

Corvias Military Living is asking all residents to complete the

2016 Headquarters Department of the Army Residential Communities Initiative Resident Survey. The survey gives on-post residents an opportunity to provide feedback to the Army, RCI and Corvias Military Living on how their housing needs are being met.

An electronic survey will be emailed to all residents May 5. Residents who do not receive a survey or who have questions should contact their community office. Residents must fill out and submit the online survey by June 6.

The survey should take less than 20 minutes to complete. It will ask questions on topics such as residents' evaluation of their present home, community amenities, resident activities, the community maintenance team and property management team, among others.

All survey answers are strictly confidential and residents are urged to offer honest responses. Personal data is not tabulated and the survey does not identify the resident in any way.

ACS survey

The Army Community Service is conducting a needs assessment survey throughout April. People taking part in the survey will assist ACS in developing programs that meet the needs of the Fort Rucker community. The survey is available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6YMW8QP>, or paper copies are available through ACS.

For more information, call 255-9641.

READINESS

Pacific Pathways brings partner nations stateside to enhance readiness

By C. Todd Lopez
Army news Service

WASHINGTON — This summer, for the first time, a Pacific Pathways iteration will involve bringing nations from the Pacific region to the United States to engage in exercises Tiger Balm, Arctic Anvil and Rising Thunder.

“We now have ‘reverse Pathways,’” said Lt. Gen. Stephen Lanza, who serves as commander of I Corps at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. “So now we have countries coming to train with us at home station.”

During Pacific Pathways 16-3, for instance, Singaporeans will come to Hawaii for Tiger Balm in July, he said. Canadians will go to Alaska for Arctic Anvil, also in July. And the Japanese will go to Washington State for Rising Thunder in September.

Pacific Pathways kicked off its first iteration in 2014, putting existing exercises with partner nations in the Pacific region under one banner and converting them from independent stand-alone exercises into a series of single, lengthy operations, each of which requires more participants, at more levels of command, to practice and demonstrate a much broader set of skills and capabilities than would normally be required during a single, stand-alone exercise.

Lanza characterizes Pacific Pathways as an operation that includes multiple units participating in multiple exercises over several months. A Pacific Pathways iteration, he said, is more valuable to participants than the sum of the exercises it includes — which independently were aimed at building relationships and the tactical skills of those involved.

A Pathways operation is more than a unit moving from the United States to one nation, and then home again. Instead, a participating unit deploys from the United States to another nation, then to another nation and then possibly to another nation, as well, over the course of several months. They bring their gear and equipment with them, then move into and out of a nation’s ports, and conduct reception, staging, onward-movement and integration operations. They must understand port operations, frequency management, requirements for live fire, and how to move ammunition from the port to the training area.

“All of those things have to be worked through,” Lanza said.

On top of that, the level of command to conduct a Pacific Pathways operation is deeper than what would be required for a single exercise, he said.

“We are also executing mission command, our ability to command and control at multiple echelons,” he said. “From the theater all the way down to the tactical unit, we have expeditionary mission command — and we also tie this back to the Army Operating Concept.”

Lanza said that during a Pacific Pathways iteration, units might be training in Indonesia and Malaysia, while the command post is in the Philippines.

The breadth of what Pacific Pathways provides enriches participant experience and greatly enhances the ability for the entirety of I Corps to train, all the way up to corps level. It has pushed the value of individual exercises beyond development of familiarity between partner nations, Lanza said.

“We are beyond relationships. We’re now getting after readiness, both ours and theirs, in an operational environment,” he said. “Pacific Pathways has helped not only our own operational readiness, but has built operational readiness at echelon, from the



PHOTO BY SGT. BROOKS FLETCHER

Members of Indonesia’s 411th Raider Infantry Battalion join Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, for an AH-64 Apache familiarization brief by CW2 Jake Uber, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, during Exercise Garuda Shield in Indonesia Sept. 25, 2014. The exercise was part of Pacific Pathways.

theater all the way down to the platoons that operate. It’s built joint readiness, and it’s enhanced our mission-essential task readiness.

“What we found from Pathways is that every echelon of readiness has increased. We build readiness at home station, as we do more training at home station now because of our Decisive Action Training Environment rotations. We’ve added complexity to our home-station training; we’ve added changing conditions to home station. And then we take that readiness we built at home station and the combat training centers, and we have additive readiness that is built during that Pathway, not just from the training we do in the countries, but for the entire operation.”

Total force

Lanza said that Pacific Pathways will grow in other ways too. Total force involvement has grown inside the Pacific Pathways operations. Army National Guard and Army Reserve involvement has increased. But that’s not the only way I Corps is growing its relationship with the Guard and Reserve.

“What we have been able to do at JBLM and I Corps, is we have been able to partner with the Guard and Reserve on leader development, training conferences, and bringing them in, in terms of how we build requirements,” he said. “We have been able to take their requirements and bring those forward so that we have been able to take Reserve/Guard requirements and link them to our training.”

I Corps is already training with Guard and Reserve forces at home station, at the Joint Readiness Training Center and at the National Training Center, as well as on Pacific Pathways operations.

But now, as part of the Army’s recently-announces “Associated Units” pilot program, a formal relationship has been established between regular Army units and reserve-component units. As part of that pilot program, three Guard and Reserve units will be partnered with three units under I Corps:

-- The 81st Armored Brigade Combat Team, Washington Army National Guard, will be associated with the 7th Infantry

Division stationed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

-- The Hawaii-based 100th Battalion, 442 Infantry Regiment, U.S. Army Reserve, will be associated with the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

-- The 1st Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment from the Indiana Army National Guard will be associated with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

A conference in May, at U.S. Army Forces Command, will work out exactly how those relationships will happen, but Lanza said he imagines “we’re going to train together, we’ll have training guidance, we’ll have exchanges of officers and capabilities. But we will train together; the question will be how we are going to do that. So anytime you can get the Guard and Reserve and active component to train together, you optimize the time they do have to train, and it optimizes our ability to build that relationship.”

Will that associated Guard or Reserve unit necessarily deploy with the active unit to a combat zone? Lanza said he thinks so, but that and other questions will be worked out in May at FORSCOM.

“I think this initiative to associate Guard and Reserve units with active units, that we train together and build readiness together, is exactly what’s needed for the future,” he said.

Growing relationship with India

Gen. Dalbir Singh, who serves as chief of staff of India’s army, recently toured the Army inside the United States, and during that trip, he visited JBLM to meet with Lanza.

“I Corps has benefited from USARPAC’s growing relationship with the Indian Army,” said Lanza. “Our Soldiers routinely conduct military-to-military engagements which achieve consistent progress and build readiness in both forces. Exercises such as Yudh Abhyas and Varja Prahar foremost build personal relationships and trust with our partners which then makes for a more professional force in both armies. We have a lot of experiences to share and more opportunities for partnership will benefit

our two countries as well as the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.”

Lanza said I Corps is looking forward to increased partnerships with India in the Pacific. One example is the desire to expand the Yudh Abhyas exercise with India. In 2015, that exercise was held for the first time inside the United States at JBLM. About 150 soldiers from the Indian army came to the U.S. to participate. He said the Americans and Indians have a lot to learn from each other in such exercises.

“I think as we do this with the Indians, it’s more than just tactical training,” he said. “We’re building relationships with them where we’re sharing lessons learned. There is a lot we can learn from the Indians on counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency operations.”

Lanza said the Indians operate in a hugely diverse range of environments: high-mountain environments, desert environments and jungle environments, for instance.

“We pick up a lot of how the Indians operate in those different environments,” he said. “When those Mountain Soldiers came to train with us from their 9th Division, they were exceptionally well trained, exceptionally disciplined and motivated. We learned a lot from them.”

Lanza said the Indian Army is interested also in lessons the U.S. learned during operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. They are also interested, he said, in U.S. weapons systems, including M777 Howitzers and Apache helicopters, “they are looking at our capabilities to see where they can leverage that,” he said.

Developing further relationships with India, the largest democracy in the world by population, Lanza said, is critical to security in the Pacific.

“Anytime you can build partner capacity with a partner in the Pacific, and any time you can build trust with our partners and allies, that enhances security,” he said. “These opportunities to partner with India are extremely important in the Pacific. What we want to do in the Pacific is avoid miscalculation and de-escalate conflict. I think India provides a tremendous opportunity to partner with them on a military basis.”

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Army: Recruiting, retaining cyber operators a high priority

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Regarding cyber, “we are training in the dozens and our adversaries are training in the thousands,” said the commander of U.S. Army Cyber Command and 2nd Army, referencing what he heard at a cyber briefing at Carnegie Mellon, one of the top cybersecurity universities in the world.

Lt. Gen. Edward Cardon spoke at the Army Cyber Institute and Palo Alto Networks-sponsored Joint Service Academy Cyber Security Summit at the U.S. Military Academy April 21.

Retired Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno, senior adviser to the chairman and CEO of JP-Morgan Chase, added his own concern about the need for more cyber operators. “I believe within the next five years there will be an attempt to conduct a devastating attack on our infrastructure somewhere in the United States.”

Everyone agreed that given those concerns, talent management in cyber with regard to recruiting, placement and retention should be a very high priority.

Cardon said for now, retention is more of a problem than recruiting. He said he believes there are three things that motivate a cyber operator to stay: “Those who are passionate in this space, they want autonomy, purpose and mastery.”



PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

Lt. Gen. Edward Cardon, U.S. Army Cyber Command and 2nd Army commander, speaks at the Army Cyber Institute-sponsored Joint Service Academy Cyber Security Summit, at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., April 21.

With regard to purpose, he said cyber operators want to know that what they’re doing matters. “When you get the purpose aligned, it’s magnificent. They want to be known for what they’re

doing, it’s not just about money.” As to autonomy, they don’t want to be overly supervised. “The Army is a hierarchical organization, so that’s a challenge to work through,” he noted.

Cyber offers training opportunities to get to higher mastery levels, Cardon said. Also, the Army sends Soldiers to other agencies or industry to work with them – and they really like that.

Along with mastery, they can work with some real cutting-edge technology, he added. “You can do some really neat things that you can’t do on the outside.”

As to compensation, there are a number of bonus programs, he said.

Odierno added that while compensation is important, cyber operators need job satisfaction and to know from their supervisors that their work is truly appreciated.

But even all of that doesn’t always hold people in, Cardon admitted.

That’s why the Army created a cyber branch and is in the process of developing an incentivizing track, along with the rest of the Department of Defense.

What that track will be isn’t clear yet, but here’s how it might look, he offered.

If a cyber operator decides to leave the Army, he or she might retain all clearances and be in some sort of reserve status, he posited. And, “if we need you, we could call you back,” which they would probably like, because it likely would involve solving some unique, difficult and interesting problem.

“But just as importantly, if you just wanted to come back, you could come back,” he said. “All that’s being worked and the reason we can do that is we have a branch to work through it.”

AER

Continued from Page A1

the support we have received from the golf tournament Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union has hosted for the past 26 years with funds raised going to the Army Emergency Relief campaign,” Gunter said. “With the support of the sponsors involved in the tournament, AACFCU presented \$15,000 to last year’s Fort Rucker annual AER campaign.

“It is unrealistic to believe financial burdens do not occur,” Gunter said. “Army Emergency Relief provides

a venue by which Soldiers, their family members, retirees, surviving spouses and orphans can achieve recovery from such an event without having to turn to lenders who charge astronomical interest rates which typically escalates the financial issue.”

According to Gunter, AER has provided more than \$1.7 billion in interest-free loans and grants to more than 3.6 million active-duty, National Guard and Reserve Soldiers since its inception after World War II.

In 2015, more than \$138,000 was raised throughout the campaign season and nearly 200 Soldiers received assis-

tance of over \$270,000 from the Fort Rucker AER office to assist with food, housing, utilities, vehicle expenses and repairs, emergency travel, funeral expenses and certain medical expenses, according to Gunter. In addition, more than \$420,000 in assistance was provided in the form of loans and grants, and 79 spouses and dependent children received \$150,400 in college scholarship assistance.

An AER closing ceremony will be held June 6 from 2-3 p.m. at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

For more information, call 255-2341 or visit <http://http://www.aerhq.org>.

Diversity =

Continued from Page A1

Army Aviation Museum at 9 a.m. and returns at about 3:30 p.m. Attendees only need money for lunch. Registration opens Friday and the deadline to register is May 10. Seating is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call 255-2669.

An Asia-Pacific American Heritage observance will be held May 26 from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Corvias Building.

“It will be similar to the kick-off event, displaying different art and educational products, as well as food-tasting samples from various Asian and Pacific Island cultures.

For more information about upcoming heritage events or Asian-Pacific American Heritage month, call 255-2669.



