

FREEDOM FEST

Fort Rucker officials recently announced Freedom Fest will be held July 1. Check future 'Army Flier' issues for more information.

TAKE A DIP

SPLASH! into summer

Story on Page C1



RALLY DENIED

Buccaneers edge past Nite Nailers, 15-14

Story on Page D1



ARMY FLYER

SERVING THE U.S. ARMY AVIATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE AND THE FORT RUCKER COMMUNITY SINCE 1956

VOL. 66 ■ NO. 19

FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

MAY 12, 2016

GIVING RESIDENTS A VOICE

Survey feedback integral to improving quality of life

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Feedback plays an important role in helping the Army maintain a high quality of life for its Soldiers and families, and those members of the Army family have a chance to help steer the service in the right direction through its ongoing housing survey.

The Army Annual Housing Survey is an Army-wide survey that is available to residents in Army housing across 43 military installations, and Corvias Military Housing residents will have the opportunity to offer their feedback throughout the survey period, which runs now through June 6.

"This is really just a great opportunity for us to gauge how we're doing with our customer service," said J.C. Calder, Corvias Military Housing business director. "This helps us see the things we're doing well, so that we can dial into those things to make sure that we continue doing that."

"This also gives residents the opportunity to provide feedback for us in areas that we can improve in," he continued. "There is a comment section in the survey, as well, so residents can leave their comments and also request to be contacted, which is something that we really try to do a good job with when we follow up with them."

The survey was emailed out to all Corvias residents Saturday, and all are encouraged to take the 20 minutes it takes to

fill out the survey to help identify where things are going right and what things can be improved upon, said Calder.

The survey is split into five different categories: home, community amenities, resident activities, community maintenance and property management.

"Based on those five items, it's all based on customer service," said Lisa Patrick, Corvias Military Housing resident relations manager. "Some of the things can be feedback from some of the amenities that we provide, or they may make recommendations and so forth, so when we receive this information, we look at how it's going to better improve our service, as well as the quality of life of our residents."

One example Patrick gave was since the eligibility for housing has been expanded to a more diverse demographic, there have been many suggestions to tailor to a more open scope of resident activities.

"Last year, we held one of our first pool parties for residents and it was very successful," said the resident relations manager. "We also addressed changes to our pool hours and how we deliver services when a resident calls in about a work order. We want to address some of the feedback in regards to things like timing and how well they're doing."

"When we're looking at things from a budget perspective for the next year, this allows us to realize if there are certain things we need to do a better job at and we



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Bill Murray, military retiree, has a conversation with friends Deryl and Nora Nestor, military retiree family, as they get ready to move into their new homes in the Allen Heights Community on Fort Rucker last year.

can look at those items and address them," added Calder. "More importantly, we can make sure to continue providing the service that residents are happy with."

After the surveys are tallied, the results are compiled and a comparison will go out across all 43 Army installations that were surveyed, which will show where Fort Rucker and Corvias Military Living stands compared to other installations.

Last year, Fort Rucker ranked No. 1 out of all 43 Army installations surveyed in all three categories, said Calder, which shows Fort Rucker's and Corvias Military Housing's dedication to residents.

"When we say we're open to feedback, we look at this and we wholeheartedly understand that there are a lot of things that

we can do better," said the business director. "We feel one of our strengths is being very open to feedback. We really do go through the surveys and every single person who requests to be contacted, we go through and we contact them."

"The importance with the outreach is integral for us because we want to make sure that we are listening, that their point of view is being heard and that also the follow to show that we have listened and changes have been made," added Patrick. "It's all going to fall back to improving their quality of life, improving their satisfaction and, more importantly, for us to look at our service to ensure that we're dialing in and focusing on what their needs are."

SPIRITUAL BONDING



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Chaplain (Col.) Dean Bonura, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker garrison chaplain, leads the National Day of Prayer service at the Headquarters Chapel May 5.

Chapel hosts National Day of Prayer service

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

During uncertain times filled with hardship and stress, many seek prayer as a means of solace.

Fort Rucker held its National Day of Prayer service at the Headquarters Chapel May 5 as a means to give those on the installation a chance to pray with others and help unify the spiritual bond between brothers and sisters in arms, as well as those who aren't in harm's way, said Chaplain (Col.) Dean Bonura, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker garrison chaplain who led the service.

Throughout the service, hymns were sung, scriptures were read and prayers were made for the world, the nation, the state and local communities, Soldiers and military families, and also individual needs and concerns.

"We wanted to take a few minutes this afternoon to pray and encourage (others) to pray throughout the day because there are lots of things to pray for," he said during the service. "Certainly our country needs prayer, our Army needs prayer and our leaders need prayer."

The chaplain spoke about leaders who'd made public acts of faith alongside their Soldiers in previous wars, and said that he had seen leaders do similar things with Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well, and felt that these public displays of faith had a positive effect on morale.

The chaplain continued by reminding the congregation of the scriptures, saying if people trust in the Lord with all their hearts, seek Him out and acknowledge Him, He will direct their paths.

"Thank you for the promises that you have given us – promises to walk with us and to help us and empower us," he said. "We ask for those things, among so many other things today, but be with us now during this service, and use us for your glory and praise."

The National Day of Prayer was initiated in 1952 by Conrad Hilton and then-Senator Frank Carlson of Kansas, and was passed into public law that the president of the United States was to set aside one day during the year, other than a Sunday, as a National Day of Prayer, according to the National Day of Prayer

SEE PRAYER, PAGE A5

Elementary school puts on 'High School Musical Jr.'

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker Elementary School isn't just a place where students get educated on subjects like math and science, but also a place that nurtures children's artistic sides.

The FRES sixth grade drama club put on its ninth musical in its largest stage production to date with its performance of "High School Musical, Jr." a musical based on a Disney movie of the same name, where 40 cast and crew of students took on the task of transporting attendees out of FRES into the halls of East High School.

"I am so proud of all the cast and crew members," said Dr. Vicki Gilmer, FRES principal. "This is an amazing opportunity for students to continue to grow confidence and speaking skills. The performances were phenomenal and could be taken on the road."

Throughout the performance, students sang songs, danced and performed the musical numbers just as they had rehearsed for nearly six months.

"The FRES sixth grade drama club musicals have become a tradition at our school," said Vicki Harper, sixth grade teacher and drama club director. "When we chose 'High School Musical, Jr.' back in September for this year's play, we were a little nervous about taking on such a huge production."

In the past, the drama club has taken on such productions as "The Wizard of Oz,"

"You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," "Peter Pan," and several others, but the most recent one required the largest cast, and many more songs and dance choreography than previous productions, said the drama club director.

"We shouldn't have even been worried," she said after all was said and done. "These kids rose to our high expectations. They worked together as a team and perfected the smallest details to really capture the spirit of this Disney musical – we couldn't be prouder of them."

The final product was something that not only the teachers were proud of, but the students and parents, as well.

Jonathan Rowley, sixth grader who played Chad, said he was proud to see the effort that he and his classmates put into the production.

"I'm proud of myself and the team for putting all of this together," he said. "I was nervous that first day, but once I was out there, I just did my thing."

"Being a part of the play was a lot of fun and gave me the chance to meet new friends," added fellow cast member, Sarah Buchanan, who played Sharpay. "It's amazing how, at the start of it, I wasn't sure we would be able to pull it off, but we all came through and gave our directors goosies!"

The production also garnered rave reviews from fellow students who got the opportunity to see their classmates per-

SEE MUSICAL, PAGE A5



COURTESY PHOTO

The cast of 'High School Musical, Jr.' perform a number for students and parents during a performance at the Fort Rucker Elementary School gymnasium Friday.

PERSPECTIVE

Motorcycles: Perception is everything

By Julie Shelley
U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

Safely operating any type of motor vehicle is a combination of several different factors — experience, environment and discipline affect both individuals and their fellow drivers.

Motorcyclists, however, must be acutely aware of and prepared for potential hazards at all times, much more so than their counterparts in conventional vehicles.

Steve Kurtiak, a motorcycle and recreational vehicle specialist with the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center’s Driving Directorate, has experienced his fair share of near misses and close calls during decades of motorcycle riding and dirt biking.

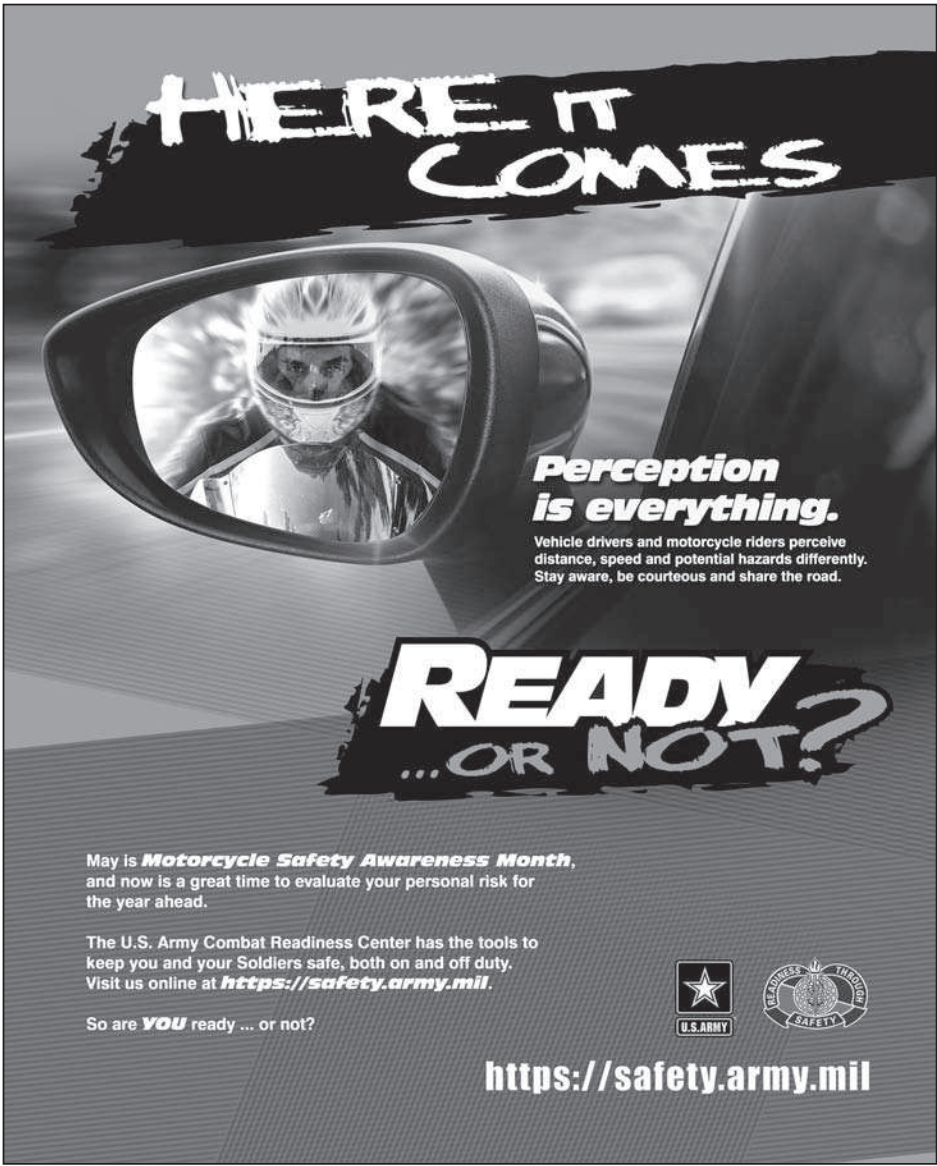
“Riding is more a mental process than physical,” he said. “It’s more your mind and eyes than body. A rider has to constantly scan traffic, the road and surrounding environment.”

According to Kurtiak, even seemingly inconsequential nuisances drivers face every day, like plastic bags tumbling across the road or asphalt patching that turns gummy in the summer sun, can spell serious trouble for a motorcyclist.

“Road surface conditions, surrounding vehicles, approaching intersections and turns, signage, pedestrians, really anything that can affect the flow of traffic are critical considerations for riders,” he said. “There’s also the question of where you’re riding. City streets, country roads, interstates and multilane highways all have similar considerations but different risk management approaches.”

Kurtiak said all riders should take the acronym SEE, standing for search, evaluate and execute, to heart.

“What SEE means is you’re constantly searching for potential hazards and when you see one, you come up with a plan, then



execute to either negotiate or mitigate the problem,” he said.

It’s also important for riders to leave a generous buffer zone between their motorcycles and other vehicles and obstacles, front and back, left and right. While drivers are encouraged to maintain a three-second interval between their car and the vehicle to their front, Kurtiak said that spacing often isn’t enough for motorcyclists.

“Motorcycles present a smaller profile, and many drivers have difficulty gauging their speed and proximity as compared to passenger vehicles and large trucks or school

buses,” he explained. “Riders must position themselves in traffic to see and be seen. If you’re tailgating, you’re doing neither.”

Braking also can be an issue for riders, especially those with less experience. Motorcycles have only two brakes and a smaller traction patch than an average car or SUV.