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397 County Road 342 ~ Elba
\$223,000: Great property just outside the town of Elba. 114+/- acres of prime hunting land or would make great farm or pasture land. A cute 1940's farm house which is being sold "as is" sits on the property near the road. It has 3BR/2BA, a kitchen with appliances, a bonus room, laundry room & 1-car garage. It needs some work, but has potential. A 40x60 barn with a concrete floor & electricity & a 6 acre pecan orchard add to the value of this great property. Pee Creek runs along back of land. **JAN SAWYER 406-2393** MLS #20160606



new LISTING



106 Pawnee
\$75,500: Great price for this ranch. Easy access to schools, shopping areas in town. It features 3BR/2BA, fireplace, fenced yard. With some TLC this can be a perfect home for first time buyer or an excellent rental property. Alabama Right of Redemption may affect this property. **NANCY CAFIERO 389-1758 & BOB KUYKENDALL 369-8534** MLS #20160620




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222 Tartan Way
\$378,000: Live a charmed life in this sweet cottage w 4BR/3BA, 2-car garage, Florida room & bonus room! Entertain easily with the open concept plan but keep a formal feel with the separate dining room! Upgrades abound like custom driveway, path, underground fence, gas lanterns, Carrara marble in all bathrooms, wainscoting, stained & scored concrete in laundry & Florida room. The backyard has a brick patio with gas grill hook up. Don't miss the stunning claw foot tub & cast iron tubs in other bathrooms & tile to ceiling. **MAGGIE HAAS 369-8011** MLS #20160624



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36 County Road 418 ~ Daleville
\$65,000: Charming brick home with 3BR/1BA. This home is newly updated to include flooring, countertops, cabinetry, water heater with water filter, roof, breaker box, windows & plumbing. This home is ready for you to relax & enjoy! **SOMMER RAKES 406-1286** MLS #20160630



new LISTING



141 Valley View
\$89,000: Nice home, very convenient to Ft. Rucker. Large living room with wood burning fireplace, formal dining room & has a bonus room that could be used for an office, library or work-out room. Would make a great investment property or would be ideal for a starter home. **NANCY CAFIERO 389-1758 & BOB KUYKENDALL 369-8534** MLS #20160666




new LISTING



486 County Road 722
\$299,900: Beautiful 4BR/2BA home in like new condition! Wonderful open floor plan, has spacious custom kitchen with lots of granite counters. Hand scraped engineered hardwood floors flow throughout the living area. Large master bedroom suite with walk-in closet & ceramic tiled bathroom with Jacuzzi tub. Just minutes from town, the setting is all country! Large, level lot is fully privacy fenced & backs up to woods & farm land. The covered back porch is a perfect place to sit & admire the view. **THERESA HERNANDEZ 379-5937** MLS #20160686



new LISTING



306 Lake Oliver
\$45,000: Located in a well-established neighborhood, very close to downtown, schools & shopping areas. To be sold "as is". This property need repairs & will be a great start up home, rental or investment. Alabama Right of Redemption may affect this property. Seller does not guarantee or warrant title on this property. **NANCY CAFIERO 389-1758 & BOB KUYKENDALL 369-8534** MLS #20160698




new LISTING



109 Pratt
\$110,000: Must see! 3BR/2BA & convenient to Ft. Rucker. Large fenced, wooded near yard. **JACKIE THOMPSON 406-1231 & TERRI AUERETT 406-2072** MLS #20160703




new LISTING



405 Dixie
\$117,700: Well done updating on this home which originally was a 3BR/2BA, now has a master suite on the left side with a Jacuzzi tub & vanity, that has been tiled. New flooring throughout, along with paint & appliances. Kitchen sink has a window overlooking the nice private backyard with covered patio & decking as well as a 2-car side entry carport. Shed for storage in the back. This property won't stay on the market long. **EVELYN HITCH 406-3436** MLS #20160705



new LISTING



47 Freedom Heights
\$190,000: Hills in Enterprise? Copper Creek has them! Home is situated on oversized, corner lot, across the street from a large pond. Granite countertops in kitchen. Plenty & stainless steel appliances. Custom cabinets. Natural gas fireplace. Hardwood flooring in living area. Tile in wet areas. Carpet in bedrooms. Master bedroom has large walk-in closet. Master bath has tile shower. Both bathrooms have double vanities. Split floor plan for privacy. Sprinkler system. Security system. Seller is licensed agent in Alabama. **SHAWN REEVES 475-6405** MLS #20160707



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605 MORGAN: 3BR/2BA brick home with fenced yard, screened patio & a storage shed. Very convenient to Ft Rucker. **JACKIE THOMPSON 406-1231**



BUSINESS ~ REDUCED \$84,900



117 COLLEGE: Great location in historic downtown. Convenient to courthouse, downtown shops. Ready to move in. Reception area, 3 offices, 4th room could be another office or tech room. Seller will replace canvas on awning with purchasers choice. **PAT LEGGETT 406-7653**



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240 COUNTY ROAD 744: LIKE NEW! New hardwood floors, new carpet, new stainless appliances, new granite countertops, new water heater, freshly painted throughout, plus several new doors. Large corner lot in a great neighborhood. Convenient to schools, shopping & Ft Rucker. **BOB KUYKENDALL 369-8534**



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103 HABERSHAM: 1-story you will love. Splendid 4BR/3BA brick home. Tastefully designed to accommodate everyone's needs, this home offers a large mother-in-law suite with living area, kitchen, bedroom & bath. Formal living & dining room, updated kitchen & family room with fireplace. Step from the family room into a large screened porch overlooking a shady landscaped backyard. The porch offers a wonderful place to enjoy your early morning coffee or to gather with family & friends. **JUDY DUNN 301-5656**



\$139,000 ~ UPDATES!



107 WOODLEY: NEW! NEW! NEW! Almost everything is new in this adorable updated cottage situated on a dead end street & convenient to schools, shopping, Ft Rucker & everything Enterprise. New granite countertops, stainless appliances, flooring, light fixtures, fresh paint, a new deck -- what a perfect first place or a terrific investment property. All the work has been done. Just come relax in your new home & make it yours! **JAN SAWYER 406-2393**



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108 LIVEOAK: This 3BR/2.5BA modern home with a large outdoor deck is located on a peaceful wooded lot. Must see features include: the many windows letting in lots of natural light, an open style floor plan, window seats in 2 bedrooms, access to the outdoor deck from the master bedroom, even a front door entry coat closet. This beautiful home has lots to offer, come see today! **SOMMER RAKES 406-1286**



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100 HIGHLAND: Great family home with so many possibilities. Main level has formal living & dining rooms, master suite with bath, laundry room, family room, kitchen with bar area & a sun room. Upstairs has 2BR/1BA with an extra office area off the one bedroom. Large corner lot with partial privacy fence & there is an extra covered area for your RV or extra car off the driveway. Partial basement with walk-out & area for workshop. A DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH!! **EVELYN HITCH 406-3436**




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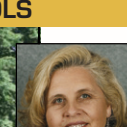
210 SKYLINE ~ DALEVILLE: Updated from the outside - in. New siding, new flooring, new lighting, new kitchen countertops & fresh paint throughout. Don't miss this! **FRAN & DON KALTENBAUGH 790-5973**



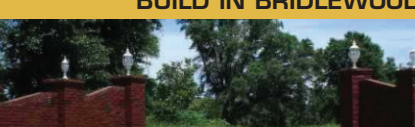
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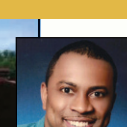
181 COUNTY ROAD 680 ~ \$244,800: Beautiful home on 2.3± acre lot. French doors open onto a huge & gorgeous screened patio that looks out onto a large wooded backyard. Current owners have created a nice walking trail through the woods, an open style floor plan, & privacy seats in 2 bedrooms, access to this house is perfect! The floor plan is great for everyday living & entertaining. There's plenty of room for a large family or lots of guests. With acceptable offer, owner will install a closet in the 4th bedroom which has been used as a den. **ROBIN FOY 389-4410**



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PHOTO BY KENNETH KASSENS

Thirty-two OH-58D Kiowa Warriors conduct a flyover above Fort Bragg, N.C., during the final stateside flight of the aircraft April 15.

Kiowa bids farewell to Fort Bragg

By Staff Sgt. Christopher Freeman
82nd Combat Aviation Brigade
Public Affairs

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — The OH-58D Kiowa Warrior has been a mainstay in the skies over North Carolina and the Fayetteville community for over 25 years.

The 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, made its final formation flight from Fort Bragg April 15 — a flight that saw 32 helicopters flying in a formation from Fort Bragg to downtown Fayetteville and back to Simmons Army Airfield.

“It’s bittersweet because it has been a pleasure to fly this aircraft and to ride this horse,” said Lt. Col. Adam Frederick, com-

mander, 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 82nd CAB. “We cranked every aircraft to do one more flight over Fort Bragg and Fayetteville.”

The last ride was a tribute not only to those who support the unit, but also to those who have piloted and worked on the aircraft.

“This tribute is multi-pronged,” said Frederick. “First and foremost, it’s a tribute to the OH-58 Kiowa Warrior. Secondly, it’s a tribute and honor to each cavalry pilot that has ever flown the aircraft, to include those who have given their lives. It is also a tribute to the community that has shown us tremendous support over the years.”

The flight was the last of the Kiowa War-

SEE KIOWA, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY SGT. NEIL A. STANFIELD

OH-58 Kiowa Warriors of 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, fly under an arch of water to complete a final flyover salute formation at Simmons Army Airfield, N.C., April 15.



PHOTO BY SGT. AUSTIN BERNER

A Soldier conducts a helocast out of a UH-60 Black Hawk into Victory Pond, Fort Benning, Ga., April 17 during the 33rd annual Best Ranger Competition 2016.

BEST RANGER

NORTH TO THE FUTURE

1st Gray Eagle flight expands Army Aviation capability in Alaska

By Staff Sgt. Sean Brady
U.S. Army Alaska Public Affairs

LADD ARMY AIRFIELD, FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA — It was a cool April morning and the Arctic Falcons of U.S. Army Alaska Aviation Task Force were hard at work preparing CH-47 Chinooks, UH-60 Black Hawks and AH-64 Apaches for lift-off — a typical day for Army Aviation in Alaska.

The morning of April 11 was especially important for the Soldiers of UATF’s D Company, 25th Aviation Regiment “Gray Eagle” as they prepared for the inaugural flight of the MQ-1C Gray Eagle unmanned aircraft system in Alaska.

Just minutes after 10 a.m., the Gray Eagle left the tarmac, gaining altitude on its first flight in Alaskan airspace. Gray Eagle arrived in Alaska late last year to enhance the tactical capabilities of commanders in USARAK Aviation, Stryker and Airborne units, along with joint partners.

“It’s taken more than four years and included countless federal and Department of Defense personnel to move Gray Eagle in Alaska forward,” said retired CW4 Reed Greenwood,



PHOTO BY LT. COL. ALAN BROWN

A CH-47 Chinook lifts a small-unit-support vehicle off the flight line at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, Feb. 22.

USARAK’s lead Aviation planner. “Making Gray Eagle a reality required USARAK to work closely with DOD-level Aviation managers, and to solicit recommendations and involvement from the Alaska public through a half-dozen outreach events.”

The versatility of Gray Eagle gives units in Alaska the ability to train for wartime tasks with real-world combat assets. The aircraft is the newest addition to UATF’s inventory, capable of operating in extreme cold regions

across the globe.

“With the addition of the Gray Eagle, we continue to provide top notch, professional Aviation support to the Stryker and Airborne brigade while simultaneously maintaining MedEvac and aerial firefighting capabilities for the Army and our local partners,” said Col. Blake Alexander, UATF commander.

UATF’s diversity is shown not only by the aircraft it operates, but

SEE FUTURE, PAGE B4

ALLIES

U.S., South Korean forces team for large-scale river crossing exercise

By Spc. Jeremy Reuse
Army News Service

SEOUL, South Korea — In the largest exercise of its kind in more than a decade, U.S. Soldiers and South Korean forces worked together April 8 in a river crossing exercise involving both air and beach assaults, sectional pontoon bridges, helicopters, tanks, boats and many others, to cross the Imjin River.

Fort Hood, Texas-based Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment “Stallions,” 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division; executed the river crossing exercise with Soldiers of the Fort Hood-based 74th Multi-Role Bridging Company “River Rats,” 62nd Engineer Battalion, 36th Engineer Brigade; and Soldiers of the Fort Drum, New York-based 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade; and the Republic of Korea Army’s 6th Engineer Brigade to secure the area, emplace the floating bridge and maneuver a large element of tactical vehicles across.

The Imjin River, the seventh-largest river in Korea, flows from North Korea into South Korea across the Demilitarized Zone, eventually joining the Han River south of Seoul. Nicknamed the “River of the Dead,” it was the site of a number of battles during the Korean War and is still a defining terrain feature in the current conflict between the two countries. Movement of military vehicles and personnel across the river is a training requirement set forth by the 2nd Infantry Division, and the Stallions were selected to execute it.