“Proper braking is one of the most important skills any rider can have,” Kurtiak said. “Which brakes a rider applies affects their stopping time, and that’s a primary reason braking is taught in our progressive training courses. Proficiency is vital.”

The burden of safely sharing the road can’t be borne by motorcyclists alone, however. Vehicle drivers must do their part to stay aware of their surroundings and be respectful of their peers on two wheels.

“As Mr. Kurtiak said, a motorcycle’s profile and size can skew a driver’s perception,” said Robert Myrick, also a driving specialist with the USACRC and lifelong rider. “One of the most common motorcycle accident scenarios seen nationally involves a vehicle turning into a rider’s travel path. Those drivers often report they either didn’t see the motorcycle or thought they had time to make the turn.”

When drivers see an approaching motorcycle, the safest course of action is to yield and let them pass before turning, Myrick said, adding that motorists should also be particularly cognizant of nearby motorcycles in bright sunlight and blind spots. And just as riders are cautioned against tailgating, drivers should always allow a safe following distance between their vehicle and a motorcycle to their front.

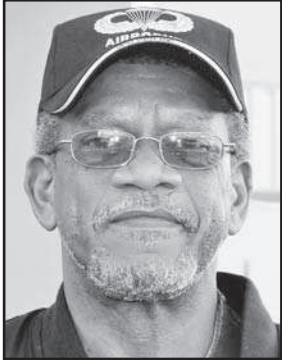
“Many riders will use engine braking to slow down, meaning they roll off the throttle and don’t engage their bike’s taillights,” Myrick said. “Drivers must be aware of the increased risk motorcyclists face and ready to react quickly when they’re in close range. Anything can happen in a second or less.”

Rotor Wash



Michelle Tremble,
Army spouse

“If you’re going to be in the sun, make sure to wear sunscreen.”



Reggie George,
retired military

“If you’re spending a lot of time outdoors, make sure you’re drinking plenty of water.”



Josh Stanton,
Army family member

“Mosquitoes start to come out around this time of year, so stock up on your bug spray.”



Andrea Hammond,
Army family member

“Try to keep the sun out of your eyes as much as you can by wearing sunglasses.”



Eric Joseph,
Army veteran

“Limit the amount of time you spend in direct sunlight, and if you know you’re going to be working out in the direct sun, make sure you bring plenty of sunscreen and even keep your skin covered up if necessary.”

“The weather is warming up and more people are taking to the outdoors. What are some ways people can stay safe when working or playing outdoors?”

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Jim Hughes
COMMAND INFORMATION OFFICER

David C. Agan Jr.
COMMAND INFORMATION OFFICER ASSISTANT

EDITORIAL STAFF

Jim Hughes
ACTING EDITOR.....255-1239
jhughes@armyflieger.com

Jeremy P. Henderson
SYSTEMS & DESIGN EDITOR.....255-2253
jhenderson@armyflieger.com

Nathan Pfau
STAFF WRITER.....255-2690
npfau@armyflieger.com

BUSINESS OFFICE
Robert T. Jesswein
PROJECT MANAGER.....702-6032
rjesswein@dothaneagle.com

Jerry Morgan
REGIONAL SALES DIRECTOR.....702-2631
jmorgan@dothaneagle.com

Laren Allgood
DISPLAY ADVERTISING.....393-9718
lallgood@eprisenow.com

Mable Rutten
DISPLAY ADVERTISING.....393-9713
mrutten@eprisenow.com

CLASSIFIED ADS.....(800) 779-2557

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Deadlines are Friday at 2 p.m. for the following week’s edition.

All editorial content of the Army Flier is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker, AL.

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ACE SUICIDE INTERVENTION

Ask your buddy

- Have the courage to ask the question, but stay calm.
- Ask the question directly. For example, “Are you thinking of killing yourself?”

Care for your buddy

- Remove any means that could be used for self-

injury.

- Calmly control the situation, do not use force.
- Actively listen to produce relief.

Escort your buddy

- Never leave your buddy alone.
- Escort to the chain of command, a chaplain, a behavioral health professional or a primary care provider.

Grant program benefits teachers

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Fort Rucker Thrift Shop is well known for helping people find some of the best deals on the installation, but it is also known for its involvement in helping local communities.

Thrift shop officials celebrated the second successful year of their teacher grant program and recognized 13 teachers during a ceremony at the thrift shop where they awarded more than \$16,000 in grants to teachers of schools in the surrounding communities who educate and effect the lives of more than 1,400 students, according to Debbie Godfrey, Fort Rucker Thrift Shop vice chairman.

“This is the second year that the teacher grant program has been available to you, our area teachers, to assist you in creating the best learning environment for your students,” she said during the ceremony. “We are well aware of the moments when teachers have had to dig into their own pockets to cover additional expenses for their classrooms.”

The program was developed by the thrift shop board of directors as a collective effort of the board, employees and volunteers of the thrift shop, said Godfrey. Teachers applied for the grants and each application was reviewed based upon a rigorous rubric and only the top applications were funded.

When possible, projects were fully funded, but when not possible, as much funding was provided while still maintaining the feasibility of the project, she said.

“We’re very proud that this money will be used in your classrooms in teaching our children to the highest of standards,” said the vice chairman. “We ultimately hope that this program will give teachers, and thereby their students the means and tools necessary to always encourage learning everyday and provide an environment that



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Teachers awarded grants stand with employees and volunteers of the Fort Rucker Thrift Shop after receiving their grants during a ceremony at the thrift shop May 3.

allows our children to excel and dream beyond their wildest imaginations.”

The following are the teachers who were recognized.

Amanda Melby, D.A. Smith Middle School — Melby teaches 160 sixth-grade students on a daily basis and received her grant to provide Chromebooks for scientific exploration. She said she loves teaching because she feels it’s important that students are taught not only academic content, but kindness and compassion, as well

Philip Smith, D.A. Smith Middle School — Smith teaches about 150 students a day and received his grant to start a Chromebook library for his (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education students. He said he loves the opportunity to interact with the next generation in hopes that each student will be able to make a positive impact in society.

Christina Rodgers, Rucker Boulevard Elementary School — Rodgers received her grant to help purchase mini tablets for the classroom. Teaching for 15 years, she said she loves to teach because it gives her the opportunity to touch the lives of today’s young people.

Natalie Owens, Lisenby Elementary School — Owens teaches nearly 500 students who all receive general music instruction once a week. She received her grant to purchase mini tablets for her music technology center, and said she is honored to continue the tradition of music education at the elementary level.

Amber Brouillard, Coppenville Junior High School — Brouillard teaches 170 students each year and received her grant to purchase robotics equipment to expand the automated and robotics subject area, and to start a robotics team at her school. She said every child deserves the very best chance possible.

Brittany Jones, Windham Elementary School — Jones teaches math to 80 second-grade students and will use her grant to purchase a 3-D printer for the classroom. She said she loves teaching and seeing her students learn and achieve goals they have set for themselves.

Laura Traylor, Lisenby Elementary School — Traylor said her grant will help to purchase mini tablets to help her students in working with technology. After teaching for 13 years, she still loves teach-

ing in early childhood settings because she gets to help students learn.

Kim Patterson, Mixon Elementary School — A 19-year veteran of teaching, Patterson said there is never a dull moment in teaching and loves to interact with students. She will use her grant to purchase classic novels to help broaden her students’ interaction with literature.

Patti Mizell, D.A. Smith Middle School — Mizell teaches between 55-145 students a year and said teaching is a joy, especially when she sees young minds bloom with knowledge. She will use her grant to add to her Chromebook library, which the students use for research projects.

Lori Lucien, Mixon Elementary School — Teaching 65 students a year, Lucien will use her grant to purchase items needed for her “Measurement Mania” project. She said she loves being able to show her students how they can make their dreams become a reality.

Donna Lampley, Rucker Boulevard Elementary School — Lampley has been teaching for 20 years and said she looks forward to going to work every day to not only teach, but to be taught by her students. She will use her grant to purchase Chromebooks for her Interactive Technology Resource Center.

Rachel West, Lisenby Elementary School — West has been teaching for 12 years and said she loves teaching each day because it’s full of new challenges with never a dull moment. She will use her grant to purchase a photo printer and accessories for her students to learn to set up and understand timelines.

Tiffany Fowler, Hillcrest Elementary School — Fowler said she loves working with children and sees them as our hope for a better tomorrow. She currently teaches math and science, and will use her grant to put on a Math Carnival for all grade levels.

Commander: EUCOM ‘ready to fight’ if deterrence fails

By Lisa Ferdinando
Department of Defense News

WASHINGTON — Gen. Curtis M. Scaparrotti, a career infantry officer, assumed command of U.S. European Command May 3 and became NATO’s supreme allied commander May 4.

Scaparrotti most recently served as the commander in South Korea of United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command and U.S. Forces Korea.

“It is a true honor and I am humbled to serve as the European Command commander,” he told those attending the May 3 ceremony in Stuttgart, Germany, in which he assumed command of EUCOM from retiring Air Force Gen. Philip Breedlove.

EUCOM prepares ready forces, ensures strategic access, deters conflict, enables the NATO alliance, strengthens partnerships, and counters transnational threats to protect and defend the United States, according to command officials. There are cur-



PHOTO BY D. MYLES CULLEN

Gen. Curtis M. Scaparrotti speaks after assuming command of NATO’s Allied Command Operations from Air Force Gen. Philip M. Breedlove in Mons, Belgium, May 4.

rently about 62,000 active U.S. military personnel authorized in Europe, including 52,500 who directly support EUCOM.

An aggressive Russia, mass migration and extremism are among the threats to Europe, Scaparrotti said at the ceremony at EUCOM headquarters.

“We face a resurgent Russia and its aggressive behavior that challenges international norms

in Crimea, the Donbas and South Ossetia,” he said.

Europe faces the “immediate threat that terrorism poses, as the world witnessed with the recent tragedies in Brussels, Paris and Ankara,” he said.

In addition, the significant influx of migrants and refugees is “challenging the social fabric of Europe,” he said.

He pledged that EUCOM will

continue to build on its legacy to deter aggression, deploy forces for contingency operations, strengthen bonds with allies and partners, and be “ready to fight” should deterrence fail.

As EUCOM commander, Scaparrotti is dual-hatted as NATO’s supreme allied commander for Europe. In Mons, Belgium, at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Scaparrotti assumed that duty from Breedlove.

In that capacity, Scaparrotti leads Allied Command Operations, the command responsible for the planning and execution of combined, joint, effects-based military operations in order to meet alliance objectives.

He is responsible for the overall direction and conduct of global military operations for NATO, according to the alliance.

The 28-nation NATO alliance is more important than ever, Scaparrotti said during the ceremony in Mons. The alliance and its core collective strength remain vital today.

“As we continue our critical mission in Afghanistan, we also face a resurgent Russia striving to project itself as a world power,” he said. “We face terrorism and a refugee crisis being driven by instability in North Africa and the Middle East.”

Scaparrotti served as the director of the Joint Staff; commander International Security Assistance Force Joint Command; deputy commander, U.S. Forces Afghanistan; commanding general of I Corps and Joint Base Lewis-McChord; and commanding general of the 82nd Airborne Division.

In addition, he served as director of operations, U.S. Central Command; and 69th commandant of cadets at the U.S. Military Academy. He commanded forces during operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, Zaire/Rwanda, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Liberia.

Scaparrotti, an Ohio native, graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1978.

News Briefs

Community strengths, themes assessment

Fort Rucker is running its second biennial Health Promotions Community Strengths and Themes Assessment now through June 30 aimed at collecting population data as it relates to the health and readiness of the Community. Data is collected through the Internet, which allows Soldiers, family members, civilians and military retirees to take the survey from their homes or offices. The survey focuses on how the community feels on health, safety, quality of life and overall satisfaction with the installation. Information is collected through the Fort Rucker Community Health Promotion Council Office. It will be used to help identify population health concerns for assessing health-related needs of the Fort Rucker community for program planning, policy development and program evaluation.

The confidentiality of responses is assured under Section 308 (d) of the Public Health Service Act. Procedures are in place to prevent the disclosure of personal data, including data encryption and secure data networks. No personal identifiers are collected as part of this survey process.

The assessment is available at <https://usaphcapps.amedd.army.mil/Survey/se.ashx?s=251137452BC46511>. For more information, call 255-0529.

College graduation

The Army Continuing Education System will host the Fort Rucker Post-wide Graduation Celebration Friday 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.

Clinic closures

Lyster Army Health clinic will be closed Friday for organization day.

The clinic will remain open all day Wednesday, the usual third-Wednesday training day.

Chapel offers free movie

The Fort Rucker Religious Service Office will provide a free movie screening of “Honoring the Code, Warriors and Moral Injury,” May 20 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the post theater. There will also be free popcorn and refreshments. The Invisible Scars Project is a ministry of the Crosswinds Foundation for Faith and Culture. Its mission is to help provide awareness about post traumatic stress and moral injury.

For more information, call 255-3903 or 255-3447.

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.

Vacation Bible School

The Fort Rucker Religious Services Office will host its Vacation Bible School June 6-10 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at the Main Post Chapel Complex, Bldgs. 8939 and

8940. VBS is for children in kindergarten (age 5 by Sept. 1) through sixth grade. This year’s theme is Egypt, Joseph’s Journey from Prison to Palace. VBS will feature Bible lessons, crafts, music, recreation, snacks and daily celebrations. Volunteers are needed to help out with the event.

To register, volunteer or get more information, visit the Fort Rucker Religious Education Center in Bldg. 8939, or call 255-3946 or 255-2989. People can also visit Wings Chapel, Bldg. 6036, or call 255-2051 or 255-9566.

Diabetes Basics

Lyster Army Health Clinic offers beneficiaries a four-part Diabetes Basics Program where they will learn about prevention and controlling diabetes. Classes are held Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon at Lyster.

For more information, call 255-7986.

Weight control

The Lyster Army Health Clinic Fit for Performance Weight Control Program consists of six sessions taken over a six- to 12-week period. The program is available to all active-duty military, retirees and family members. Classes are held on Tuesdays from 9-11 a.m. or 1-3 p.m.

For more information, call 255-7986.

Lyster update

People are welcome to check out the Lyster Army Health Clinic Facebook Page for the Healthy Tip of the Day and important clinic information, such as class dates and times.

The Lyster Twitter feed is at @LysterAHC.

DOD: Military sexual assault efforts make impact, hurdles remain

By Cheryl Pellerin
Department of Defense News

WASHINGTON — The latest annual report of the Defense Department’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program shows the effort is having an impact, but that there are still hurdles to overcome, the SAPR program’s director said during a media roundtable May 5.

Maj. Gen. Camille M. Nichols was joined by Dr. Nathan Galbreath, senior executive adviser to the DOD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, and Dr. Elizabeth P. Van Winkle of the Defense Manpower Data Center.

In fiscal year 2015, service members made 6,083 reports of sexual assault – the same rate as the previous fiscal year, with four in 1,000 service members reporting sexual assault despite a smaller active force size, Nichols said.

Also, she added, 21 percent of those making restricted reports in fiscal 2015 chose to convert to unrestricted reports, enabling them to participate in the military justice process.

“This is encouraging,” Nichols said, “as we believe it is an indicator of growing confidence in a justice system that is now better configured to hear the voice of the victim.”

The report includes analyses from the Defense Manpower Data Center’s 2015 Focus Group Study of SAPR for Active Duty Members, the 2015 Military Investigation and Justice Experience Survey, the 2015 QuickCompass of SAPR Responders, and the 2015 Workplace and Gender Relations Survey of Reserve Component Members.

Sexual assault investigations

In fiscal 2015, Galbreath said, of the 3,386 subjects for whom SAPRO has final disposition, 2,783 military subjects were considered by military commanders for possible action.

“In other words,” he explained, “2,783 (active duty service members) were within our jurisdiction under military law.”

DOD commanders had evidence and legal authority to take some kind of action on 72 percent of the accused service members, Galbreath said: anything from a court-martial preferal of charges to nonjudicial punishment, an administrative action or a discharge.

For 25 percent of the military subjects, no action was taken because there was insufficient evidence of a crime, because the victim declined to participate in the prosecution, and for other reasons. For 3 percent of the 2,783, charges were determined to be unfounded, he added.

“Of the 72 percent of people that were accused of a sexual assault,” Galbreath said, “the number of people that we could take action against for a sexual assault offense was 1,437, and two-thirds of those had a court-martial charge referral.”

Galbreath said that of those who went to trial, 254 were convicted of different kinds of offenses – 161 were convicted of penetrating offenses, 93 were convicted of sexual contact offenses, and another 158 of some lesser nonsexual offenses, including fraternization, adultery, making a false official statement and others.

Nichols said the total numbers of reports versus convictions are not a complete picture of what happened and what the outcome was, because not all cases reported in one year are completed in the same year.

“It’s a snapshot of how many sexual assaults we know have been reported, and then what we try to do is use the



DOD GRAPHIC

tools we have and updates provided by the military justice processes to just give facts that year. So it’s a fact-based rolling picture,” she said.

5 key efforts

The report highlights five key SAPR program efforts, including encouraging greater sexual assault reporting, advancing sexual assault prevention, improving the response to male sexual assault victims, combating retaliation associated with sexual assault and tracking the accountability of sexual assault cases.

Nearly 20 percent of reports in 2015 were from military men and a similar number of reports were submitted by men in 2014, Nichols said.

“Overall, the percentage of reports from men these past two years is up considerably from the early days of the SAPR program,” she added. “Still, men remain less likely to report the crime than women. Encouraging their involvement in prevention and reporting efforts remains a high focus area for us.”

Nichols said many male sexual assault survivors she’s spoken to initially don’t believe they were sexually assaulted, but that rather were physically manhandled as part of a hazing or rite-of-passage ritual.

“Only later on, after hearing and seeing definitions, do they understand that they actually were sexually assaulted,” the general said.

The SAPR program is making special efforts to reach these men, she said, adding that SAPRO is reviewing campaign plans from the services to improve outreach.

The program now has a male framework plan of action that is being staffed by the services, the Safe Helpline now has materials specifically for men, and SAPRO trains call takers and caregivers to help male callers, she noted.

“We have a male chat room now where male victims are mentoring new male victims,” Nichols added, noting that the Marine Corps has a good outreach program to reach and talk to those most at risk: 19-to-21-year-old men.

Galbreath said SAPRO estimates that about 40 percent of female victims report sexual assault, and only about 10 percent of men report the crime.

“I think there are huge concerns that men have. The first two questions they ask me (are), ‘Am I weak?’ and ‘What does this mean for my sexual orientation?’” the clinical psychologist said.

“We found last year in our active duty force-wide survey that men experience sexual assault differently than do women. We think that ultimately we’re going to need to talk to men differently about what sexual assault is and to get them to come forward,” he said.

Nichols said that SAPRO is working more closely with the Veterans Affairs Department, which has military sexual trauma teams that have been set up so that all victims – but certainly men, especially at remote and small bases – is able to go get support from VA, even when they’re on active duty.

New information

Nichols said new information in this year’s report includes results of the 2015 Military Investigation and Justice Experience Survey, which offers survivor feedback about participating in the military justice process.

Most survey respondents said they were highly satisfied with the support they received and 77 percent said they would recommend that other survivors come forward to report sexual assault, she added.

Also, for the first time, the report includes provisional data about sexual assaults that occur in the context of domestic abuse, Nichols told reporters. “These reports of sexual assault between spouses and intimate partners captured by our family advocacy program fill in a small, but important, gap in our reporting picture.”

“Eliminating sexual assault remains a top priority for the department,” the general said. “We must continue to foster a climate where dignity and respect, where servicemen and women feel empowered to take action, where they feel safe reporting a crime, and where allegations of inappropriate behavior are treated with the utmost seriousness. The future of our profession of arms depends on our ability to get this right.”

Strengthening support

Pentagon Press Secretary Peter Cook told reporters during a briefing May 5 that last week Defense Secretary Ash Carter released the department’s retaliation strategy, which provides a framework for strengthening support for those who experience retaliation in connection with reporting sexual assault or harassment, and for clarifying the retaliation response process.

“The report shows the value of persistent intensive efforts to combat a problem that senior leadership from the secretary on down is fully engaged in attacking,” he said.

“It is a difficult challenge for the military and other institutions in this country, but it’s one (that) under the secretary’s leadership we’re determined to take on,” Cook added, noting that other institutions – from higher education and other federal agencies, even the United Nations – have looked to the Defense Department’s programs as potential models for their own efforts.

DOD community members who have been affected by sexual assault can access 24/7, confidential and anonymous support online through the DOD Safe Helpline or by phone at 877-995-5247.

SHARP GRIFFIN

U.S., German forces evaluate operational readiness in Kosovo

By Staff Sgt. Thomas Duval
U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs

CAMP PRIZREN, Kosovo — Months of training by the German armed forces in combined arms warfare, middle intensity conflict techniques and standard tasks focused on crowd riot control techniques culminated at Camp Prizren Friday and Saturday during Operation Sharp Griffin.

The multinational exercise was conducted over a 36-hour timeframe and centered on multiple complex situations, such as air infiltration and evacuation operations, platoon level movements, live fire maneuvers, crowd riot control techniques, as well as synchronized coordination of operational forces between the German and U.S. forces.

The German soldiers partnered with members of the 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 28th Infantry Division and 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, throughout the operation.

The two-day operation started at Oraovac Range where German Soldiers penetrated the site thanks to the help of UH-60 Black

Hawks. From there, the teams received a short mission brief before engaging a group of targets. After each simulated enemy was eliminated, the Soldiers were air evacuated, once again, by Black Hawks.

For the mechanized infantry battalion soldiers, refining their tactical abilities was less about their mission in Kosovo and more about honing their abilities as German soldiers.

“As third responders, it’s unlikely we will be forced to use the skills we achieved today, but I think it’s one of the skills every soldiers needs to have,” said Maj. Oliver John Steenson-Schulz, Day 1 event coordinator. “On one hand, we use this as training for the Soldiers, and of course we hope it never comes to it but if we needed we can use the skills here in Kosovo if asked to.”

Day 2 of the exercise reflected more of the peace support operations the German soldiers are used to conducting here in Kosovo, as the contingent responded to protestors who gathered at three of the camp’s gates.

As their aggression heightened, the escalation of force, used to handle the disgrun-

tled crowd, did, as well. Additional German troops were called in for reinforcement, while Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment arrived on scene to serve as a reserve force.

It did not take long for the angry mob of protestors to disband, once the support elements arrived. With a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement restored, the multinational team returned to their camp knowing they had successfully completed the mission.

“This exercise was more to force our staff members to make decisions, to go through

their military decision making process and make the best decision,” said German Lt. Matti Hybenkvist, German liaison officer for the German mechanized infantry battalion. “What we needed to do to succeed at the company level was to show we could use the different tactical techniques we have been learning. From what I have seen it worked really well and was a job well done.”

Although the overall mission was a success, the MNBG-E Soldiers don’t plan on slowing down on training and instead have set their sights on an even bigger training exercise later this year.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. THOMAS DUVAL

U.S. Soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, infiltrate Camp Prizren, Kosovo, during Operation Sharp Griffin Saturday.

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Soldiers urged to reach out to PEO Soldier online

By Martha C. Koester
NCO Journal

Program Executive Office Soldier prides itself on its commitment to the Soldier.

To ensure that protection is prioritized, PEO Soldier takes every opportunity to reach out to Soldiers for their feedback by using online avenues, such as Ask the PEO NCOs and the Soldier Enhancement Program.

“The Soldier Enhancement Program was designed to figure out what other capabilities are available that are mature to a level where we can just do a ‘buy, try and decide,’ methodology” said Master Sgt. Robert Campbell, senior enlisted adviser to Project Manager Soldier Warrior, PEO Soldier. “It’s where we will look at the product and find out, ‘Do Soldiers really like this?’ We will buy a few of these, give it to a company-sized element and let them play with it.”

More than 40 percent of Soldier equipment from PEO Soldier orig-



The Soldier Enhancement Program also boasts the Soldier Power portfolio as another of its successes.

inated from SEP. Campbell said the cost-efficient program calls for minimal testing evaluation to determine if an initiative meets military specifications and where it fits into the program of record.

“We don’t waste time on research, development, test and evaluation, like when the Army used to build things from scratch,” Campbell said. “Now we’re leveraging current technologies out on the commercial market, whether it be commercial-off-the-shelf, government-off-shelf or non-developmental items and minimize all that RDT&E.”

Anyone can propose an item to SEP at www.peosoldier.army.mil/sep/.

A Council of Colonels, which meets twice a year in March and September, gets the final decision on whether an initiative meets the cut. SEP is jointly managed by Program Executive Office Soldier, Project Manager Soldier Warrior and the Maneuver Center of Excellence Soldier Division.

Soldiers who have questions for PEO Soldier’s NCOs on equipment or technological capabilities are urged to visit the Ask the PEO NCOs page at www.peosoldier.army.mil/feedback/contactForm.asp?type=csn.

“Soldiers can get information about PEO Soldier as a whole, if they have specific questions about any program, whether it’s sensors and lasers or uniforms, and we will



ARMY PHOTO

The Clip-on Sniper Night Sight is one of PEO Soldier’s successful projects, which originated within the Soldier Enhancement Program.

provide immediate response,” said Master Sgt. Reiko Carter, senior enlisted adviser to Project Manager Soldiers Sensors and Lasers. “If we need to make phone calls to the unit to provide clear infor-

mation that Soldiers were unable to interpret from the website, we will give the unit a call and clear it up.”

Ultimately the more information these programs provide about

PEO Soldier, the better, the NCOs said.

“We have information firsthand and can get clarification,” Carter said. “That’s the main thing. The more awareness, that’s great.”

Prayer

Continued from Page A1

website at www.nationaldayofprayer.org. It wasn’t until 1988 that Ronald Reagan signed the law dedicating the first Thursday in May as the annual observance for the day.

The National Day of Prayer was also observed at the Pentagon as an interfaith activity, capping a week of services for a number of faiths, including Sikh, Buddhist, Muslim, Jewish and Christian.