“It was a complex mission with a lot of moving parts,” said 1st Lt. Daniel Desmond, platoon leader, B Company, 2-8th Cav. Regt. “I’ve never done this

SEE ALLIES, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. KEITH ANDERSON

Soldiers of the 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment ‘Six-Shooters,’ 10th Combat Aviation Brigade in a CH-47 Chinook airlift a segment of a floating bridge to the Imjin River April 6 as Soldiers from the 74th Multi-Role Bridge Company ‘RiverRats’ 62nd Engineer Battalion, 36th Engineer Brigade move into place to capture the segment and move it into place to create a floating bridge.

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Kiowa

Continued from Page B1

rior, but also served as a final flight for two of the unit’s senior aviators, CW4 Matthew Steele and CW4 Michael Eckhardt. “I couldn’t think of a better time to finish my career than to finish alongside the air frame that I have flown for 17 years,” said Steele. “I have served alongside remarkable men and women over the years and they are all heroes to me.” “It’s tough to retire, but it’s a new chapter that’s exciting to start,” said Eckhardt. “The thing I will miss most is the brotherhood. You can replace every mechanical part, but you can’t replace the relationships you build along the way.” After the flight, the rotors will stop

spinning until they are transported to Arizona for storage and purchase by other nations. “The cavalry has been changing horses throughout the years to continue what we do,” said Frederick. “The aircraft has grown old and it’s time to put it out to pasture for new horses.” With the OH-58D that the unit has been flying for over 25 years being put to pasture, the unit will continue to support the ground forces with a new horse to ride into battle. “The unit is not going away,” said Frederick. “Once we return from our rotation to South Korea, we will reorganize with AH-64 Apaches and (unmanned aircraft systems). The spirit of the air cavalry that

has lived in the Kiowa Warrior will live on in the Apache.” The sound of the cavalry has always been a sound familiar to ground forces, dating back to its predecessors who rode into battle on their four-legged steed. “This aircraft has a distinct sound that our ground brethren have grown accustomed to,” said Frederick. “Just like the ground forces of old, they knew the cavalry was coming.” With the last flight, pilots recalled their favorite memory of answering the call of the ground forces they have supported for so long. “One day in my mind that will always stand out is October 13, 2011, in the Kunar Valley of Afghanistan,” said Eckhardt.

“There was a large ground operation going on that had come into heavy enemy contact in the past. The enemy attacked the ground forces and we were there to give them the armed reconnaissance support they needed. We were able to help the ground forces minimize the number of casualties.” The countless hours flown, the numerous combat missions over years in the pilot’s seat leave Eckhardt with one final thought. “There is no greater satisfaction than a total stranger shaking your hand and going, ‘Sir, without you, I wouldn’t be here,’” said Eckhardt. “That’s what I am going to look back on and take the most pride in.”

Allies

Continued from Page B1

kind of training before, so I wasn’t quite sure what to expect.” U.S. and South Korean engineer units were responsible for the construction of a temporary floating bridge capable of supporting an M1A2 Abrams Tank, which weighs approximately 62 metric tons, one of the heaviest main battle tanks in service. More than 20 bridge sections, weighing 12,000 pounds each, were brought in by CH-47 Chinook heavy-lift transport helicopters and modified bridge transporter trucks. Pieces were then moved into place by bridge erection boats and joined together to create the bridge span.

Cpl. Kangsan Kim, River Crossing Company, 6th Engineer Brigade, 6th Army of the Republic of Korea, was one of several engineers tasked with getting the float bridge to span the entire width of the Imjin River. “I was working with a T-wrench, which is used to connect and lock in place the different sections of the bridge,” said Kim. After 45 minutes of intense work, the float bridge was complete. This allowed 11 M2A3 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles and four Abrams tanks to begin their journey across the river, about 30 meters deep in the center. Sgt. Joshua Smith Sr., dismounted infantry team leader for B Co., 2-8th Cav. Regt., who watched out of the troop door of the Bradley as his team crossed the span, said the

experience was very unique. “The training was awesome,” said Smith. “It was my first time doing something like this and you never know if it’ll be your last chance. The bridge allowed us to meet and engage the ‘enemy’ on the far side of the river.” U.S. Soldiers worked hand-in-hand with Republic of Korea Army forces to complete the objective. “The Korean Army was instrumental in the success of this mission,” said Desmond. “The task was completed to standard and the ROKA Soldiers were very professional and efficient, even with a language barrier between us. When you’ve got two nations working together with this many moving pieces, it’s a great thing to see the mission being a complete success.”

Future

Continued from Page B1

through the variety of its missions and operating environments. Alaska has a range of weather and environmental conditions that cannot be replicated anywhere in the United States. With extreme altitudes over the highest mountains in North America and in temperatures ranging from 90 degrees in the summer to minus 50 degrees in the winter, UATF Aviators are ready to fly 24 hours a day, seven days a week in support of emergency response MedEvac missions for the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center and fight summer wild fires in support of the Bureau of Land Management. These missions go beyond the requirement to provide trained and ready aviation units to the U.S. Pacific Command and for other

global contingency operations. With the addition of an AH-64 Apache battalion in August, UATF now has an aerial attack capability never seen before in Alaska. These arctic-capable Apaches are outfitted with skis year-round, stabilizing the aircraft when landing on muskeg, snowpack and glaciers. The 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade is currently testing an equipment pod to hold Aviators’ extreme cold-weather survival gear, a unique requirement for combat operations in extreme cold regions like the Arctic. The current era of Army Aviation in Alaska began in 2005 with Task Force 49, a medium CAB headquarters. Over the next five years, TF 49 deployed seven modular Aviation units to Iraq over five separate deployments. In 2011, TF 49

transitioned to become 16th CAB and the headquarters moved to Joint Base Lewis-McCord, Washington. Now under the complete mission command of UATF and USARAK, Alaska Aviation battalions have deployed modularly to Afghanistan and Korea, and have supported five National Training Center rotations at Fort Irwin, California. “I’m extremely proud of the accomplishments of the UATF headquarters and staff over the last 10 months,” said Alexander. “This unit has demonstrated they can provide the leadership, coordination, mission command and oversight to achieve any mission for the Army and the state of Alaska.” With more Aviation combat power now in the Pacific region than in recent memory, UATF stands ready to fly, fight and

train in an area bigger than Texas, Montana, California and Kansas combined. Within that area is the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex, a series of training areas open to joint, interagency and multinational training. The JPARC consists of 65,000 square miles of airspace and 2,490 square miles of land space with 1.5 million acres of maneuver land. The space allows for full-spectrum engagements, combined arms exercises, and unique opportunities to train with international partners. “We are looking forward to maintaining our engagement in the Pacific with the Nepalese army Aviation and future coalition partnerships,” said Alexander. “I’m really looking forward to this summer as we expand our joint capabilities with the U.S. Air Force during the upcoming Red Flag and Arctic Anvil training exercises.”

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APRIL 28, 2016

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

Stroller Parade raises awareness, educates

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Child abuse prevention efforts aren't just for adults – they're something that children should also be aware of.

That's why Fort Rucker Elementary School held its second Stroller Parade Monday in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, so that parents and children could learn the value of every child, according to Dr. Vicki Gilmer, FRES principal.

"The stroller parade is a great opportunity to recognize that a good foundation for our children starts at their beginning," she said. "The awareness that each stage of a child's life is critical to the person they grow up to be."

Parents were invited to participate in the parade where they decorated strollers in different themes ranging from a military tank to a mini circus float. After the parents arrived with their decorated strollers, they took them for a spin around the FRES track where students were lined up to cheer on their favorite stroller.

Students were treated to a fun-filled atmosphere with music and dancing as the strollers rounded the track, and the although a winner was picked for the best stroller at the end, the lesson was less about who had the best decorating skills and more about supporting each other.

"The children were able to see that it is important to foster support for each other – no matter how big or small," said Gilmer.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Parents take their decorated strollers for a lap around the Fort Rucker Elementary School track during the Stroller Parade in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month Monday.

"Establishing a connection and instilling a sense of community is a key ingredient in becoming a successful citizen, Soldier, parent and more."

Fostering that support is an

integral part of growth for children and parents, said the elementary principal, adding that it's never too soon to teach that lesson.

"I think that children need to be made aware that there is a right

way to support children's growth and wellbeing, as well as a wrong way," she said. "The stroller parade gave the students at FRES an opportunity to support each other in a positive manner."

'THANK YOU'

Fort Rucker honors volunteers' selfless service

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

It's often said that volunteers provide an invaluable service that can't be quantified simply by the hours they work, and Fort Rucker took time to appreciate those who gave of their time to the installation and community.

Fort Rucker honored more than 100 volunteers who contributed more than 100 hours of service to the Army and installation through various efforts, saving Fort Rucker more than \$825,000 at a ceremony at The Landing Monday.

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, was on hand to provide his thanks, and present volunteers with certificates and awards.

"Our nation was formed on a sense of volunteerism," said the commanding general. "(You) dedicate your time and your energy to make others feel more at home and to provide things for others that they would not otherwise have. Every chance I get to say thank you to each of you is a special one. Truly, thanks for the volunteer time. That's a special gift that you have and it's a wonderful example for everybody to see and continue to emulate."

"Your volunteer spirit and patriotism truly represents what America is all about," added Col. Shannon T. Miller, Fort Rucker garrison commander. "It is awe inspiring the amount of time that you give selflessly to our community here and, without a doubt, you are absolutely an integral part of making Fort Rucker, the home of Army Aviation, an Army Community of Excellence."

Volunteers were recognized for dedicating 100-499 hours, as well as for those who contributed more than 500 hours of service. Volunteers of the Year were recognized in six categories: youth, active-duty, adult, family, the Helping Hand Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Angel Brown, Youth Volunteer of the Year – Brown was recognized for her work with the Vacation Bible School, the Midweek's Children's Ministry, Kingdom Fest, Bethlehem Village and various seasonal chapel programs.

Staff Sgt. John Koonos, Active-Duty Volunteer of the Year – Koonos took the initiative to develop programs to assist in day-to-day operations for programs within Army Community Service. He worked weekends and evenings, used his expertise to develop user-friendly tracking programs, as well as deciphered reports with visual cues for staff members to use when briefing the commander.

Sue Hunt, Adult Volunteer of the Year – Hunt serves on the Parish Adviso-



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Volunteers who were recognized during the Fort Rucker Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony at The Landing gather for a group photo after the ceremony Monday.

ry Council, is a substitute Sunday school teacher, Protestant Women of the Chapel teacher, Vacation Bible School music shop leader, and is willing to serve wherever and whenever needed. She welcomes newcomers into the community, providing direction on chapel ministries and helping people feel connected to Fort Rucker.

Brown family, Volunteer Family of the Year – The Browns support the Soldiers and families of Fort Rucker through their volunteer efforts in the chapel community. They have provided volunteer service throughout the year for season chapel programs, Vacation Bible School, Fall Festival programs, taught classes, served as mentors, guest speakers, advisers and members of the choir. Their hospitality extends to hosting geographical bachelor Soldiers in their home and supporting the chapel community in whatever ways they are needed.

Tori Evans, Helping Hand Award – Evans expressed that she enjoys telling stories of those serving through her photography. She provides her photographic expertise at activities hosted by the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Army Community Service, the Fort Rucker Primary School, as well as the "Army Flier." Her commitment and professional approach develops strong relationships with staff, volunteers and students, while ensuring that each event is captured for historical record.

Mary Jane Collins, Lifetime Achievement Award – Collins is a life-long volunteer, who has, over the decades, con-

tributed her time and talents to numerous programs in various leadership roles. As a military spouse, she supported the Army and her husband through 28 years of active service as a member and officer/board member of the officers spouses clubs at Fort Walters, Texas; Fort Knox, Kentucky; Mannheim, Germany; and Fort Rucker. She has served as an officer in PWOC, taught Bible school, tutored at the elementary school, was first lady of the Lyster Army Hospital Medical Company, a member of the Medical

Wives Club and a member of the Flat-iron Wives Club. She currently serves as a board member for the Fort Rucker Retired Officers Wives Association as the liaison, educating the community about the mission and purpose of ROWA. She is also a ROWA writer for the Military Officers Association of America and Fort Rucker Chapter newsletter, as well as the ROWA volunteer coordinator for the Fort Rucker Community Spouses Club annual Sweetheart Bingo event and Holiday Bazaar.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CYSS Youth Lock-In

Duties: Be involved with and oversee different games with youth and teens in the gym Friday from about 8 p.m. to midnight. The lock-in starts at 6 p.m. and ends at 6 a.m. Volunteers are needed at any time during the lock-in, so if they can't make it the entire time, they are still welcome to help out.

Marketing Promotions Assistant

Duties: Assist marketing director and marketing team with social media marketing plans and promotions. Research current social media trends. Assist with surveys and focus groups for research. Work with marketing team on brainstorming new marketing promotions. If interested, call 255-2292.

Training File Clerk

Duties: File correspondence, cards, invoices, receipts, and other records in alphabetical or numerical order. Add new material to file records and create new records. Answer questions about records and files. Eliminate outdated or unnecessary materials, destroying them or transferring them to inactive storage, according to file maintenance guidelines and legal requirements. Find and retrieve information from files in

response to requests from authorized users. Keep records of materials filed or removed. Perform periodic inspections of materials or files in order to ensure correct placement, legibility and proper condition. Place materials into storage receptacles, such as file cabinets, boxes, bins or drawers. Read incoming materials in order to determine how and where they should be classified or filed. Perform general office duties, such as copying and operating office machines. If interested, call 255-1898.