“Providing for the free exercise of religion for all of our faith groups has always been part of our mandate as chap-

lains,” said Col. Kenneth Williams, Pentagon chaplain.

Williams said he and his fellow chaplains are continuing to reach out to more and more service personnel of different faiths, to ensure they are able to practice the free exercise of religion.

While there are Army chaplains representing many different faiths, at some smaller installations, that may not be the case, he said.

However, garrison or installation chaplains, “can find someone in that faith group who we can endorse as a lay leader for that faith group,” Williams said. That person can

be from the local community or even a local service member.

“There are subject-matter experts in various faith groups that we count on to provide us guidance” to military personnel, no matter where they’re stationed. “So yes, we have that capability to network.

“The feedback we’ve been receiving from various faith groups of military personnel has been very positive,” Williams said. “They’ve been very appreciative for us having concerns about them, ensuring they are recognized and having all the resources they need to practice their faith.”

Musical

Continued from Page A1

form.

“It was cool,” said Madison Cannon, FRES student. “It was different from the movie, but I thought the play was much better.”

“I really liked the songs and dances,” added Abigail Stewart, fellow FRES student. “I sang along with all the people on the stage.”

After the actors took their bows, Harper said that the play was more than about just putting on a production for people to see, but learning life lessons, as well.

“The drama club began auditions back in November and the cast began studying dialogue back in December,” she said, emphasizing the amount of work that went into the production and the dedication that the students put into their work. “They all worked as a team. They were able to learn about teamwork, responsibility, choreography, memorizing lines and taking stage direction. They practiced two afternoons a week after school to learn their parts.”

Harper said they were fortunate to have the support from the Parent Teacher Association, the Fort Rucker Thrift Shop and individual donors to the thespian fund.

Without that help, the production would have never happened, she said.

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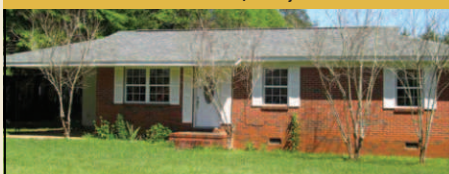
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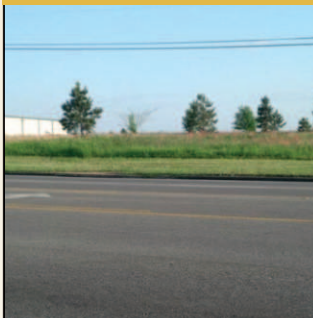
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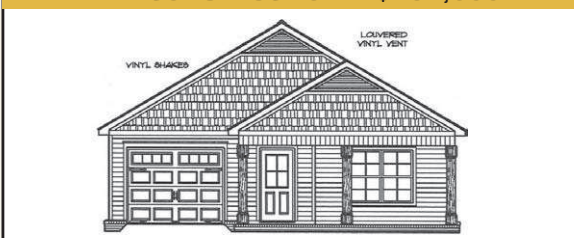
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‘SECRET SAUCE’



Attendees of the Army Aviation Association of America-sponsored 2016 Army Aviation Mission Solution Summit in Atlanta April 29 view the large aircraft exposition area.

PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

Army Aviation forces multiple dilemmas on enemy

By David Vergun
Army News Service

ATLANTA — Army Aviation provides ground commanders multiple options, while presenting multiple dilemmas to adversaries, according to the commander of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

Gen. David G. Perkins gave the keynote address at the Army Aviation Association of America-sponsored 2016 Army Aviation Mission Solution Summit April 29.

To win in a complex and unpredictable world, disparate forces must have the ability to maneuver with the help of Army

Aviation over multiple far-flung locations and domains, including land, air, space and even the sea domain. That’s happening right now in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere, Perkins said.

The only thing that physically links these dispersed forces is Army Aviation, he said, terming it the “connecting tissue.” Without Army Aviation, these ground forces would be isolated and significantly less effective.

Perkins noted that ground formations are dispersed to prevent the enemy from identifying and targeting them in a large, static formation.

SEE AVIATION, PAGE B4

New engine to restore helicopter lift capability

By David Vergun
Army News Service

ATLANTA — Degraded lift capability is especially problematic in areas where high-altitude, high-temperature flights are required, including nearly half of Afghanistan, said the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general.

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler spoke at the Army Aviation Association of America-sponsored 2016 Army Aviation Mission Solution Summit in Atlanta April 29-30.

Using the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter as an example, Gayler said an average of about 78 pounds per year have been added annually – for all the right reasons. That includes increased protective gear, ammunition, new technologies and so on. Over the years, those increases have totaled about a ton-and-a-quarter.

All of that weight affects speed, lift, range, maneuverability and the amount of stuff that can be carried, he said.

Years ago, four Black Hawks could move a platoon, he pointed out. Now, it takes eight or nine and by 2020 – assuming the linear weight increases continue at the current rate – it will take 15 to 20, he said.

That decrease in capability severely limits options for ground commanders, he said. Besides that, it increases risk, and fuel consumption goes way up as well. “We’ve got to fix that.”

Steffanie Easter, principal deputy assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, said “we’re giving up options for our warfighters by not being able to give them the power they need.”

Key to restoring power

The Improved Turbine Engine Program is a completely new engine that will likely one day replace those currently in the AH-64 Apache and Black Hawk helicopters, Gayler said. It will return a lot of that lost capability.

“ITEP is critical,” he said. “We must get it right to buy back maneuverability.”

Easter said ITEP is the solution for improved mobility, range and payload capacity of the current fleet.

ITEP will replace the 1970s-era T700 family of engines for the Black Hawk and Apache fleet, she said. It’s going to provide over 3,000 shaft horsepower, which is a great increase over the current 1,900 to 2,000 hp. The ITEP design will also decrease the amount of maintenance required.

Brig. Gen. Erik C. Peterson, commander of U.S. Special Operations Aviation Command, said his Soldiers are excited about ITEP, as well, but their emphasis is on the maneuverability aspect of what it promises, and somewhat less on range and

SEE LIFT, PAGE B4



ARMY PHOTO

The Improved Turbine Engine Program will eventually replace the existing General Electric T700-GE-701C/D engines that now power AH-64 Apache, like this one, and UH-60 Black Hawk aircraft.



PHOTO BY CAPT. BRIAN HARRIS

An AH-64 Apache assigned to 16th Combat Aviation Brigade supports air assault training with 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., April 27. The battalion-sized air assault allowed the infantry Soldiers to train in preparation for future missions.

TRAIN AS YOU FIGHT

New training capability links posts, improves mission command

By Mike Casey and
Kristen McCullough
U.S. Army Training and Doctrine
Command Public Affairs

FORT LEAVENWORTH, Kan. — For the first time, Soldiers at multiple posts can train together in helicopter and ground combat vehicle simulators.

The computer and software innovations that added the new capability also allow Army commanders to use their tactical communication systems in training just as they would in combat.

These new training capabilities were successfully tested by the 3rd Infantry Division in March at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Air Field, Georgia. The test event also involved Soldiers in simulators at Fort Rucker and subject matter experts at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

Maj. Gen. Mark J. O’Neil, deputy commanding general of the Combined Arms Center - Training, accredited the training capabilities for the force’s use.

“These improvements will help commanders create tough, realistic training exercises,” O’Neil said.

Maj. Gen. Jim Rainey, 3rd Infantry Division commander, said Army posts will benefit from the training capability.

“This system gives us the abil-



ARMY PHOTOS

A Soldier at the Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., trains in a helicopter simulator as part of an assessment of a new training capability.

ity to enhance home station training while working with units across the country,” Rainey said. “Access to an innovative resource like this helps increase readiness, and improves our ability to collaborate and train in a realistic combined arms environment.”

To verify the innovative technology, the first use assessment involved several training sites.

- Soldiers at Fort Stewart used the Close Combat Tactical Trainer, a ground vehicle simulator; Virtual Battlespace 3, an Army gaming program; and the Homestation Instrumentation Training System, a ground forces training system. Subject matter experts used a constructive simulation program.
- Soldiers at Hunter Army Airfield and Fort Rucker were in the Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Trainer, a helicopter simulator.
- Subject matter experts at Fort Campbell used VBS3 and the Reconfigurable Vehicle Tactical Trainer, a ground vehicle simulator.

Although the participants used different training systems at different

locations, all shared the same live and virtual terrain environment and interacted as if they were at one location. To the exercise commander, all of the action appeared to be live at Fort Stewart.

Multi-post capability

Lt. Col. Patrick Chavez, director of the TRADOC Project Office - Integrating Architecture, supervised the test and explained the significance of the development.

“For the first time, the Army has been able to conduct this type of multi-post, combined-arms training on this scale,” he said. “It opens the door to other posts working together. For example, the light infantry task force at Fort Benning (Georgia) could use a games for training suite to connect with an exercise at Fort Stewart.”

Capt. Mitchell Hockenbury, who also observed the test, said the capability will help the Army in putting together a modular force.

“A battalion from Fort Stewart

SEE TRAIN, PAGE B4



Soldiers train with Virtual Battlespace 3 and act as an opposing force during an assessment of a new training capability.

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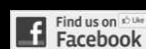
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Aviation



Attendees of the Army Aviation Association of America-sponsored 2016 Army Aviation Mission Solution Summit in Atlanta April 29 view the large aircraft exposition area.

PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

Continued from Page B1

Some of the capabilities Army Aviation brings include attack gunships, unmanned aircraft system reconnaissance, troop movement and supply, he said.

‘Secret sauce’

The “secret sauce” that makes Army Aviation so effective, Perkins said, is its people. They’ve been making it happen since the 1950s and they are “the epitome of what we’re trying to do for the future force. That didn’t just happen overnight.”

The five attributes of these Aviators, he said, are expertise, honorable service, trust, esprit de corps and stewardship of the profession.

As an armor officer, Perkins said he always put the highest trust in the pilots and crew of helicopters he was transported in. Often, he said, he only saw the backs of their helmets in the middle of the night, trusting that they knew what they were doing.

“That trust has never been misplaced,” he added. Aviators have always maintained good stewardship of their profession, he said, policing their own ranks, and giving safety and standards the highest priority – “without which things can go bad very quickly.”

As to esprit, Aviators “have always had that enthusiasm to make it happen and get it done, and that inspires all who operate around them,” he said.

Perkins pointed out that esprit also means Aviators hold a “jealous regard for the honor of their unit, the Army and the United States of America.”

Addressing honorable service, Perkins showed slides depicting the faces of fallen Aviators over just the past year in Afghanistan. As a bagpiper played, attendees stood in a moment of silence to honor them.

Perkins added that others like them in the past have exemplified the ultimate sacrifice paid in honorable service.

Lift

Continued from Page B1

payload.

That may mean special operations will get its own variant, but cost would be an important deciding factor, he said, meaning they might go with what the Army gets.

Brig. Gen. Bob Marion, Program Executive Officer, Aviation, said ITEP is a big deal for the Army and it will be resident in about 85 percent of its platforms.

It also has potential for Future Vertical Lift – if not the motor, then pieces of the technology, he said.

FVL’s engineering and manufacturing development doesn’t begin until fiscal year 2024 with the first aircraft test in FY26, he added.

Marion said fielding ITEP is still years away. “We’re going after milestone A this quarter,” after which “we’ll be looking to award two contracts and down-select two vendors.”

ITEP no enough

Gayler said that while ITEP will meet near-term demands for increasing power, longer-term solutions are needed.

The CH-47 Chinook was brought into the fleet in 1964, he said. Its scheduled departure from the Army is 2064.

“That’s 100 years on that airframe. It’s similar with the Apache and Black Hawk. These are gaps. It’s what keeps me up at night.

“I don’t want my grandchildren flying the same aircraft my father flew,” he added.

Train

Continued from Page B1

could train with a battalion from Joint Base Lewis-McChord (Washington) without going to a Combat Training Center,” said Hockenbury, who is with the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation in Orlando, Florida.

At Fort Stewart, the Army tested enhancements to improve training that links live, virtual, gaming and constructive systems to form the Integrated Training Environment. In these exercises, some Soldiers are in the field in HITS gear, others are in air and ground simulators, and some others use computers.

What ties all of these Soldiers together is the computer software and hardware in the Live, Virtual, Constructive – Integrating Architecture system. The LVC-IA collects the simulator and simulation data and combines it with the commander’s mission command system to form a single common operating picture.

Since 2012, the Army has fielded an initial version of the LVC-IA to a dozen posts. For network security reasons, the simulation and exercise data were not connected to a unit’s tactical network. During exercises, this closed network required units to use additional equipment and workarounds.

New open system

The enhancements tested at Fort Stewart opened the network to allow simulation data and the various simulators to seamlessly connect to the unit’s tactical network. Now battalion and brigade commanders have a complete common operation picture to make decisions and execute mission command.

With the improvements, commanders can use the Warfighter Information Network Tactical and their mission command systems just as they would in combat. WIN-T is the Army’s common tactical communications network.

“The open network supports the train-as-you-fight objective commanders strive for with command post exercises,” said Chavez. “It also provides the ability to add levels of complexity to home station training events with a variety of simulations and simulators.”

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MAY 12, 2016

SPLASH! into summer



Children enjoy the SPLASH! Park. SPLASH! will be open Wednesdays-Mondays from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and closed on Tuesdays for maintenance and cleaning.



People enjoy the SPLASH! Water Park during a previous swim season

Lake, water park, pools offer ample swimming options

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

As longer days continue to heat things up, Fort Rucker's Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Sports, Fitness, and Aquatics Branch prepares to cool things down with the summer swimming season.

Patrons can seek aquatic relief from the heat beginning May 28 with the opening of SPLASH! Outdoor Pool and Spray Park, located behind The Landing on Novosel Street.

"This location is our 'family' facility and comes complete with an AquaClimb rock wall, a diving board, water slides and a spray park for the younger kids," said Rob Koren, DFMWR aquatics manager.

According to Koren, SPLASH! will be open Wednesdays-Mondays from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The park will be closed on Tuesdays for maintenance and cleaning.

There is a fee to enter SPLASH! that is based on people's age, and if they are active duty or retired, DOD civilian or contractor, or a member of the general public, Koren said. Aquatics also sells season passes to the facility that can be purchased at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center on Andrews Avenue or at MWR Central on the first floor of the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700.

For more information on pricing and entrance fees for SPLASH!, call 255-2296.

SPLASH! will also host the Summer Luau June 4 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"(The event) will have many activities for the entire family to enjoy," Koren

said. "There will, of course, be swimming. However, the event also features an inflatable water slide, line dancing, limbo contests, T-shirt tie-dying (participants must bring their own T-shirts) and a dunk tank.

"Patrons can purchase a pulled pork barbecue sandwich, bag of chips and a drink for only \$6 per plate," he added.

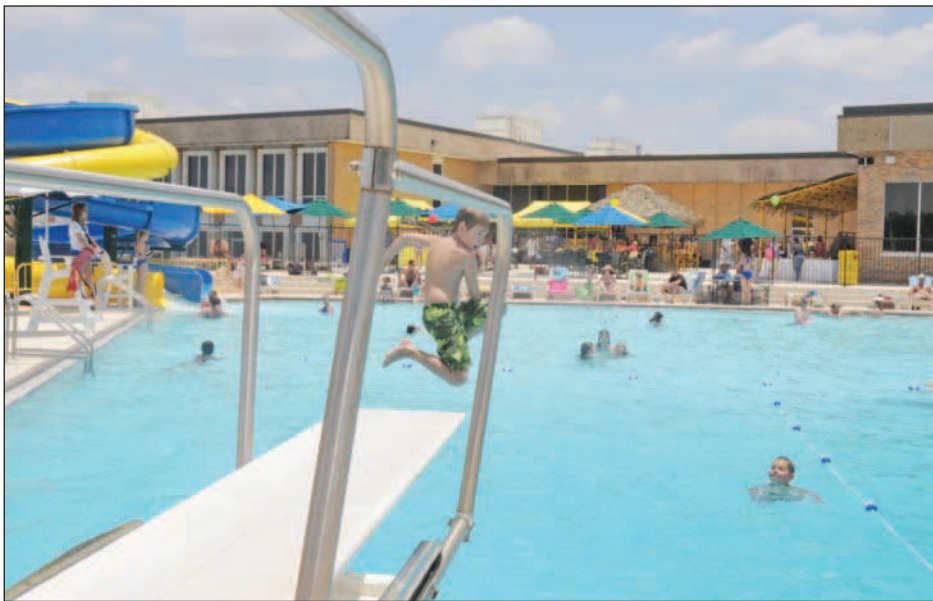
SPLASH! won't be the only swimming opportunity opening for the summer season May 28. Lake Tholocco's West Beach swimming area, located on Johnson Road, will also open to the public.

"Lake Tholocco's West Beach swimming area is another great natural escape for children and families alike," Koren said.

Swimming will be permitted Fridays-Tuesdays from 11 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. This natural swimming area offers a sandy beach, waterslides, and an inflatable water trampoline. There is an entrance fee to use the swimming area. For information regarding fees, call Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation at 255-4117.

According to Koren, additional swimming opportunities will open later in the summer.

"If you wish to focus on your swimming abilities and physical fitness, then Flynn Outdoor Pool, located on Park Avenue just off of Novosel Street, is ideal," he said. "The outdoor pool will open on Mondays-Fridays June 6 from 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. when the PFC indoor pool closes on June 5. Flynn Outdoor Pool is used strictly for lap swimming, Soldier physical training, by reservation



Community members enjoy the Splash! Water Park in this file photo.

only, and water exercise.

"The (Child, Youth, and School Services) (School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills) Youth Learn-to-Swim Program will also be held at Flynn over the summer from 9 a.m. to noon and again from 3-6 p.m.," he added.

According to Koren, this pool is open to authorized patrons only with a valid military or DOD civilian ID.

Before dipping toes into the water, Koren urges patrons to take a few simple precautions to ensure their aquatic experience is both fun and safe.

"No one should ever swim alone," he said. "Everyone should either swim with a buddy or in a supervised area with a trained lifeguard on duty. Lifeguards are a great asset to safety at any swimming facility, but parents should always know where their children are and what their swimming abilities are. If the child cannot swim, parents are expected to be within arm's reach of the child at all times. Do not assume the lifeguard will watch your

child, as they have other patrons to watch, as well. Safety is everyone's responsibility and should be taken seriously at all times.

"At the first sight or sound of thunder or lightning, all patrons should clear the water and deck immediately and follow the directions of the lifeguards on duty," he added.

Koren also urges patrons to protect their skin with a waterproof and sweat-proof sun block that has a SPF 50 strength or higher.

"Patrons should apply and reapply according to the bottles instructions for best results or as often as they need," he said. "If the patron feels that they are getting burned from the sun, the best course of action is to remove themselves from the sun and apply aloe directly to the skin. This will help with the pain and also assist in drawing out some of the heat from the skin."

For more information about swimming facilities and opportunities on post, call 255-9162.

DIVING IN

MWR offers opportunity for summer employment

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

Busy waterways and summer vacation provide the perfect opportunity for seasonal employment and Fort Rucker offers certification courses to help jumpstart the process.

The sports, fitness and aquatics branch offers lifeguard certification courses beginning May 30 for anyone interested in waterside employment during the summer, according to Rob Koren, aquatics manager.

Courses are available to anyone ages 15 and older. Cost is \$125 for military or DOD card holders and \$150 for the general public. Participants can register at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center front desk by picking up a registration form and cancellation/refund policy, he said.

"Fort Rucker MWR Aquatics Branch is also still looking to hire lifeguards for the 2016 summer season," said. "We are offering a 50-percent reimbursement of training fees to participants who take the course through MWR, apply for and are selected for a position, and can work through Labor Day."

Participants will be required to pass certain prerequisites the first



A lifeguard at Splash! watches a swimmer dive for the water during a previous swim season.

day before entering the course. Requirements include a non-stop swim of 550 meters, a two-minute tread above water using only the legs, dive ring retrieval and a timed 20-meter brick retrieval swim.

The course not only provides an opportunity to earn money during the summer, but also other ben-

efits.

"Upon successful completion of our American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Program, (participants) will receive a certification in Lifeguarding, CPR for the Professional Rescuer, AED, Bloodborne Pathogens, Waterpark Lifeguarding and Waterfront Lifeguarding," Koren said. "This train-

ing will prepare the candidates to prevent and respond to aquatic emergencies, render aid and care to patrons, and prepare them to guard in various types of aquatic environments such as swimming pools, lakes and water parks."

The course will provide all the knowledge needed to become a lifeguard, but Koren said lifeguards



Students perform a deep-water, back-boarding rescue exercise during a previous lifeguard course.

will also be tasked with some little-known responsibilities.

"Lifeguards have many more duties and responsibilities than just sitting in a chair and watching people swim," he said. "To mention a few, the lifeguards that work for the Fort Rucker MWR Sports, Fitness and Aquatics Department are required to attend in-service training every other week to ensure their skills are sharp. They are responsible for completing water chemistry readings every two hours to ensure the water is safe and sanitary for patrons to enjoy. They also must complete safety checks on the safety and rescue equipment that is used on a daily basis to make sure the team is prepared and have what they need to act in the event of an emergency."

For more information on lifeguard certification or employment with the aquatics branch, call 255-9162 or visit USAJobs.gov.

ON POST

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

Renaissance Festival trip

MWR Central will host a trip to the Renaissance Festival in Fairburn, Georgia, Saturday. The weekend theme is Celtic Heritage. The festival includes Haggis eating, bag piping, Irish dancing, and more. Prices are \$41 for adults, 13 and older; \$32 for children 6-12; and \$25 for children under 6. Price for the trip will include tickets to the Renaissance Festival and transportation to and from Fort Rucker. The trip will depart Fort Rucker at 5:30 a.m., travel to the festival and depart from the festival grounds at 6:30 p.m., with a planned return time of around 10:30 p.m. Space on the trip is limited to 42 people. The deadline to register is today.

For more information, call 255-2997 or 255-9517.

Financial wellness class

Army Community Service’s Financial Readiness Program will host its financial wellness class Tuesday from 6-7 p.m. at The Commons. The class is focused on security and freedom of choice when it comes to money management as it relates to financial goals. Topics include: people’s attitudes toward money, financial goals related to life goals, renting versus buying a home, new versus used vehicles, managing credit and debt, and long term investment options. Pre-registration is required by 4 p.m. Monday. Free child care is available with registration.

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

EFMP information, support group

The Exceptional Family Member Program invites all active-duty military families who have an exceptional or special-needs family member to attend it EFMP information and support group meeting Tuesday from 9-10 a.m. at The Commons, Bldg 8950. The topic for the meeting is EFMP and PCSing: what you need to know. Tips, tools and resources will be discussed that can assist families with their PCS moves. The group is informal and offers camaraderie, friendship, information exchange, idea sharing, community resources, support and assistance with finding solutions.

For more information and to register, call 255-9277.

ACS needs assessment survey

Army Community Service is conducting a needs assessment now through Sunday. 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.

Spouse Sponsorship Survey

Army Community Service is conducting a spouse sponsorship program survey now through May 31 to determine if a need for a spouse sponsorship program exists at Fort Rucker. The program would provide an opportunity for incoming spouses to connect with other spouses who can provide assistance with their family’s transition to Fort Rucker. People can make their voices heard by taking the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W9TRQ3N>.

Newcomers welcome

Army Community Service will host a newcomers welcome May 20 from 8:30-11 a.m. at The Landing. Active duty, spouses, foreign students, Army civilians and family members are encouraged to attend. A free light breakfast and Starbucks coffee will be served. For free childcare, register children at the child development center by calling 255-3564. Reservations must be made 24 hours prior to the newcomers welcome.

For more information, call 255-3161 or 255-2887.

Summer reading registration

Registration for the Center Library’s summer reading program begins May 23 and is open to authorized patrons. Parents or children must have a library account and children must be completing grades kindergarten through eighth.

For more information, visit the library or call 255-3885. Registration for the program is taken at the library.

Book club for adults

The Center Library hosts a book club for



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Lake Fest

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.

adults the third Tuesday of each month from 5-6 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call 255-3885.

Book club for teens

The Center Library hosts a book club for teens the third Saturday of each month from 4-5 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call 255-3885.

Relocation readiness

Army Community Service will host its relocation readiness workshop May 27 from 9-10 a.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371D. 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.

SPLASH! Opens

Starting May 28, SPLASH! will be open Wednesdays-Mondays from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. SPLASH! features double flume slides, a diving board, climbing wall, spray park, and room to lounge and soak up the sun. SPLASH! SPLASH! is open during the summer season and can be rented out for private parties. Daily and season passes can be purchased at SPLASH!, MWR Central and both physical fitness centers.

Summer Camp

The Fort Rucker School Age Center will host its Summer Break Youth Camp for youth in grades 1-5 May 31-July 29, Mondays-Fridays, from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Activities will include: chefs in training, science and robotics, Trash 2 Treasure, outdoor camp and more. The children will also do arts and crafts, go on field trips and learn life skills. Breakfast, lunch and a snack will be served daily. Fees are paid weekly. Children must be enrolled in child, youth and school services to attend.

For more information, call 255-9108 or 255-9638.

Small Business Counseling

Army Community Service will offer small business counseling June 2. People can make one-hour appointments, with the first available at 9:15 a.m. For information and to schedule an appointment, call 255-2594.

Center Library Summer Safety Series

The Center Library will host its Summer Safety Series, an educational program for children. The first part of the series will take place May 31 at 10 a.m. – an electrical safety program presented by Alabama Power called Safe-T-Opolis. The second part of the series will be sun and water safety, and will be led by the Fort Rucker Aquatics staff, June 7 at 10 a.m. The third part of the series will be presented June 14

DFMWR Spotlight

Fort Rucker Family & MWR

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Fort Rucker MWR

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at 10 a.m. and children will learn how to be safe around dogs, as well as how to act when encountering therapy dogs. Registration is required for these programs and will be limited to the first 65 children to register. The events are Exceptional Family Member Program friendly and open to authorized patrons.

For more information or to register, stop by the library or call 255-3885.