Army Family Team Building Instructor

Duties: Prepare for and teach at least one class each quarter, following the instructor instruction and lesson plans provided in the AFTB Instructor Guides. Attend quarterly AFTB Council meetings. Ensure students complete class evaluation forms and forward to the AFTB program manager. Maintain personal records, documenting volunteer hours training received and awards received. Serve as a spokesperson for the AFTB program. Attend professional development. Report safety issues to the ACS volunteer coordinator. Adhere to guidance outlined in Army Regulation 608-1 and AFTB standard operating procedure. If interested, call 255-1429.

ON POST

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO FORT RUCKER EVENTS , SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS NOON THURSDAY FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK’S EDITION.

Right Arm Night

The Landing Zone will host Right Arm Night today from 4-6 p.m., hosted by the 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment. Right Arm Night is an Army tradition, promoting a night of camaraderie and esprit de corps as leaders come together and treat those who help them accomplish the mission. Complimentary appetizers will be served while supplies last. Right Arm Night is held every month, and both military and civilians are welcome.

For more information, call 598-8025.

ACS needs assessment survey

Army Community Service is conducting a needs assessment now through May 15. People’s responses will assist ACS in developing programs that meet the needs of the Fort Rucker community. The survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6YMW8QP>, or paper copies are available through ACS.

For more information, call 255-9641.

Relocation readiness

Army Community Service will host its relocation readiness workshop Friday where Soldiers and spouses will receive information on benefits, entitlements, advance pay, government travel cards and more. Workshops are held the last Friday of each month.

For more information, such as time and location, or to register, call 255-3161 or 255-3735.

Youth worldwide lock-in

In recognition of the Month of the Military Child, the Fort Rucker Youth Center will host Operation Megaphone Worldwide Lock-In: Military Teens Globally Connected: Familiar Faces in Different Places Friday at 6 p.m. through Saturday at 6 a.m. There will be door prizes, games, movies, bowling, glow-in-the-dark roller skating and more. The free event is open to all CYSS-registered members ages 11-18 in grades six–12. Youth must have an active pass. Members may bring a non-member guest for \$10 – guest must have photo ID for age verification.

For more information, call 255-2260.

Comedy Live

Comedy Live returns to The Landing Friday from 8-9:30 p.m., featuring comedians Shawn Felipe and Terry Tee. The event is open to the public, ages 18 and up. Tickets are \$12 through today. Tickets on the day of the show will be \$16. VIP tables that seat 10 are available for \$150. Tickets may be purchased at The Landing, MWR Central or Coffee Zone at Lyster – VIP tickets are only available at The Landing.

For more information, call 598-2426.

Children’s Book Week

The Center Library will celebrate Children’s Book Week Monday-May 8. The library will hold three contests for authorized library patrons, ages 3-12. The contests are the Giving Tree – each child will get a leaf when he or she checks out a book. One leaf will be randomly chosen each day and the winner will receive a prize. Best Poem – children compose an original poem. Poems will be chosen at the end of the week. Poems must be submitted with the child’s name and contact information no later than close of business May 7. Winner will receive a prize. Favorite Book Character Picture Contest: children will have a chance to draw their favorite book character. Drawings must be original, not traced and must be related to a book. Drawings need to be turned in by close of business May 7. One prize winner will be chosen from each age group: 3-6, 7-9 and 10-12.

For more information, call 255-3885.

Mother’s Day craft

The Center Library will host a Mothers Day craft session Tuesday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Space will be limited the first 65 children to register. The event will be open to all authorized patrons and will be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

For more information, call 255-3885.

Center Library StoryWalk®

The Center Library will host StoryWalk® May 7 from 9-11 a.m. along the Beaver Lake Trail. As part of the Army STRONG B.A.N.D.S. program, Center Library, in conjunction with the fitness center, will host this innovative and delightful way for



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Lake Fest

A scene from last year’s Lake Fest. This year, the Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host the annual Lake Fest May 21 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at West Beach, Lake Tholocco. In celebration of the 15th year of the welcome-to-summer celebration, the theme is tropical paradise. The free event will be open to the public and will feature games, swimming, vendors, inflatables, a sandcastle contest, a volleyball tournament, and free use of life jackets, canoes and paddle boats. The event also includes a car show from noon to 4 p.m. Registration for the show will take place at West Beach from 10 a.m. to noon, with awards presented at 4 p.m. Registration is \$10 per vehicle. All types of cars are welcome. For more information, call 255-1749.

children and adults to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time, according to library officials. Laminated pages from a children’s book will be attached to wooden stakes that will be installed along an outdoor path. As people stroll down the trail, they will be directed to the next page in the story. StoryWalk® was created by Anne Ferguson and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg Hubbard Library. The event will be open to authorized patrons, and will be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

For more information, visit the Center Library or call 255-3885.

Mothers Day Brunch

The Landing will host its Mothers Day Brunch at The Landing May 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The brunch will include: omelet bar, meat carving station, dessert bar and more. Each mother will receive a free flower. Costs are \$18.95 for adults, \$8.95 for children ages 6-12, \$4.95 for ages 3-5 and ages 2 and under eat for free. The military family special includes two adults and up to two children eating for \$49. Reservations are not required, but are highly encouraged. The brunch is open to the public.

For more information or to make a reservation, call 598-2426.

Family member resilience training

Army Community Service will host family member resilience training May 9 from 9-11:30 a.m. at The Commons. The training is designed to give people the tools they need to become more resilient in all the challenges that life may throw at them, according to ACS officials.

For more information, call 255-3161 or 255-3735.

Home buying seminar

Army Community Service will host a home buying seminar May 10 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950. Topics will include: reasons for buying a house, financial goals, credit history, Veterans Affairs mortgage insurance, types of mortgages, shopping for a mortgage, applying for a mortgage and closing on a home. People need to register by May 6. Free childcare will be available for those who register.

For more information and to register, call 255-9631.

Employment readiness class


The Fort Rucker Employment Readiness Program hosts orientation sessions monthly in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, in the Army Community Service multipurpose room, with the next session May 12. People who attend will meet in Rm. 350 at 8:40 a.m. to fill out paperwork before going to the multipurpose room. The class will end at about 11 a.m. The sessions will inform people on the essentials of the pro-

DFMWR


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Right Arm Night



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COMEDY LINE

8–9:30 pm

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gram and provide job search tips, as well. Advance registration is required and attendance at a session is mandatory for participation in the program.

For more information, call 255-2594.

Children’s healthy nutrition workshop

The Army Community Service New Parent Support Program will host a healthy nutrition workshop May 13 from 9-11 a.m.

at the Munson Heights Community Center. Parents will learn tips for developing healthy eating habits for ages birth to 5, converting picky eaters and more. People need to register by May 6. The workshop is open to all active-duty and retired military, DOD employees and their family members.

For more information, call 255-9647 or 255-3359.

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 28-MAY 1

Thursday, April 28

London Has Fallen (R)7 p.m.

Friday, April 29

10 Cloverfield Lane (PG-13)7 p.m.

Saturday, April 30

The Perfect Match (R)4 p.m.
Batman vs. Superman: Dawn of Justice (PG-13).....7 p.m.

Sunday, May 1

Miracles From Heaven (PG)1 p.m.
Batman vs. Superman: Dawn of Justice (PG-13).....4 p.m.

TICKETS ARE \$6 FOR ADULTS AND \$5 FOR CHILDREN, 12 AND UNDER. MILITARY I.D. CARD HOLDERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE WELCOME. SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 255-2408.

VISIONARY

DOD engineers give deployed military systems new tricks

By Cheryl Pellerin
Department of Defense News

(Editor's note: This is the first of two articles about Department of Defense's Strategic Capabilities Office.)

Start with an established military system like the Navy's Standard Missile-6, a surface-to-air air defense weapon first deployed in 1981 – it and its variants launch from cruisers and destroyers and can stop incoming ballistic and cruise missiles at low altitudes in the atmosphere.

Now, make it do something completely different – like offensively attacking and destroying enemy ships at extended ranges.

Conceiving of and testing prototypes of such technology transformations is the job of a small team of visionaries and technical engineers at DOD's nearly four-year-old Strategic Capabilities Office.

Then-Deputy Defense Secretary Ash Carter created the organization in August 2012 after looking across the department and “correctly (realizing) that going back into great-power competition (with Russia and China) is going to require bringing back a lot of capabilities that had gone dormant in the department” since the fall of the Soviet Union, SCO Director Will Roper said during a recent media roundtable.

Contested superpower

“The United States is now a somewhat contested superpower given that the world's had, in some cases, 20 years to watch our power-projection means in the Middle East,” Roper said, add-



NAVY PHOTO
The guided missile destroyer USS John Paul Jones launches a Standard Missile-6 during a live-fire test of the ship's Aegis weapons system June 19, 2014.

ing that SCO was stood up to be a bellwether for the department to plunge into this environment, finding ways to gain back advantage, produce new concepts and provide options now rather than five or 10 years from now.

The department has many organizations that do the future very well, such as the Defense

Advanced Research Projects Agency, the director said.

“DARPA historically has done future technology better than anyone,” he added, “so we're willing to accept in SCO that the DARPAs (and others) are going to continue to push out great technology for us. Our job is to try to buy them some time to be

able to do those next-generation leap-aheads.”

Roper likened the United States to a great football team whose playbook adversaries have keenly studied for years.

“Opponents have made a bet that they can take the systems the world has watched us use for a couple of decades and try to make them contested or deny them access to regions of the world where we may want them to act,” he said.

Trick plays

But great teams realize they're being watched, and get surprise and creativity back on their side by running trick plays, Roper explained.

“One of our primary questions in SCO is how do we use the systems we already have tremendous investment in, in ways the world has never seen and (doesn't) know how to counter.”

The engineers at SCO do this using one of three approaches – by taking something designed for one mission and making it do a completely different mission, or by integrating systems into teams – “I can't solve the problem with System A or System B, but by connecting them together I can,” Roper explained – or changing the game by adding in commercial technology.

SM-6 was an example of the first approach, which Roper called repurposing.

More approaches

An example of the second approach, integrating systems into teams, is the Arsenal Plane Program, he said.

“The point of the plane is to

be a big weapons truck supporting forward fighters,” Roper said, adding that SCO has analyzed multiple aircraft for use in the program. In this case integration into a team is needed because 5th-generation systems like the F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter are too small to carry a lot of weapons.

“You could just accept that you've got to go land and resupply and then go back into the fight ... or you can try to offload all the weapons, keep those forward fighters flying more of a ... forward-observer role, and network them to an airplane that's standing off (and) doing the job of bringing in weapons and supporting multiple fighters forward, he said.

The third approach is bringing in commercial technology, which Roper says is changing everything.

“By wrapping (all kinds of existing technology) in smart sensing and computing and networking, it's changed everything about the resulting capabilities. It allows us to do things better, in a more distributed way with more control even when we're far away from the thing that we need to be able to see and touch,” he said.

“Of all these three functions – repurposing systems, integrating systems and fusing commercial technology – it's the latter that I think will be the toughest challenge for the department,” Roper noted. By the time DOD is ready to use the first generation of a system, the commercial world may be on the third generation,

SEE ENGINEERS, PAGE C5

DOD tech transformation holds surprises for U.S. adversaries

By Cheryl Pellerin
Department of Defense News

(Editor's note: This is the second of two articles about DOD's Strategic Capabilities Office.)

WASHINGTON — In a geopolitical environment where the focus of nations often is on future technologies, the Defense Department's Strategic Capabilities Office starts with systems that are well established and familiar to nearly everyone, especially adversaries.

Now, four years after its creation in 2012 by then-Deputy Defense Secretary Ash Carter, the Strategic Capabilities Office is coming out of the shadows, publicly sharing its mission as a technology transformer and some of its successes – but not the best ones.

The best projects remain classified, SCO Director Will Roper said, as a surprise for adversaries in the event of a conflict.

During a recent media roundtable, Roper explained that the office's small team of technical engineers, service members and other detailees take systems DOD already has tremendous investments in and transform, or repurpose, them for use in ways the world has never seen, or countered.

“SCO is just a piece of the third offset,” Roper said, referring to the name of the approach the department is taking to offset adversaries' strengths by creating advanced leap-ahead technologies for use in a potential fight.

Repurposing technology

“We've had 3 1/2 years now to work this problem, and we selected the area of repurposing not based on fiscal requirements or because we were told go repurpose stuff, but we think it ... is the right first disruptive move against opponents of the U.S.,” he said.

“If (adversaries) think they're going to deny all the systems that we've got two decades of investment in, we're going to try to undercut that assumption and show them that it's wrong,” he added.