Baby-Led Weaning Class

Army Community Service New Parent Support will offer its Baby-Led Weaning Class June 2 from 9-11 a.m. at the Munson Heights Community Center on Red Cloud Road. Topics include: nutrition for the nursing mother, starting solids and more. People need to register by May 27.

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

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR MAY 12-15			
Thursday, May 12	Friday, May 13	Saturday, May 14	Sunday, May 15
Eye In The Sky (R)7 p.m.	Captain America: Civil War (PG-13)4 & 7 p.m.	London Has Fallen (R)4 & 7 p.m.	My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2 (PG-13) 1 p.m. The Boss (R) 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.			

CELEBRATING 75

USO celebrates birthday with president, comedy stars

By Marine Corps Cpl. Cedric R. Haller II
Department of Defense News

JOINT BASE ANDREWS, Md. — President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden, the vice president's spouse, joined the USO in celebrating 75 years of service to America's troops and their families during a special entertainment show here yesterday.

To celebrate the milestone, the USO and Joining Forces invited comedian and former "Daily Show" host Jon Stewart to host a Celebration of Service Comedy Show.

"Tonight is about honoring (service members) and their service, and we're delighted to be here," Stewart said.

For 75 years, the USO has served the men and women in the U.S. military and their families throughout their service — from the moment they join, through their deployments and as they transition back to their communities.

"Seventy-five years ago, Bob Hope did his very first USO show for service members at (March Air Reserve Base) in California," said J.D. Crouch II, president and CEO of the USO. "As we turn 75, I think it's safe to say that we've put together a show that would make Bob Hope very proud."

The comedy show, kicked off by the president, recognized National Military Appreciation Month and served as a personal "thank you" to servicemen and women, and their families.

"I want to thank the USO for the outstanding work they've done for so many years, and it means so much to not only those in uniform, but also their families," the president said.

Obama then continued to express his gratitude and appreciation for the troops' efforts.

"This is a nice way for me to not just say thank you for your service, but give a particular thanks to (Joint Base Andrews), home of the 89th Airlift Wing, because Joe and I spend a little bit of time on this base," the president said.

"You guys are the ones who take care of



PHOTO BY EJ HERSOM

Retired Army Sgt. Albert Gonzalez sets pace for the Rescue 22 team during the Face of America bike ride.

our planes. You keep us on time — most of the time," Obama joked. "You're always the first ones to welcome us home. You mean so much to us and I'm so glad we're able to do something here so you guys know that we don't take you for granted."

The vice president spoke about how much his late son, Beau, appreciated the USO's efforts.

"After a year in Iraq, he set foot on American soil at Pease Air National Guard Base, New Hampshire," Biden said. "There was a long line of warriors standing there to salute his brigade as they got off, to say 'thank you, major, thank you.' He said it was the most meaningful thing that happened to him, getting off the plane and seeing everybody just standing there in the middle of the night to say 'welcome home.'"

As the USO enters its 75th year, its mission is the same as it was in 1941 — to strengthen America's service members by keeping them connected to family, home and country throughout their service.

In addition to commemorating the legacy of the USO, the show celebrated the fifth anniversary of Joining Forces and its work with the public and private sector to support service members, veterans and their families. Joining Forces works hand in hand with the public and private sectors to ensure that service members, veterans and their families have the tools they need to succeed throughout their lives.

"Five years ago, we at the USO had the distinct honor of assisting Mrs. Obama and Dr. Biden as they launched Joining Forces, a very successful initiative aimed at supporting not just our men and women in uniform, but their families," Crouch said. "When one member of the family serves, everyone serves."

USO staff and volunteers dedicate their time to ensure service members and their families feel at home by providing them with vital programs, entertainment and services at more than 180 USO locations worldwide.

"President Franklin Roosevelt, who

founded the USO 75 years ago, called it into existence by proclaiming this: 'Not by machines alone will we win this war.' He knew that troop morale would make the difference between World War II victory or the unthinkable," Crouch said. "Throughout five wars, countless military action and 75 years, it has been the profound privilege of the USO to be the force behind the forces that 13 presidents have called upon to serve as America's vital bridge from wherever (service members) are, back to the very things they signed up to defend: their families, their homes and our country."

Crouch said the USO was formed out of six service organizations to focus on active duty men, women and their families.

"I pledge to you that's what your USO will always do," he concluded.

Special guests at the show included former "Late Show" host David Letterman, writer/director Judd Apatow, and comedians Mike Birbiglia, Kristen Schaal, Hasan Minhaj, John Mulaney and Jeff Ross.

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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Museum commemorates 55th anniversary

Army Flier
Staff Reports

Montgomery's Freedom Rides Museum, 210 S. Court Street, will commemorate the 55th anniversary of the Freedom Rides May 20-21. Schedule: May 20, 10:23-11:15 a.m., commemorative program honoring Freedom Riders in front of the Freedom Rides Museum; 11 a.m., museum opens to the public for tours; 1:30-2:30 p.m., the legal side of the Freedom Ride,

Federal Courthouse, Judge Johnson's courtroom; 6-7:30 p.m., commemorative community program, First Baptist Church, 347 North Ripley; May 21, 8-10 a.m., Freedom Ride Bike Ride, 4-mile bike ride leaving from the Freedom Rides Museum, visiting sites throughout downtown Montgomery; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., book signings at the Freedom Rides Museum.

For more information, call 334-230-2676 or visit www.facebook.com/events/1726542950954971/.



WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT, EMAIL JIM HUGHES WITH ALL THE DETAILS AT JHUGHES@ARMYFLIER.COM.

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

JUNE-JULY — Southeast Alabama Community Theatre offers open registration open for children ages 5 and older to enroll in a week of acting and learning about theatre by putting on a show under the direction of camp instructors. Every child gets a part and every child has their moment in the spotlight in SEACT's original productions. At the end of the week, parents and friends are invited to enjoy the final productions and a cast party. Session dates are June 13-17, June 20-24, July 11-15, and July 18-22. Cost per week is \$120 – \$100 for season ticket holders. Registration forms and more information is available at www.SEACT.com. For more information, call 794-0400 or send an email to seact@seact.com. The

SEACT office and classrooms are located inside the Cultural Arts Center at 909 S. St. Andrews Street.

ONGOING — Ballroom dancing lessons are offered Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Center. Lessons will teach the Fox Trot, East Coast Swing, Rumba and Waltz. The cost will be \$2 per person per night. For more information, call 791-9407.

ONGOING — The Tri-States Coin Club meets the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the back room of Interco Coins located at 2314 Ross Clark Circle. Described as designed for all ages, the event begins with a short meeting followed by a coin auction. For more information, call 393-2376.

ENTERPRISE

ONGOING — Disabled American Veterans Chapter 9 Enterprise-Coffee County meets the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Shane's Rib Shack. For more information, call 308-2480.

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 73 meets at the American Legion building at 200 Gibson Street on the fourth Saturday of each month beginning at 9 a.m. The building is across the street from the Lee Street Baptist Church. For more information call 447-8507.

ONGOING — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6683, John Wiley Brock Post, membership meetings are at the post headquarters on County Road 537 every third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. For more information, call 406-3077, 393-6499 or 347-7076, or visit the VFW Post 6683 on Facebook.

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

MAY 21 — Marianna, Florida, will host its sixth annual Armed Forces Day Commemoration May 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Marianna Municipal Airport. Admission is free. There is a \$1 pancake and sausage breakfast for pilots from 8-10 a.m. and a \$1-per-gallon fuel discount (general aviation). Pilots can earn WINGS Credit by attending a FAASTeam Aviation Safety Seminar with free dinner May 20 from 6-9 p.m. at 3689 Industrial Park Drive, Marianna. People can register online at Faasafety.gov.

There will also be warbird and civilian aircraft displays, a CV-22 Tilt Rotor ground tour briefing, a drawing for 15 free rides in a Vietnam-era UH-1 Huey, and flights in a Cobra gunship for \$300. Army Aviation Heritage Foundation pilots will present the flights. Sky Dive Panama City will perform at noon and also the Red Dragon aerial demonstration team.

Wiregrass Chapter 1358 of the Experimental Association will provide free airplane flights for youth ages 8-17. Registration begins at 9 a.m. There will also be food, and arts and crafts vendors and people can take part in the Salute the Wounded 5K Fun Run Challenge.

Beyond Briefs

River Jam Music Festival

The River Jam Music Festival is scheduled for May 20-21 in Montgomery – admission is free. The event is presented by Wind Creek Montgomery and the Alabama Roots Music Society. The acts for May 20 at 6 p.m. the Union Station Train Shed include The Tailsman, BPM, Spike Graham, and Lisa and the E-Lusions. May 21, at 5:30 p.m. at the Riverfront Amphitheater, the acts include Corey Harris, Josh Hoyer and Soul Colossal, Shawn Mullins and Bloodkin, and at 6 p.m. at the Union Station Train Shed the acts include Queen Delphine and the Crown Jewels, Linnzi Zaorski, Zina Moses and Rue Fiya.

For more information, call 334-625-2100, or visit www.funinmontgomery.com/announcements/river-jam.

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>.

Montgomery Film Festival

The Montgomery Film Festival is scheduled for June 4 at 6 p.m. at the Capri Theatre, 1045 E. Fairview Avenue. The festival provides an opportunity for filmmakers and film lovers to show their creativity and support for the good, the great and the weird, according to officials. The festival will feature 13 works of amateur and professional filmmakers within Alabama, the U.S. and internationally in short film format. Tickets cost

\$8 for Capri Members and \$10 for general admission.

For more information, call 334-262-4858 or visit www.montgomeryfilmfestival.com/.

Hank Williams Festival

The Hank Williams Festival is scheduled for June 3-4 on the grounds of the singer's boyhood home and museum in Georgiana. The tribute to Alabama's native son includes country music performances, arts, crafts and food. To reach the festival from I-65, take Exit 114 and go one mile east.

For more information, visit <http://www.hankwilliamsfestival.com>.

Women's Expo

Panama City, Florida, will host its free 10th annual Women's Expo June 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Panama City Mall, 2150 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The event honors local women entrepreneurs and small businesses, and includes vendors, local entertainment, free health screenings and a silent auction.

Calera, Shelby Railroad

Now through Sept. 24, people can board a historical train and enjoy a ride on the old L&N railroad tracks from the 1800s through the forests of Shelby County, and view the artifacts and library that are located in restored depots. Train tickets cost \$14 for adults and \$10 for children. Museum entry is free of charge.

For more information visit, <http://www.HODRRM.org>.

Montgomery Biscuits baseball

The Montgomery Biscuits are a Double A affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays and play in Riverwalk Stadium in downtown Montgomery. Various specials and promotions are offered throughout the season. For more information, visit <http://www.biscuitsbaseball.com>.

'Hoofing for Heroes'

Theatre on Tap will present its production of "Hoofing for Heroes" – tap dancing, music and vocals – May

26-29 at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts Lupin Hall with free admission for active and retired military members, although spouses and others will need to pay admission. According to organizers, stars, stripes and salutes will storm the stage during the all-American production that honors all the men and women of the U.S. armed forces and benefits the Wounded Warrior Project®. The show offers appreciation through an evening of song and dance that includes a spectacular star-spangled salute from 22 tap dancers accompanied by a seven-piece jazz ensemble.

Times are May 26-28 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. and May 29 from 2-4 p.m. Admission is \$20 for military spouses, \$15 for students, \$25 for seniors and \$30 for adults.

For more information, visit www.theatreontap.com/hoofing-for-heroes.

Second Friday Art Walk

Mobile's Second Friday LoDa Art Walk celebrates the arts downtown. The free monthly showcase of visual and performance arts starts at 6 p.m. second Friday of every month now until Dec. 9, when galleries, restaurants, shops, institutions, etc., in the Lower Dauphin Arts District open their doors for a family-friendly evening of exhibitions and entertainment by area artists.

For more information, visit <http://www.facebook.com/LODAartwalk>.

Jasmine Hill Gardens

Jasmine Hill Gardens and Outdoor Museum features over 20 acres of year-round floral beauty and classical sculpture, including a new statuary honoring Olympic heroes. People are invited to take a stroll through the outdoor gardens and experience flowers blooming throughout each season. Tours are available for groups of 20 or more.

For more information, call 334-263-5713 or visit www.jasminehill.org/. Jasmine Hill Gardens and Outdoor Museum is located at 3001 Jasmine Hill Road, Wetumpka.

SOUND OFF

Top spouse blasting airwaves to motivate husbands

By Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army's spouse of the year is on a mission to motivate other husbands into action.

Dave Etter was named the 2016 spouse of the year for the Army by Armed Forces Insurance and he was recognized May 5 at a ceremony on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Virginia. He's the first husband to capture this honor for the Army.

His wife of 16 years, Sgt. Stephanie Etter, is a respiratory therapist at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, and he is leader of the hospital's family support group for C Company.

There are about 110,000 males married to service members and Etter said less than 1 percent are actively involved in family support groups. He should know — he's made a career of sorts citing statistics about male military spouses. He has a two-hour weekly radio show aimed at providing resources to these male spouses.

His "Male Military Spouse Radio Show" streams live every Fri-



PHOTO BY KEVIN WOLF (REPRINTED HERE AND ON ANY MILITARY PUBLICATION WITH PERMISSION OF AP IMAGES)

Army Spouse of the Year Dave Etter stands on stage May 5 next to spouses of the year from other services at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va. Right of him is Military Spouse of the Year Natasha Harth, representing the Marine Corps. To her right is Michelle Aikman, Air Force spouse of the year. Far left is outgoing 2015 MSOY Corie Weathers from the Army. Right of her is Lindsay Bradford, this year's Air Force spouse of the year, then Cara Loken of the National Guard and in the blue is Jennifer Mullen, Coast Guard SOY.

day when it's recorded and can be accessed anytime as a podcast on Blog Talk Radio. Etter has been doing the show for about a year and a half now with co-host Jay Ha'o.

Husbands call into the show with issues and questions. About two to seven husbands call in each week and Etter believes

many more need assistance because they don't quite have the support network female spouses have.

Guys are sometimes left out in the cold at family readiness group meetings, he said. Sometimes the activities just aren't designed for men. "So, if a guy spouse shows up, what does he do? He's a wall-

flower. A dynamic FRG leader will make sure that guy is welcomed into the group." That's what he does, of course.

He has volunteered more than 1,200 hours with the military. He was also an FRG leader with the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and he took master resilience training there.

He was part of a pilot program of 32 spouses who took the training and became qualified resilience counselors.

Etter is a Navy veteran and former submariner. He's a member of the American Legion and he's dedicated 7,000 volunteer hours as a scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts of America.

As the Army spouse of the year, he plans to put together a resource library of best practices for military spouses worldwide. He also plans to soon start up a second radio program for spouses.

"I'm an old radio broadcaster," Etter said. About 20 years ago he was the program director for a country-music radio station in Safford, Arizona.

"I've been doing radio — anything behind a microphone — since I was a freshman in high school." That was in 1973.

Later this year he plans to begin a new radio show co-hosted by Susan Reynolds, an Air Force spouse. "Spouse Spouts" will aim to provide resources to both male and female military spouses.

"It will be available for anyone and everyone to call," Etter said.

Recruits take Oath of Enlistment center court

By GERALYN SMITH NOAH
Installation Management Command
Public Affairs

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS — Thirty-five recruits took their Oath of Enlistment at center court during a recent San Antonio Spurs vs. Miami Heat game at the AT&T Center.

Representing the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and the Texas National Guard, the recruits were special guests at the military appreciation night game hosted by the San Antonio Spurs and USAA. The Deputy Commanding General of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, Maj. Gen. La-

warren Patterson, administered the oath.

The recruits were commanded by Maj. Jeremiah Pope and 1st Sgt. Richard Cabrera of the San Antonio Military Entrance Processing Station, where they had been processed to determine their physical qualifications, aptitude and moral standards as set by each branch of military service, the Department of Defense and federal law.

Before presiding over the oath, Patterson said, "I extend my utmost gratitude to these incredible young men and women who have elected to serve their nation in the armed forces, and to the parents who are supporting their unselfish desire to serve."

Afterwards, Patterson remarked, "It was

my sincere honor to have participated," and thanked USAA and the San Antonio Spurs for sponsoring the event.

John Bird, senior vice president of military affairs at USAA, remarked that the enlistment ceremony was "one of many events hosted by USAA and the San Antonio Spurs to honor military members."

Recently, military members took part in combine drills with Spurs coaches, and Spurs guard Danny Green visited Lackland Air Force Base. Bird also mentioned

that two Gold Star Children — children of a service member who died in the line of duty — were honorary co-captains at a recent Spurs game.

USAA-San Antonio is the Official Military Appreciation Partner with the San Antonio Spurs. The Installation Management Command, headquartered at Fort Sam Houston, integrates and delivers base support to enable readiness for a globally-responsive Army by providing programs and services to installations world-wide.

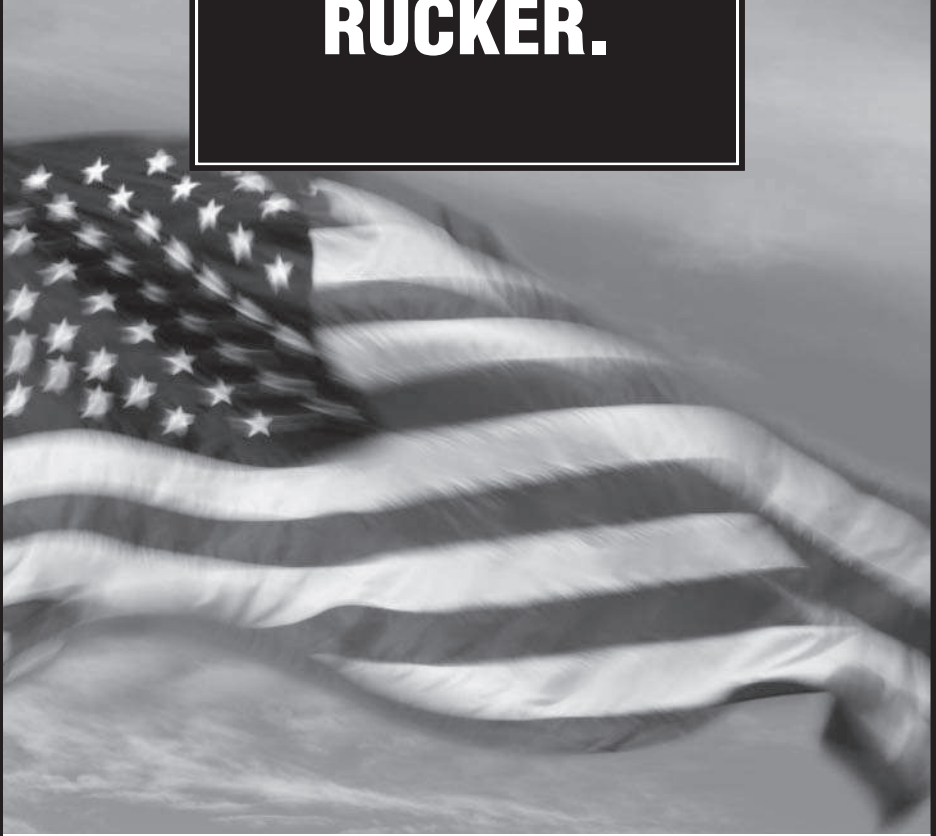


PHOTO BY TIM HIPPS

Thirty-five recruits take their Oath of Enlistment, administered by Maj. Gen. Lawarren Patterson of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, at center court during a recent San Antonio Spurs vs. Miami Heat game.

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RALLY DENIED

Buccaneers edge past Nite Nailers, 15-14

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Fort Rucker Intramural Softball Season has hit its stride as teams continue to battle for position in the chase for the championship title.

The B Company, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment Buccaneers took on the 23rd Flying Training Squadron Nite Nailers, and although the Buccaneers earned the victory, 15-14, the Nite Nailers didn’t go down without a fight.

“I think it was a good game,” said Chris Connors, coach for the Buccaneers. “They tried to make a rally with some good hits and everybody fought through it. Some personal satisfaction for me as a coach was just that everyone was able to show up and play as a team.”

The Buccaneers were first to the plate and got off to a strong start, getting on base with the first few at bats. The Nite Nailers’ defenders struggled as they let the ball slip through their fingers, allowing the Bucs the chance to bring in run after run early in the game.

Although the 23rd FTS team managed to rack up three outs, it wasn’t good enough to stop the 1-13th from bringing in three runs

before heading into the outfield.

The Nite Nailers took to the plate with an aggressive start to make up for lost ground and managed to get players on base by putting the ball everywhere the opposition wasn’t, and a triple allowed them to bring in a run, but that was as far as they would advance as the Buccaneers tightened their defense and sent them back into the field, down 3-1.

The 1-13th didn’t lose momentum as they managed base hit after base hit. With the bases loaded, they managed a triple to bring in three more runs to extend their lead. They managed a couple more runs during the inning to pull even further ahead before a play at third ended their streak, now up 8-1.

The Nite Nailers had a lot of ground to cover to catch up, but they showed their determination by getting a double right out the gate and then bringing in a run shortly thereafter to show they were still in the game.

Despite having two outs, the 23rd FTS managed to keep getting on base and brought in another run, ending the inning down by five runs.

The Buccaneers wouldn’t be intimidated, though, as they continued their onslaught, managing to keep the bases loaded to bring in



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Sebastian Hernandez, player for the Buccaneers, slides into home plate to bring in a run for his team during an intramural softball game against the 23rd FTS Nite Nailers at the Fort Rucker Softball Fields Tuesday.

two runs and a sacrifice before a third out ended their streak, leading 11-3.

In the bottom of the third, the Nite Nailers had to step up their game if they wanted to avoid the 10-run mercy rule that would take effect after the fifth inning, but things weren’t looking up as they managed to rack up two outs with two at bats.

They weren’t down and out yet, however, as they managed to keep the ball out of their opponent’s hands to bring in two runs before a pop fly to center field ended their time at the plate, trailing 11-5.

Going into the fourth, the Buccaneers still had a substantial lead but managed to rack up two outs right away with a strikeout and a pop up to left field, but despite the outs, they managed to load the bases and bring in another run before their third out.

This was the Nite Nailers opportunity to close the scoring gap, and they got off to a good start with a two-run home run to now only trail by four runs.

They continued their streak, managing to keep the ball out of their opponents’ hands to bring in two more runs before ending the

inning within reach of the Buccaneers, 12-10.

The Buccaneers got off to a rough start in the fifth with a strikeout and a pop up to right field for two outs, and despite a base hit, another pop up to center field sent them packing with their first scoreless inning.

This was prime time for the 23rd FTS to take the lead for the first time in the game, but they were unable to seize the opportunity and also ended the inning with no runs.

It was still anybody’s game, and the Bucs were fighting hard to keep ahead of their opponents, and they did just that by bringing in three more runs to extend their lead to 15-10 before their third out.

The Nite Nailers didn’t show signs of slowing, though, as they took to the plate determined to stay in the game and they managed to get players on base to bring in runs to stay on their opponents’ heels.

The Buccaneers defense faltered with error after error, allowing the 23rd FTS to creep closer and closer, but their last-minute rally wouldn’t be enough to take the win as the 1-13th defense tightened to get the final out of the game and the win, 15-14.

HERO OF MILITARY MEDICINE

Army orthopedic surgeon cited as hero for ‘shining light’ on combat care

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — “More than any other crucible, war brings out the worst and best of mankind,” said the vice chief of staff of the Army. “Without question, it is our military medical professionals who reflect the amazing light of creativity, compassion and exquisite care, and it is especially brilliant in these darkest moments.”

Gen. Daniel B. Allyn was named as a “Hero of Military Medicine, Senior Leader Honoree,” May 5 during the Heroes of Military Medicine Awards banquet in Washington.

“For 35 years as an infantryman, I’ve experienced firsthand the skill, ingenuity and passion of our medical professionals across the joint force,” Allyn said. “I’ve seen corpsmen, medics, doctors, nurses and technicians from all services leverage their craft to save lives under the most demanding environments on the face of the Earth.”

Included among those medical professionals is Col. Martha K. Lenhart. She is an orthopedic surgeon, has a PhD in pathophysiology and specializes in hand surgery. She is also responsible for publication of numerous medical books.

Lenhart was named the “U.S. Army Hero of Military Medicine” during the same event, and introduced Brig. Gen. Robert D. Tenhet, the deputy surgeon general of the Army and the deputy commanding general (support) of U.S. Army Medical Command.

“All our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines have the opportunity to represent our country as diplomats,” Tenhet said. “During her Afghanistan deployment, Colonel Lenhart recognized the need for a focused approach to management of the injuries of infants and children in combat scenarios.”

Out of her experience there, Tenhet said Lenhart spearheaded publication of a book that would be “the first-ever pediatric military medicine book,” called “Pediatric Surgery and Medicine for Hostile Environments.” That book was cited by the American Medical Writers Association as “the book most likely to save a life.”

The book informs other doctors around the world about ways to provide better care for injured infants and children in combat environments.

“Some would question why we in Army medicine would ever have a pediatric orthopedic hand surgeon specialist in our ranks and what possibly that could bring to the fight,” Tenhet said. “Colonel Lenhart’s actions answered that question loud and clear. By looking at the battlefield’s casualties through the lens of a pediatric hand surgeon, she viewed the chaos in ways others did not. She saw not only a medical need, but a humanitarian need, as well. And she did something about it.

“There are people in Iraq and Afghanistan who noticed and the long-range diplomatic effects can be numerous. No amount of political propaganda can displace the emotional connectives that occur when one human connects to another human in a supportive, compassionate, and caring way,” he added.

Lenhart served in Afghanistan in 2003 at Bagram Air Base, early on in the conflict, before the invasion of



PHOTO BY C. TODD LOPEZ

Col. (Dr.) Martha K. Lenhart (right) and her husband, retired Air Force Col. (Dr.) James Cox Jr., attended the 2016 Heroes of Military Medicine Awards May 5. Lenhart was named the U.S. Army Hero of Military Medicine.