But Roper said SCO can't make a move outside the portfolio of systems that exist in the department or in the commercial world, so SCO and the broader third offset context is a buying-time element.

“We want to buy as much time as possible,” Roper said, “so that the technology shops of the world who do a fantastic job doing crazy new impossible things have time to do the most impossible of those things.”

To do their work, SCO engineers take one of three approaches – they take something designed for one mission and make it do a completely different mission, or they integrated single systems into teams, or they change the game by adding in commercial technology.

One of their successes is the Perdix project – micro-unmanned aircraft systems created inexpensively on 3-D printers, with insides that are commercial components, and launched to swarm from an F-16 from a standard flare-dispenser-sized cartridge.

The micro-UAS are built in a slightly more ruggedized way than off-the-shelf versions, Roper said.

“It's not big, it's not heated, so it's going to have to live at minus 40 degrees on the aircraft and there's no power. So, for us, the wide world of (micro-UAS) necks down to a small box” that comes out of an F-16 at Mach 0.9, he said.

The next step

Perdix allows a high-value aircraft to do missions in threatened environments, Roper noted, adding, “We're trying to provide the basic truck to allow our Air Force partners to take the next step with various payloads.”

The largest swarm so far was with 20 of the Perdix micro-UAVs at the 2015 Northern Edge Exercise in Alaska, he added.

During Defense Secretary Ash Carter's Feb. 2 speech at the Economic Club of Washington, where he previewed the fiscal year 2017 budget, he described another SCO project, this one taking systems designed for offensive missions and turning them into defensive systems, Roper explained.

For this gun-based missile-defense project, SCO is using the hypervelocity smart projectiles developed for the future electromagnetic railgun in the Army's 155-mm Paladin artillery system, Navy 5-inch guns and the 5-inch, .54-caliber Mark 45 artillery gun that's on the front of destroyers.

“This way,” Carter told the audience, “instead of spending money on more expensive interceptors or on new platforms, we can turn past offense into future defense – defeating incoming missile raids at a much lower cost per round, and thereby imposing higher costs on an attacker.”

Carter noted that while testing the hypervelocity projectiles in a Paladin, they learned that the projectiles significantly increased the Paladin's range.

Inherently joint

Roper said the department hasn't spoken publicly “about the work we're doing on the sensor for that. If you're going to do mis-



NAVY VIDEO
The Office of Naval Research electromagnetic railgun industry prototype launcher is being evaluated at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division. The railgun is a long-range weapon that launches projectiles using electricity instead of chemical propellants.

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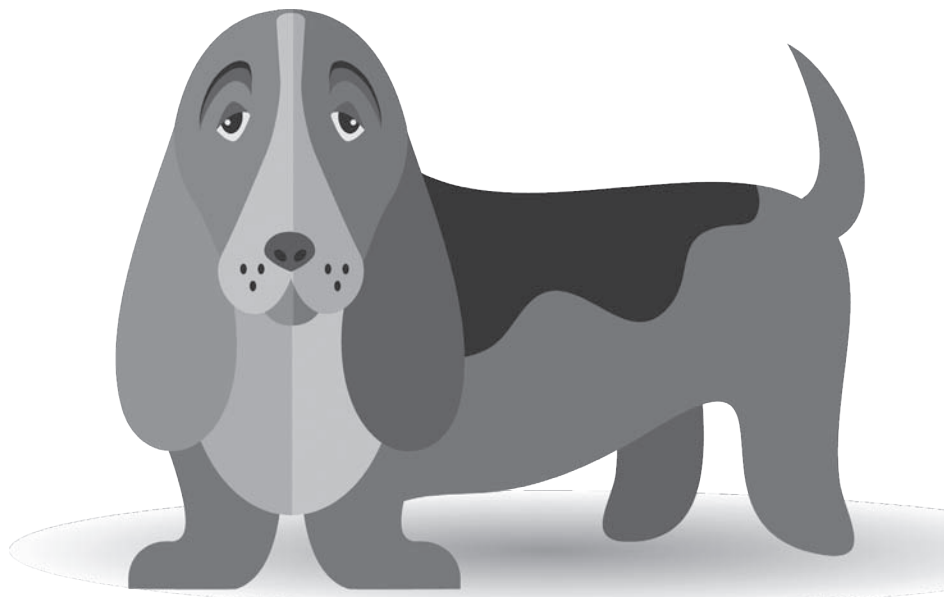
SEE TECH, PAGE C5

Festival caters to canine companions

Army Flier
Staff Reports

Montgomery’s Shoppes at EastChase will host its Fido Fest May 7 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fido Fest 2016 will benefit the Montgomery Humane Society, which is committed to improving the lives of dogs in need by providing foster homes, medical care and matching them with their forever friends through adoption initiatives. Fido Fest will

include vendors, dog activities, food from local food trucks, a K9 splash zone and more. The live music lineup will include Federal Expression, Blue Yonder, the Good Doctor, John Bull and Clinton Babers. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased on event brite. People are welcome to bring their dogs, children and chairs to the fest. For more information, call 334-279-6046, or visit www.facebook.com/events/987699817975413/.



WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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ANDALUSIA

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 80 has regular meetings the second Monday of the month, starting at 6:30 p.m., at the Legion Hall. For more information, call 222-7131 or visit www.andalusialegionpost80.org.

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 80 hosts a dance with live music every Saturday from 7:30-11:30 p.m. For more information, call 222-7131 or visit www.andalusialegionpost80.org.

DALEVILLE

ONGOING — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6020 Franchise J. Ballard Post membership meetings are at the post headquarters on State Road 84 every third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. Breakfast is served Sundays, and games and TVs are available for entertainment. Meetings are open to all. The post can host parties, weddings, and hails and farewells. For more information, call 598-6211, 598-1297, 598-6211 or 379-9187.

ONGOING — Daleville Chamber of Commerce meets the second Wednesday of each month at noon at the Chamber of Commerce office in the Daleville Cultural and Convention Center. For more information, call 598-6331.

DOTHAN

NOW-APRIL 30 — The Southeast Alabama Community Theatre will perform its production of “All My Sons,” at 7 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Center. Tickets are on sale now at www.SEACT.com or by calling the SEACT Office at 794-0400. The lobby opens at 6 p.m. with tickets on sale if the performance is not sold out. Reserved seating begins at 6:30 p.m.

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 12 holds monthly meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Meetings are held at the VFW on Taylor Road. For more information, call 400-5356.

ONGOING — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3073 Wiregrass Post membership meetings are at the post headquarters at 1426 Taylor Road every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. There is a fish fry every Friday night from 5-7 p.m., then karaoke beginning at 6 p.m. Breakfast is served Sundays from 8-11a.m. The post can host parties, weddings, and hails and farewells.

ENTERPRISE

APRIL 28 — The Wiregrass-Enterprise Chapter, National Active and Retired Federal Employees will meet for its monthly lunch program at 11 a.m. at Po Folks Restaurant in Enterprise. The guest speaker will be Sally Thornton, fitness center director for the Enterprise YMCA. The program will include the best types of exercises for seniors, exercise routines to help seniors lose weight, fitness center exercise classes and the benefits of membership for seniors. All federal employees, active or retired, are invited to attend the luncheon programs scheduled every fourth Thursday at 11 a.m. at Po Folks Restaurant in Enterprise. For more information, call 393-0492.

MAY 10 — A Disabled American Veterans Mobile Service Officer Van will be at the Enterprise Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The van travels across the country to counsel and assist veterans to educate them and their families on benefits and service available to them in thanks for their service. For more information, call the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 9 Enterprise-Coffee County at 308-2480.

MAY 14 — Tartan Pines Golf Course will host the fifth annual Law Enforcement/First Responders Appreciation Golf Tournament May 14 with registration at 11:30 a.m., lunch at noon and a shotgun start at 1 p.m. The tourney will be in a four-person scramble format, entry fee is \$65 and the deadline to register is May 11. Fee includes 18 holes of golf, golf cart, range balls, gift bag and prizes. To register or get more information, call 334-389-5890.

GENEVA

ONGOING — The Geneva County Relay for Life meets the last Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Citizens Bank. For more information, call 248-4495.

MIDLAND CITY

ONGOING — Residents are invited to town hall meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall, 1385 Hinton Waters Ave. For more information, call 983-3511.

NEW BROCKTON

ONGOING — Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 9-11 a.m., Disabled American Veterans Chapter 99 maintains a service office in the New Brockton Police Station at 202 South John Street. The office will assist veterans who were injured or disabled while in military service. DAV service officers help veterans and their spouses with disability compensation claims, Veterans Affairs pensions, death benefits, VA medical care, Social Security disability benefits, veterans job programs, homeless veterans services and other veteran services. All veteran services are provided free of charge. For more information, call 718-5707.

ONGOING — Adult education classes are offered in Rm. 12 at New Brockton High School, 210 South Tyler St., Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m. All classes are free for individuals 16 years old or older who are not enrolled in public school. Individuals must take an assessment test prior to attending class. Call 894-2350 for more information.

OZARK

ONGOING — The Ann Rudd Art Center offers free art lessons for children ages 5 and older. The young student class is Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon, and the adult-teen class is from 12:30-3 p.m. Slots are on a first come, first served basis. For

more information, call 774-7922.

ONGOING — The Friends of Ozark holds a monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Ozark-Dale County Library. For more information, call 477-6221 or email wcholmes53@hotmail.com.

PINCKARD

ONGOING — The public is invited to the Cross Country Workshop every Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Pinckard United Methodist Church. For more information, call 983-3064.

SAMSON

ONGOING — The Samson City Council meets monthly the first and third Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. at the Samson Community Center.

ONGOING — American Legion Post 78 meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 7 p.m.

TROY

ONGOING — Troy Bank and Trust Company sponsors senior dance nights every Saturday night from 7-10 p.m. at the J.O. Colley Senior Complex. The complex is transformed into a dance hall and features music from the 40s, 50s, and 60s with finger foods and refreshments. For more information, call Janet Motes at 808-8500.

WIREGRASS AREA

ONGOING — The Marine Corps League, Wiregrass Det. 752, welcomes all Marines, Navy corpsmen and chaplains, and their families, to its monthly meetings. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Attendees are welcome to arrive early for food and camaraderie. The next meeting will be at the Golden Corral in Dothan. For more information, call 718-4168 or 805-7335.

Beyond Briefs

Yatta Abba Day

Abbeville will host its annual Yatta Abba Day May 7. Yatta Abba is the Creek native American expression for grove of Dogwoods. The Abbe Creek derived its name from the native American word, and hence the town of Abbeville. Each year, the community celebrates the beginning of spring and the blooming of the dogwoods with a local festival filled with entertainment, garden items, art, crafts, children’s activities and food vendors. Antique cars, including John Wayne’s custom-made station wagon, will also be on display. A sock hop the night before at the community center kicks off the event. Local businesses and restaurants open their doors to the community and to visitors. For more information, visit <http://www.facebook.com/yattaabbaday>.

Gulf Coast Triathlon

The Edgewater Beach and Golf Resort in Panama City Beach, Florida, will host the Gulf Coast Triathlon May 7. The GCT swim course is a 1.2-mile open-water swim in the Gulf of Mexico. Wetsuits are allowed and optional as long as the water temperature is below 78 degrees. Athletes will start on the beach and swim one loop of the rectangular course in a clockwise direction. At swim exit, athletes will exit the water and run up to T1. The bike course is an out-and-back course traveling through residential, commercial, and rural areas of Bay County and Panama City Beach. The run is a flat course traveling through beachfront areas. For more information, such as a complete schedule and entry fees, visit <http://www.gulfcoasttriathlon.com/>.

Zoo Dino Dig

The Montgomery Zoo will host its Dino Dig April 30 from 10 a.m. to noon. The event, designed for children ages 4-12, will allow children to go on an archaeological dig and discover bones from the past. Cost is \$25 per child, ages 4-12 years old -- \$18 for Montgomery Zoo members. Accompanying adults can take part for \$15 –

free to Montgomery Zoo members. Advanced reservation is required – last day to make reservations is today. For more information and to register, call 334-240-4909 or visit www.montgomeryzoo.com/announcements/dino-dig.

Southern Makers

Southern Makers will celebrate the Year of Alabama Makers with a festival in Montgomery April 30-May 1 and a festival in Birmingham Sept. 10-11. These two-day events celebrate Southern creativity and innovation by bringing together highly curated, handpicked top talent that makes buildings, farms, art, food, clothing, soap, coffee and tea – essentially the top makers in their respective trades, according to organizers. Ranging from experts in architecture to art to fashion to repurposing and everything in between, the event explores southern-based creativity. For more information, including a schedule of events and exact locations, visit <http://southernmakers.com/#southern-makers>.

Chunnenuggee Fair

Union Springs will host the 37th annual Chunnenuggee Fair May 7 in the downtown area. The event will feature arts and crafts, a fair with live entertainment, food vendors, children’s games and rides, door prizes and more. For more information, call 334-738-4060 or visit www.chunnenuggeefair.com.

The Urban Slide

The Urban Slide is bringing 1,000 feet of slippery sliding to Montgomery May 7-8. The family-friendly event is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. and features a glow-in-the-dark night slide. The slide will be set up downtown on Montgomery Street. A constant stream of water flowing down both channels helps make the slide slippery. The nighttime slide is equipped with LED lights and black lights that will light up the city streets. For more on the Urban Slide, visit www.theurbanslide.com. The event will also include food trucks, vendors, music playing along the entire slide, a bag check area to secure

footwear and other belongings, water-themed games, photo booth and more. Registration ranges from \$10-\$30. To register or get more information, visit www.theurbanslide.com/events/montgomery-al/.

Hot air balloon festival

Decatur’s Point Mallard Park will host the Alabama Jubilee Hot Air Balloon Festival May 28-29. This festival is one of the largest free hot air balloon gatherings in the southeast, according to organizers. The event will feature more than 60 balloons with races, key grab, tether rides and a balloon glow. There will also be arts and crafts, food vendors, an antique car and tractor show, musical entertainment and children’s activities. For more information, visit <http://www.alabamajubilee.net>.

Civil rights walking tour

People are welcome to explore Montgomery’s history through walking tours to different historical sites from profound moments from the slavery era, the Civil War, and the Civil Rights Movement. The tour highlights pioneers and unsung heroes who contributed to a new era. Walking tours are held every Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. Tours start from The Village Gallery. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under and children 4 and younger are admitted for free. Book a tour by calling 334-595-9243.

Amazing Castle children’s exhibit

Gadsden’s Mary G. Hardin Center for Cultural Arts offers the Amazing Castle children’s exhibit now through May 8. As visitors explore the Amazing Castle and its eight themed areas, they are introduced to seven storybook characters who are part of the castle community. From the carpenter to the seamstress, each character has a special role. As they move through the castle, village visitors playfully explore the interconnectedness of community members in a setting inspired by fantasy and history, according to organizers. Admission is \$8 per person, and free for Hardin Center members and children under 2. For more information, visit <http://www.culturalarts.org>.

Engineers

Continued from Page C3

he explained, adding “We’re going to have to change our processes to keep up.”

Partnering with the services

Everything SCO does, it does in partnership with the services, he said.

“No SCO project is a SCO-alone effort,” Roper explained. “Whatever we’re reinventing,

whatever we’re re-imagining is owned by someone, so we can’t do anything with it if they’re not with us. We tend to have the strategy and the analysis side of the house but they have the engineers and the programmatic expertise. If we partner we can go faster together than either group could alone,” he said.

With its six government employees, roughly 20 technical engineer contractors and 13 military

personnel and other detailees, Roper says SCO produces five or six new concepts a year, and that the office so far has a “very high transition rate” from concept to program of record.

“Year-by-year we look at all the systems we have in the department and we are looking to make one of those three (approaches) work to our advantage. We’ve found that most of the systems we have can be changed ...

to do new things,” he said.

Behind the door

Roper says SCO is keeping a lot of its successes classified because the primary goal is to have trick plays behind the door that the department can use to win conflicts if it needs to by taking back the element of surprise.

“But it’s also important that we maintain deterrence, so we’re starting to share a few of these

projects publicly so we can show the world that we can change quickly, we can do things differently, and that regaining the advantage just like the football analogy does not have to be a 14-year technology development cycle,” he said.

“So we’d like a taste of this to be outside,” Roper said, “but ... our best projects, I promise you, are behind the door, and they should be.”

Tech

Continued from Page C3

sile defense you’re going to need something to do the tracking, and we’re working very extensively on taking fighter radars that we have a huge investment in and building ground-based variants ... so we can support intercepts but with systems that can truly move.”

This is a great example of a SCO project, he added, “and why everything ends up being inherently or partially joint by the time we’re done. In this program we’ve got a Navy round, an Army gun and an Air Force sensor, all combined into one Frankenstein architecture.”

Applications for the technology, Roper said, include defending high-value small-area assets like foreign operating bases, ships and ports, but with high-density fire with assets that are completely mobile.

“We’d like the opponents of the U.S. to think (that they) can’t saturate their defense just by having enough systems on (their) side. We’d like them to think that these critical forward operating bases and stations will continue to operate no matter how many missiles they continue to throw at them,” the director added.

Using commercial technology

Another project focuses on creating an

advanced navigation capability by using smart-phone-class cameras and other commercial systems on existing weapons like small-diameter bombs to augment targeting.

Roper said the technology add-on is modular and kit-based, “so though we can strap it onto the same small-diameter bomb – ones that we’re using to do counter-ISIL to give them the ability to navigate without GPS – we can put the same kit on the small-diameter bomb II, the (joint direct-attack munition)” and others.

Torpedoes are a capability the department has developed over many years, Roper said, and SCO is taking a look at the

MK-48 heavy prototype torpedo.

“As the Navy is looking to field a baseline capability or restart a baseline capability with that program, we’ve identified several technologies that have matured around the department that (bringing) them together we believe would help increase the propulsion capabilities, as well as payload modularity. We would really like for the Mk-48 in future to have modular payloads,” he said.

If SCO can quickly build an advanced MK-48 prototype, Roper added, “the Navy could drop that in to their production line and start building advanced variants as opposed to baseline variants.”

Religious Services

WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday

Headquarters Chapel, Building 109
8 a.m. Traditional Protestant Service

Main Post Chapel, Building 8940
9 a.m. Catholic Mass Sunday
11 a.m. Collective Protestant Service
12:05 p.m. Catholic Mass (Tuesday - Friday)
4 p.m. Catholic Confessions Saturday
5 p.m. Catholic Mass Saturday

Wings Chapel, Building 6036
8 a.m. Latter-Day Saints Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Wings Crossroads (Contemporary Worship Protestant Service)

11 p.m. Eckankar Study
(4th Sunday)

Spiritual Life Center, Building 8939
10:15 a.m. CCD (except during summer months)

BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesdays
Crossroads Discipleship Study (Meal/Bible Study)
Wings Chapel, 6:30 p.m.

Protestant Women of the Chapel
Wings Chapel, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Adult Bible Study
Spiritual Life Center, 7 p.m.

Wednesdays

Catholic Women of the Chapel
Spiritual Life Center, 9 a.m.

Above the Best Bible Study
Yano Hall, 11 a.m.

1-14th Avn Regt Bible Study
Hanchey AAF, Bldg 50102N,
Rm 101, 11:30 a.m.

164th TAOG Bible Study
Bldg 30501, 11:30 a.m.

Precepts Bible Study
Soldier Service Center, noon

Kingdom Kidz and Youth Group Bible
Study Spiritual Life Center, 6 p.m.

Adult Bible Study
Soldier Service Center, noon

Adult Bible Study
Spiritual Life Center, 6 p.m.

Thursdays
LDS Bible Study
(except 3rd Thursday)
Wings Chapel, 9 a.m.

Praise and Worship Bible Study (Meal/Bible Study) Wings Chapel, 5:30 p.m.

Saturdays
Protestant Men of the Chapel
(1st Saturday) Larry’s Restaurant,
Daleville, 8 a.m.



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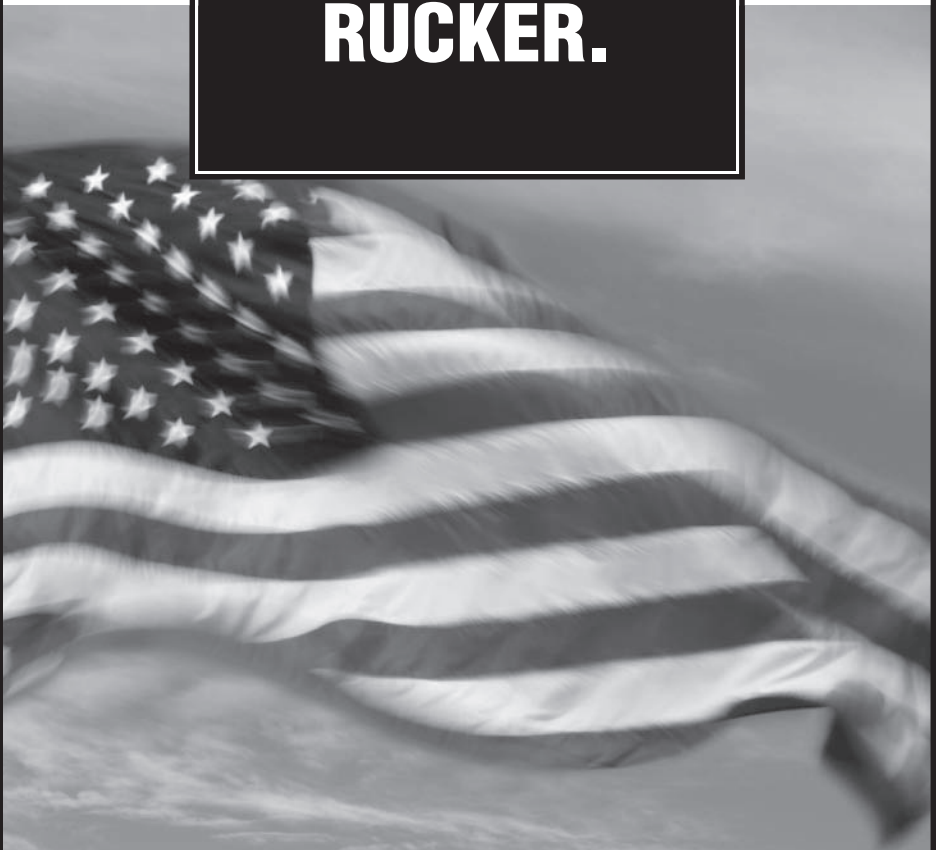
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NORTHROP GRUMMAN

APRIL 28, 2016

BOMBS AWAY

Bama Bombers smoke Holy Hitters, 15-3

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

With the weather warming up, recreation is making its way outdoors, and Fort Rucker's 2016 Intramural Softball season is now in full swing as teams battle it out on the road to the championship.

Two teams that took to the field were the Garrison Holy Hitters and the Bama Bombers, a team made up of Soldiers from various units. The Bombers would be the one to take victory, defeating their opponents 15-3 during one of the first games of the season.

Capt. Sean Boniface, A Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment and captain for the Bama Bombers, said it was his team's superior athleticism that helped them to pull out the win.

"I think we had some solid plays and our lineup was hitting pretty well. We had solid fielding, so we just had solid game play all around," he said. "For what we lack in softball skills or understanding, I feel like we make up with athletic ability."

That athletic ability and ag-

gressive play from the start allowed the Bombers to end the game in five innings, since they had a 12-run lead.

Heavy Hitters took to the plate to start things off, but weren't able to connect well enough to get on and managed a string of base hits to get runners on base. They weren't able to keep their hitting streak going, however, quickly racking up three outs.

In contrast to the Heavy Hitters start, the Bama Bombers were able to get a man on base with their first at bat and their advance didn't stop there as they followed up with two more shots to left field, bringing in two runs before their first out.

A subsequent string of errors by the garrison team allowed the Bombers to bring in run after run to build a 5-0 lead after one inning.

Holy Hitters had a lot of ground to make up for as they took to the plate, but despite getting runners on base, they weren't able to get through the Bombers defense as they were sent back into the field still scoreless.

Bama Bombers took to the plate as aggressively as before and continued their onslaught,



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Capt. Brad Pearson, player for the Bama Bombers, connects with the ball during an intramural softball game at the Fort Rucker softball fields Tuesday.

managing to hit the ball where the fielders weren't to extend their lead to 11-0 after two innings.

Holy Hitters knew it was time to rally if they wanted to stay in the game, and they did just that with a string of base hits to start

the inning, eventually bringing in two runs to get on the scoreboard. Their string wouldn't last for long, though, as the Bama Bombers stepped up their defense to halt them in their tracks, still commanding a substantial 11-2 lead.

As the Bombers took to the plate, their play style remained aggressive with a string of hits to get players on base. But the Holy Hitters stepped up their defense play after play to quickly rack up three outs to send the Bombers back into the field with their first scoreless inning.

This was Holy Hitters' chance to catch up, and a shot to left field and error by the Bama Bombers gave them that opportunity, which allowed for an in-the-park home run to score a run early into the fourth inning.

The garrison team wasn't able to harness that momentum, though, as it was their only run for the inning and their final one for the game.

As the Bama Bombers took to the plate, they once again found their stride and were able to bring in another four runs during their time at bat, extending their lead to 15-3.

At the top of the fifth, the Holy Hitters had to bring in 3 runs to close the more than 10-run mercy rule gap if they wanted to remain in the game, but they weren't able to do so and the game ended with the Bama Bombers victorious, 15-3.



PHOTO BY JOHN CORLEY

During Day 4 of the Regional Health Command - Atlantic (Provisional) Best Warrior Competition at Fort Gordon, Ga., Sgt. Joshua Schmid tests his land navigation and urban orienteering skills.

WARRIOR

Lyster Soldier to compete in MEDCOM Best Warrior Competition

By Jenny Stripling
Lyster Public Affairs Office

For several grueling days, Soldiers competed in the Regional Health Command - Atlantic (P) 2016 Best Warrior Competition March 28 to April 2 at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

After several days of both mental and physical trials, Lyster Army Health Clinic's Sgt. Joshua Schmid came out on top, winning the title of Best Warrior and the honor of representing the region in the U.S. Army Medical Command 2016 Best

Warrior Competition to be held Monday-May 6.

Schmid, who has been in the Army for 4 1/2 years, has spent the last three years at Lyster, and said he is proud to represent Lyster and the Atlantic region in this year's MEDCOM competition.

"I feel proud. I also feel a lot of weight on my shoulders, being the sole representative for Soldiers in the Atlantic region," said Schmid. "I will do my best to show MEDCOM what we represent. Win or

SEE WARRIOR, PAGE D3

IMCOM gears up for 6th annual fitness, wellness program

By Jessica Marie Ryan
Installation Management Command
Public Affairs

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — The U.S. Army Installation Management Command's annual Strong B.A.N.D.S. campaign will return for its sixth year to 72 participating Army locations worldwide this May.

Strong B.A.N.D.S. -- which stands for Strong Balance, Activity, Nutrition, Determination and Strength -- promotes garrison fitness and wellness programs available to Soldiers, families, retirees and civilians.

This year's theme is "Trained. Willing. Able." The theme highlights how the five campaign components enhance an individual's readiness.

Launched in 2011, Strong B.A.N.D.S. events and programs encourage service members, families, retirees and civilians worldwide to start and maintain a healthier lifestyle. Last year, over 75,000 individuals were involved in over 400 fitness and health activities.

The campaign features U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program Soldiers Capt. Leigh Jaynes-Provisor, wrestler; Sgt. Nathan Schrimsher, modern pentathlete; and Sgt. 1st Class Keith Sanderson, three-time Olympic pistol shooter. The WCAP Soldiers were selected to be campaign ambassadors because



PHOTO BY MEGAN O'DONOGHUE

Soldiers show off their Strong B.A.N.D.S. wristbands during the FOX Sports Midwest annual "This One's For You" telecast to the troops May 29 at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

the theme resonates with the physical and mental demands of their training.

"Readiness is that thing you're always chasing right before a competition," said Sanderson. "It's not just about being ready. It's about training to be ready and perform no matter what."

Sanderson, along with Schrimsher and Staff Sgt. John Nunn, three-time Olympic race walker, will represent Team USA in this year's Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Aug. 5-21.

The campaign is held during National Sports and Fitness Month. Participating garrisons will plan a variety of fitness and health-related events throughout the month. In previous years, events ranged from traditional sports and

SEE WELLNESS, PAGE D3



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

River boats race across the waters of Lake Tholocco during Thunder on Tholocco Saturday where boats from different categories, including river boats and bass boats raced in pairs throughout the day.

THUNDER ON THOLOCCO

DOWN TIME



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

T R I V I A

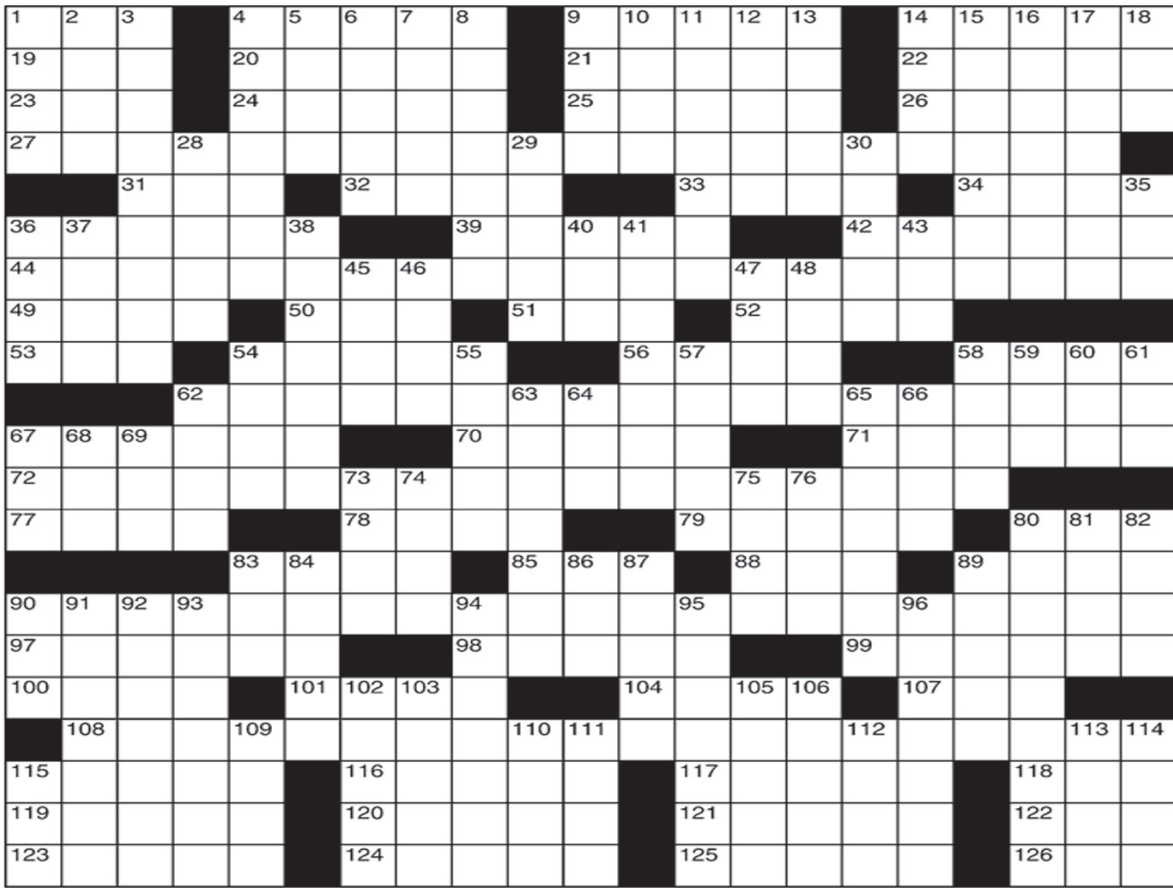
1. GAMES: How many dots are on a pair of standard dice?
2. GEOGRAPHY: The Tropic of Capricorn crosses three continents. What are they?
3. U.S. STATES: Which state capital is the only one that ends in the letter "x"?
4. MUSIC: The song "Getting to Know You" appears in what movie or play?
5. ASTRONOMY: Which planet is closest to the sun?
6. MYTHOLOGY: What village in Cornwall, England is said to be the birthplace of King Arthur?
7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What language is spoken by the Belgian people called Walloons?
8. HISTORY: What was the first country to recognize Mexico's independence in 1821?
9. FOOD & DRINK: What kind of food is an aubergine?
10. MOVIES: What was the central theme of the 1945 movie "The Lost Weekend"?

See Page D4 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword

EMPLOYEE-CONSUMER POLICY

- ACROSS**
- 1 P.E. place
4 Honey pies
9 "— the time!"
14 FBI tactics
19 Kauai necklace
20 Muslim's god
21 Range brand
22 Forever, in poetry
23 Cask wood
24 "Resident Evil" actress Jovovich
25 Of warships
26 Tribal groups
27 Start of a riddle
31 Writer Wolfe
32 "Pow!"
33 Longtime NBC host Jay
34 "Right back —!"
36 Buy
39 German for "love"
42 Parish leader
44 Riddle, part 2
49 Pressing tool
50 "... or — gather!"
51 Big blue body
52 Feel pain
53 Dashed
54 Insufficient
- 56 No, in Russia
58 Slaughter on a diamond
62 Riddle, part 3
67 Inmate's wish
70 Voice one's approval
71 Almost
72 Riddle, part 4
77 Weapon filler
78 "Eraser" actor James
79 Aristocratic
80 See 83-Across
83 With 80-Across, starts a golf game
85 Hypothetical cases
88 "Casual" day: Abbr.
89 Having what it takes
90 End of the riddle
97 Hungers
98 Some Iroquoians
99 Some sushi bar suppliers
100 Bombeck
101 Mensch lead-in
- 104 Brand found at Petco
107 Blemish
108 Riddle's answer
115 "A Lesson From Aloes" playwright
116 Piano exercise
117 Keats' "— a Grecian Urn"
118 Seemingly forever
119 Diplomat
120 Old fax alternative
121 Tooth: Prefix
122 Tango team
123 Curving billiards shot
124 A Lott of politics
125 "Bullitt" director
126 Hem, e.g.
- DOWN**
- 1 Luminesce
2 "You bet"
3 Evander Holyfield rival
4 Moistened floor wiper
5 Nobelist
6 Let happen
7 "Wreck-It —" (Disney film)
8 Clinton cabineteer
9 Ma's ma
10 Sharif of Hollywood
11 Ripple
12 Bowled over
13 Styling site
14 Big lamb cut
15 Start of a simple request
16 Volunteer's declaration
17 "A pox upon thee!" updated
18 The "S" of GPS: Abbr.
28 Not at all exciting
29 Arab VIPs
30 One using a lasso
35 Museum pieces
36 Au —
37 Gillette offering
38 Savior
40 Manage, with "out"
41 Slow cooker of a sort
43 Facade
45 Speckled horse
46 Diner freebie
47 Huntley of news
48 Jabba the —
54 Dover fish
55 Ice dancing gold medalist
57 Alaska river
58 Fabergé collectibles
59 Utmost in degree
60 "Well, well, well!"
61 One of a D.C. 100
62 Chanel of fragrances
63 Wetter, weatherwise
64 Similarly defined wd.
65 Gradient
66 "Swoosh" shoe brand
67 FedExCup org.
68 Bracelet spot
69 DVD- —
73 "Law & Order: SVU" co-star
74 "— of Eden"
75 Far from firm
76 "— -Ca-Dabra" (1974 hit)
80 Certain instrument inserts
81 Bloom, in Barcelona
82 Gangbusters
83 Unit of bricks
84 Result
86 "By the way" memo abbr.
87 "Try to — my way ..."
89 Without — (perfect)
90 Ex-zee linkup
91 Celestial Seasonings offering
92 Japanese motorcycles
93 Hot-breathed beasts
94 Christie sleuth Poirot
95 En masse
96 Natives of 110-Down
102 Football player Favre
103 Perfume compound
105 Jason jilted her
106 Aroma
109 Elation
110 Mideastern oil port
111 Adjacent (to)
112 Table d'—
113 Libertine guy
114 Winter fall
115 USN honcho

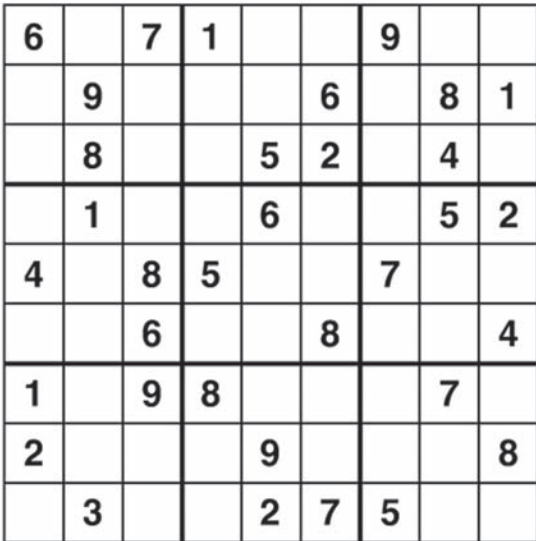


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See Page D4 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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See Page D4 for this week's answers.

KID's CORNER



HIDDEN IN THE ABOVE FRAME is a famous proverb. Find it by reading every other letter as you go around counterclockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

A SODA SHOP REBUS! What seven letters did this clerk say when the young lady finished her soda?

FIND THE SEVEN WORDS PUZZLE! In the word square to the right, we've removed six of the letters to spell out the word "FLARED." See if you can replace these letters in the squares so that you will have four three-letter words across and three four-letter words down. Time limit: 60 seconds.



THIS PUZZLE IS THE CAT'S MEOW! Hidden in the diagram above are names and words associated with cats. They can be found by reading up or down, or side to side. You'll even find them diagonally going up or down. Letters can be used more than once. Listed below are the words you're looking for.

Angora
Balinese
Bobcat
Bombay
Burmese
Catnip
Cheetah
Claws
Domestic
Jaguar
Kitten
Leopard
Litter box
Lynx
Milk
Panther
Persian
Siamese
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B F R B B O C E E A R D I
8 7 3 4 5 2 8 4 7 6 7 3 6
R E B N I A G D A E T L P
7 6 2 4 8 3 7 3 8 7 8 6 4
I E F E I U V E V E E R P
2 3 4 2 8 5 7 6 4 3 2 3 5
F S E E O A P S N K C I T
6 2 4 3 7 6 3 7 4 6 7 3 4
I T D E E S S R E T I A N
3 4 2 7 6 7 2 3 8 5 2 8 2
H T I O E D O E T E N H A
3 6 2 6 2 3 5 8 5 8 5 8 5
A N T T E D L E O R V S E
HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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WORLD CLASS

Soldier-athletes wrestle tough at U.S. Olympic Team Trials

By Tim Hipps

U.S. Army Installation
Management Command
Public Affairs

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Three Soldiers from the U.S. Army Installation Management Command's World Class Athlete Program reached the finals of the 2016 U.S. Olympic Wrestling Team Trials on April 9-10 at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on the University of Iowa campus.

Sgt. Caylor Williams of Fort Carson, Colorado, was 38 seconds shy of earning a spot on the U.S. Olympic Team before dropping a 6-5 decision in the third match of a best-of-three series against Minnesota Storm's Josef Rau in the Greco-Roman 98-kilogram finals on Saturday night.

Jesse Thielke of Colorado Springs, Colorado, defeated Spc. Ildar Hafizov, a 2008 Olympian for Uzbekistan who is now a U.S. Army Soldier stationed at Fort Carson, in two straight matches for the Greco-Roman 59-kilogram crown.

Reigning world champion and three-time world medalist Helen Maroulis of Huntington Beach, Calif., defeated three-time U.S. World Team member Sgt. Whitney Conder of Fort Carson in two straight matches in the women's freestyle 53-kilogram division on Sunday night.

"It's a great thing to be able to make the Olympic Trials finals and be able to come out as number two," Conder said. "It's definitely the best that I've done so far, so I'm happy with how I did this time but still not happy with the end result."

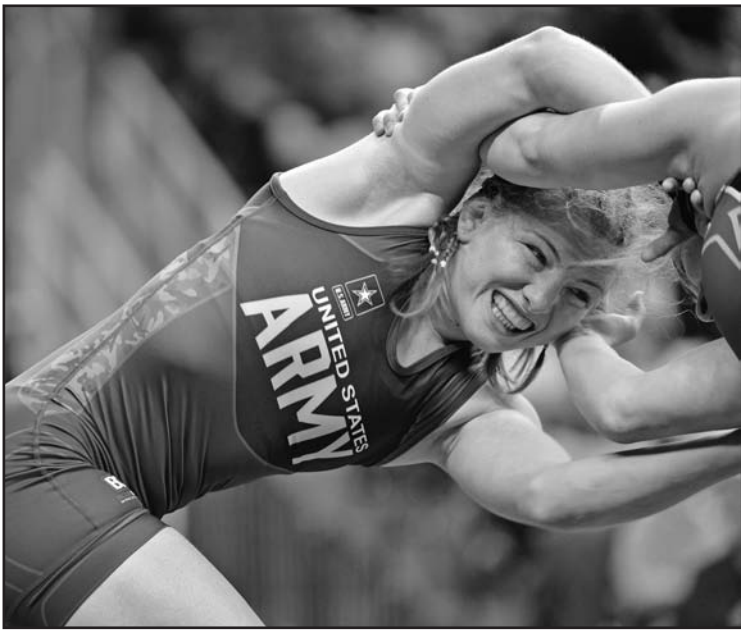
WCAP wrestling head coach Shon Lewis saluted Conder's performance against the world champ.

"Whitney did what she needed to do to get into the finals and we knew it was going to be an uphill battle," Lewis said. "I'm proud of her."

Those three Soldier-athletes will serve as alternates for the U.S. Olympic wrestling team scheduled to compete August 14-21 at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro.

The top three finishers in each weight class at the Olympic Trials were also named to the 2016-17 U.S. National Team, including two-time NCAA All-American Sgt. Ryan Mango, who finished third in the Greco-Roman 59-kilogram division, and 2008 Olympic bronze medalist Sgt. Randi Miller, who was third in women's freestyle at 69 kilograms.

Two-time Olympian and six-time U.S. World Team member Sgt. Spenser Mango, 29, left his shoes on the mat, a wrestler's way of signaling retirement from competition in the



PHOTOS BY TIM HIPPS

Sgt. Whitney Conder of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program advances to the women's freestyle 53-kilogram finals of the 2016 U.S. Olympic Wrestling Team Trials on April 10 at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on the University of Iowa campus in Iowa City.

sport, after losing to Thielke in the Greco-Roman 59-kilogram quarterfinals. Mango plans to continue training fellow troops in the Army wrestling program.

"The bonds that I made, especially with my Army teammates -- I spend more time with them that I do my actual family, so they are my family, and that's something I'll always cherish," Spenser said.

Longtime WCAP wrestler Sgt. Jermaine Hodge also left his boots on the mat.

Lewis remains confident that his Soldiers will exhibit

resilience.

"I'm still proud," Lewis said. "In the past 16 years, we've won 14 or 15 national titles, 15 straight Armed Forces crowns, and up until this point, we've put more people on the Olympic Team than any other club. We've been celebrating for 16 years as a team, and now we're going to take this loss as a team and this shutout as a team."

"We've got to stay strong as a team -- Army strong," he added.

Rather than flying, the Soldiers rode a bus more than 13 hours from Colorado Springs to

Iowa City for the weekend tournament. Lewis actually looked forward to the ride home -- for the sake of his team's humility.

"I'm really glad we took a charter bus out here from Colorado and I'm glad we're taking a charter bus back, so we can sit in it," Lewis said. "In this situation, with this feeling of defeat right now, I don't think there could be a better way for us to travel back."

"I want this to sink in -- as a team. We could have flown in here and we could fly out of here. But we're one team, one fight. We celebrated and had a lot of cheers over those last 16 years. This is going to hurt, and it should hurt. At least about six months after the Olympics, it still should be hurting. We're going to stay close. We're going to get past this and we're going to get bigger, better and stronger."

Spenser totally agrees with Lewis' assessment of the Soldiers' resilience.

"We will get past this together," he said. "We're one big family. We take care of each other; have each other's backs; have a great support staff. It's pretty much all you could ever want."

"I'm just grateful for our team because it's a family and we're always together," Conder added. "One team, one mission, one goal."

Warrior

Continued from Page D1

lose, as long as I try my best, I will leave happy."

Schmid competed in the equivalent MEDCOM regional competition in 2014, placing third. This time around, Schmid stepped up to the challenge after the Soldier originally set to compete was injured.

Soldiers began the first morning with a 6 a.m. physical fitness test followed by inspections, written tests, uniform assembly, and a shoot or don't shoot event at the Electronic Skills Testing facility. Over the next few days, Soldiers competed in

events such as hands-on testing, oral exams, Army Warrior Tasks and battle drills, weapons qualification, day and night land navigation, and more.

"Was I nervous? I am only human. I get nervous. Moments before something like this, I start doubting myself a bit," said Schmid. "But as soon as I'm in the moment, it's almost as though I blackout the nerves and just do what I need to do"

He said he enjoyed being out in the field, not worried about appearance, and just being able to do the best he could at various tasks.

"I initially joined the Army for change. I

wasn't exactly on the right path and needed some help," Schmid said. "I think the thing I enjoy most as a sergeant is learning and growing, and watching other Soldiers doing the same. Improvement is a good feeling."

Schmid says he's been studying for the mental challenges and test and doing his normal routine of PT and hitting the gym

to maintain his physical fitness.

"I would like to win, but will not set any expectations," said Schmid. "But I will do my very best. I am competing against the best of the best."

The winner of the MEDCOM Best Warrior Competition will compete in the 2016 Best Warrior Competition at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia, Sept. 26-Oct. 3.

Wellness

Continued from Page D1

fitness programming and health fairs to youth library story walks and run to honor races.

Partnering with the Human Performance Resource Center and the Army Public Health Command, the campaign will have both print and online educational materials and videos available to participants at no cost. Online materials will be accessible at the Strong B.A.N.D.S. official website.

The Performance Triad, Army Medicine's comprehensive plan for improving readiness and resiliency, will be featured in the materials. The plan provides target goals people can reach for to improve their fitness, nutrition and sleep.

"If Soldiers, family members and civilians follow the Performance Triad, then they will improve their overall health, fitness and activity levels," said Col. Pauline Gross, command surgeon for IMCOM. "Little changes that people incorporate into their diet, sleep and activity ultimately will get them to the point where they are ready, healthier and more active."

In addition, each participant will receive a black and gold STRONG B.A.N.D.S. wristband to symbolize their commitment to a healthier lifestyle.

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FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRIEFS

Army 10-mile run off, team relay

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host the Army 10-mile run off and team relay Saturday. Race day registration begins at 6 a.m. and the race begins at 7 a.m. Registration is \$25 per individual and includes a T-shirt while supplies last. A run only with no shirt option is \$12 per individual. Top active duty finishers will be considered for the team to represent Fort Rucker at the Army 10-Miler in Washington, D.C. Awards will be given in various individual and team categories.

For more information, call 255-2296 or 255-2997.

Mother's Day Bowl

People who bring their moms to Rucker Lanes May 8 can enjoy the Mother's Day Bowl special from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The special includes

bowling for 25 cents per game and 50-cent shoe rentals. For more information, call 255-9503.

Mother's Day Fitness

Fortenberry-Colton Fitness Center will host a day for mothers to try fitness classes for free May 13. Classes will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue until after lunch. For the class schedule, visit <http://rucker.armymwr.com/us/rucker/programs/fitness-centers>. All moms who participate will be entered into a drawing for a one-month free fitness card.

For more information, call 255-3794.

Disc golf tournament

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host a disc golf tournament May 14 at 9 a.m. at the disc golf course. The

tournament will be 18 holes with participants paired randomly, followed by another 18 holes with participants paired by age and score. Trophies will be awarded in various categories. The cost is \$20 for people who sign up on or before May 7 and \$25 after May 7. All pre-registered competitors will receive a T-shirt. Competitors registering after May 7 will receive T-shirts while supplies last.

For more information or to sign up, call 255-2296 or 255-2997.

Survivors and Fallen Heroes 5K

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host its Survivors and Fallen Heroes 5K May 21 starting at 8 a.m. at West Beach, Lake Tholocco. Race-day registration begins at 6:30 a.m. Participants are encouraged to pre-register at either PFC. The fun run will begin after the 5K race is complete. The fun run is

open to all children, free of charge. Each fun run participant will receive a medal. For the race, costs per individual is \$20 with a shirt through May 14; \$25 May 15 and after with a shirt (while supplies last). Refreshments will be provided. The race is open to the public. Trophies will be awarded in various categories.

For more information, call 255-2296.

Golf lunch and a lesson

Silver Wings Golf Course will host its lunch and a lesson special on Wednesdays in May from noon to 1 p.m. The special includes lunch, golf balls and a golf lesson for \$20. There needs to be a minimum of three participants to conduct a lesson. Registration, payment and lunch selection are due a day prior to the event.

For more information, call 598-2449.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

L	E	Y	M	D	E	A	R	S	N	O	W	I	S	R	A	I	D	S		
L	E	I	M	A	L	L	A	H	A	M	A	N	A	A	L	W	A	Y		
O	A	K	M	I	L	L	A	N	A	V	A	L	C	L	A	N	S			
W	H	E	N	P	E	O	P	L	E	A	R	E	W	O	R	K	I	N	G	
T	O	M	W	H	A	M	L	E	N	O	A	T	Y	A						
P	A	Y	F	O	R	L	I	E	B	E	P	A	S	T	O	R				
A	T	S	U	P	E	R	M	A	R	K	E	T	C	H	E	C	K	O	U	T
I	R	O	N	S	O	I	S	E	A	H	U	R	T							
R	A	N	S	C	A	N	T	N	Y	E	T	E	N	O	S					
C	O	U	N	T	E	R	S	P	U	T	T	I	N	G	T	H	E			
P	A	R	O	L	E	S	A	Y	O	K	N	I	G	H	O	N				
G	R	O	C	E	R	I	E	S	I	N	T	O	S	A	C	K	S			
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W	H	Y	D	O	N	T	T	H	E	Y	E	A	T	A	N	Y	F	O	O	D
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B	A	G	G	E	R	S	C	A	N	T	B	E	C	H	E	W	E	R	S	
A	T	H	O	L		E	T	U	D	E	O	D	E	O	N		E	O	N	
D	E	A	N	E		T	E	L	E	X		D	E	N	T	I	D	U	O	
M	A	S	S	E		T	R	E	N	T		Y	A	T	E	S		S	E	W

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

6	4	7	1	8	3	9	2	5
5	9	2	4	7	6	3	8	1
3	8	1	9	5	2	6	4	7
9	1	3	7	6	4	8	5	2
4	2	8	5	1	9	7	3	6
7	5	6	2	3	8	1	9	4
1	6	9	8	4	5	2	7	3
2	7	5	3	9	1	4	6	8
8	3	4	6	2	7	5	1	9

TRIVIA

Answers

1. 42
2. Australia, South America and Africa
3. Phoenix, Arizona
4. "The King and I"
5. Mercury
6. Tintagel
7. French
8. The United States
9. Eggplant
10. Alcoholism



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