Iraq.

“I walked into our tent hospital, our combat support hospital, and it was filled with local national children,” Lenhart said. “That was my first exposure to Afghanistan, to the combat support hospital and to our patient load, which was largely children.”

Their facilities were set up then for adults – adult Soldiers. But, at the time, she said, there were “very few Soldiers.”

“You needed to improvise, in terms of what we did surgically,” she said. “We needed to adapt some of the instruments. We also developed some ambulatory devices for some of these children. I’d draw a picture and work with our medical maintenance staff, because he would engineer it. He’d engineer this equipment.”

One example, she said, was for a patient with a single-leg amputation and forearm injury who couldn’t use crutches appropriately without putting inappropriate weight on the injured forearm. They had to adapt the crutches to make them the correct height, but also adjusted them to allow those crutches to be used to not put weight on the forearm.

Later, in Iraq and Afghanistan, there was the Rapid Equipping Force that could bring gear in to make it easier to produce novel equipment, on the fly. But not back then, she said. “There was no 3-D printing then. There was no equipment like that. We were in a tent hospital. I slept in a GP medium tent.”

Lack of supplies in Afghanistan was exacerbated, she said, when the war in Iraq kicked off.

“At the time, it was so surreal. I was in Afghanistan, watching the invasion of Iraq on TV in the morale, welfare and recreation tent,” she said. “We watched U.S. troops go into Iraq. What happened subsequently was

Pathologist offers parents advice for managing family technology use

By Jenny Stripling
Lyster Army Health Clinic Public Affairs Office

With new data showing that a majority of speech-language pathologists say children’s preoccupation with today’s personal technology is qualitatively different from past generations’ distractions of choice, such as television – with greater potential for harm, Lyster Army Health Clinic’s speech-language pathologist program urges parents to implement some basic tech rules in their households to make time for verbal communication.

This advice is especially timely given that May is Better Hearing and Speech Month, said, Nancee Dixon, Educational and Developmental Intervention Services.

Among the top concerns for surveyed speech-language pathologists is that excessive technology use by children is replacing conversation and human interaction. The most basic of activities, such conversation and interaction is essential to children’s speech and language development as well as future academic and social success, Dixon said.

Unfortunately, the availability and convenience of tablets and other children-friendly devices may be supplanting time for talking, reading, and interactive play. This is where the concerns to communication development come into play, she added.

“A trip to the supermarket, downtime in a doctor’s waiting room, or a ride in the car are ideal times to point out new objects, ask your child questions and generally converse – all of which contribute to children’s speech and language development,” said Dixon. “It’s important that parents stay mindful of these learning opportunities and not allow tech time to encroach on such daily opportunities – tempting as it may be to keep a child occupied. Even if a child is playing an ‘educational’ game on a device, nothing replaces what is learned through person-to-person communication.”

Maintaining a realistic approach, a vast majority of speech-language pathologists (73 percent) said the solution to children’s tech overuse is to encourage parents to set reasonable parameters and model safe technology usage at home, she added. A small num-

SEE TECH, PAGE D3



COURTESY GRAPHIC

SEE HERO, PAGE D3

DOWN TIME



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

TRIVIA

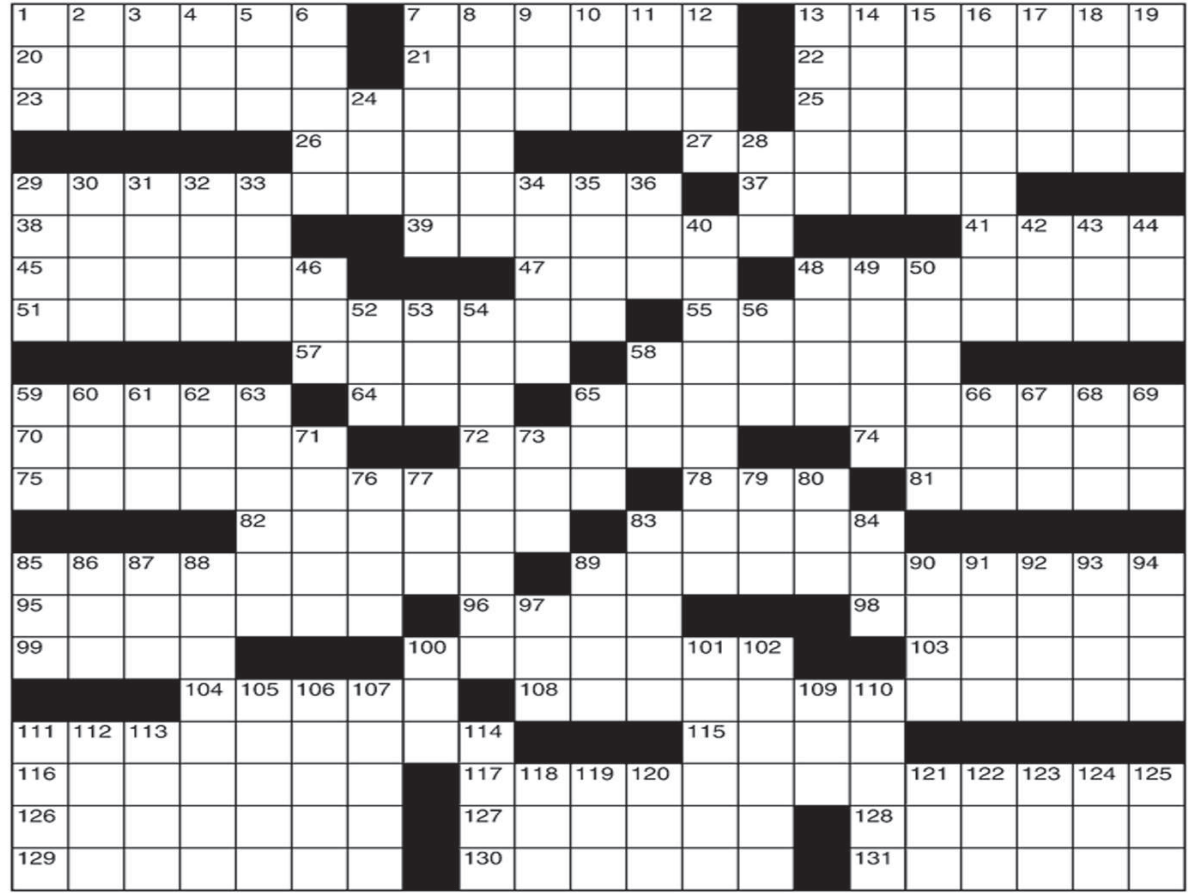
1. GAMES: What are the odds of getting four cards of a kind in five-card poker?
2. EXPLORERS: Where was the explorer Marco Polo born?
3. SCIENCE: What is the green pigment in plants called?
4. MYTHOLOGY: Which of the Greek Muses was associated with history?
5. GEOMETRY: What is a polygon with eight sides?
6. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the average gestation period of a hamster?
7. GEOGRAPHY: What is the only river that flows both north and south of the equator?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which of Santa's reindeer comes last in the list alphabetically?
9. LITERATURE: Who wrote the 19th-century novel "Sense and Sensibility"?
10. ASTRONOMY: What planet is closest in size to our moon?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword

SELF-CONTAINED SYNONYMS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Do another shoot of
 - 7 "2001" co-star Keir
 - 13 Deli hangers
 - 20 Person de-wrinkling
 - 21 Narcissist
 - 22 Sea dog
 - 23 It aptly contains the letters
 - R-A-I-N ...
 - 25 Dustin Hoffman film
 - 26 Lab aide with a hump
 - 27 ... O-P-E-N
 - 29 ... M-U-T-E
 - 37 "Failure is — option"
 - 38 Apiary units
 - 39 Understand, in London
 - 41 "No need to wake me!"
 - 45 Think up
 - 47 — Soviet relations
 - 48 Slate wipers
 - 51 ... T-A-I-N-T
 - 55 ... U-G-L-Y
 - 57 Like a sheep
 - 58 Bring up, as a subject
 - 59 AOL delivery
 - 64 Deer cousin
 - 65 ... F-I-C-T-I-O-N
- DOWN**
- 1 Tear
 - 2 Slip or trip
 - 3 Hostile force
 - 4 Magazine for an exec
 - 5 Necklace of flowers
 - 6 "— Passes By" (A.A. Milne play)
 - 7 Alternate route
 - 8 Lorre's role in "Casa-blanca"
 - 9 Auction set
 - 10 Cicero's card count?
 - 11 "— Beso (That Kiss!)"
 - 12 With 90-Down, free
 - 13 — voce (under one's breath)
 - 14 "It's — cause"
 - 15 Drug used to treat Parkinson's
 - 16 Flabbergast
 - 17 Face hider
 - 18 "Why would —?"
 - 19 Bygone British gun
 - 24 "Can — now?"
 - 28 French "a"
 - 29 In vogue
 - 30 Resort island near Venice
 - 31 Cake baker
 - 32 Sofa or pew
 - 33 This, to Juan
 - 34 Swiftless
 - 35 Wiesel who wrote "Night"
 - 36 Clangor
 - 40 Lip-puckering jawbreakers
 - 42 Fulfilled
 - 43 Hi-tech bookmark
 - 44 — Ops
 - 46 Post-punk genre
 - 48 Morales of the screen
 - 49 "Pan Am" star Christina
 - 50 Terrified
 - 52 "— seen worse"
 - 53 None at all
 - 54 Like kiddie-pool water, often
 - 56 Partner of neither
 - 58 Misbehaving
 - 59 Seer's power
 - 60 Body of eau
 - 61 Meth- ending
 - 62 Method ending
 - 63 Arise quickly
 - 65 Wray of film
 - 66 AAA service
 - 67 Land in l'Atlantique
 - 68 Bardic work
 - 69 After-tax
 - 71 Novelist
 - 73 See 77-Down
 - 76 Writer Leon
 - 77 With 73-Down, early portrayer of Tarzan
 - 79 Procured
 - 80 Farming-related: Abbr.
 - 83 Poison from a snake
 - 84 Addition total
 - 85 Plan (out)
 - 86 Tax Day mo.
 - 87 — Lanka
 - 88 Plebeian
 - 89 Actress Delany
 - 90 See 12-Down
 - 91 Sci-fi empath Deanna
 - 92 Engrossed by
 - 93 Home to Honolulu
 - 94 Science guy
 - 97 Prickly husk
 - 100 Cardinal's cap abbr.
 - 101 WWII ship sinks
 - 102 Revolving gun holder
 - 105 Emerge
 - 106 Library gizmo
 - 107 Huge gulf
 - 109 Modern: Prefix
 - 110 Ticking thing
 - 111 Brinker of kid-lit
 - 112 Harbinger
 - 113 Pixar title fish
 - 114 Barely made, with "out"
 - 118 Flying expert
 - 119 Rebel Turner
 - 120 College sr.'s test
 - 121 Try to win
 - 122 NHL great Bobby
 - 123 Sushi eggs
 - 124 Genetic stuff
 - 125 — Antonio

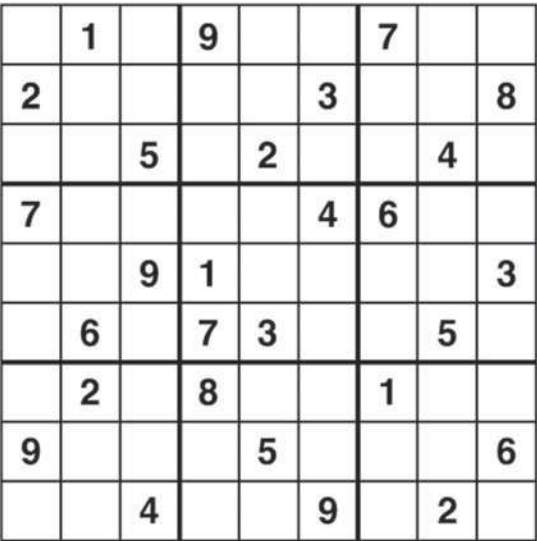


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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

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.

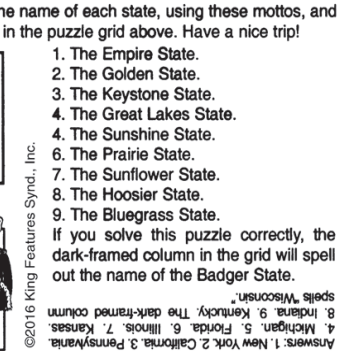
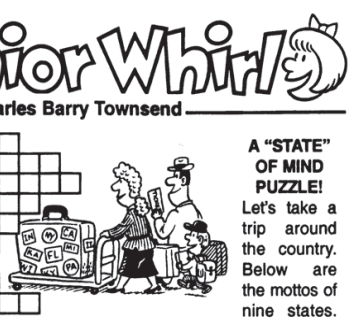
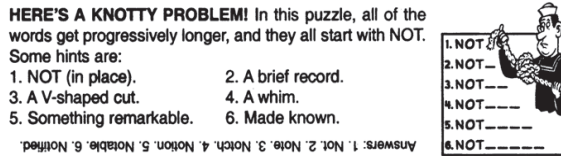
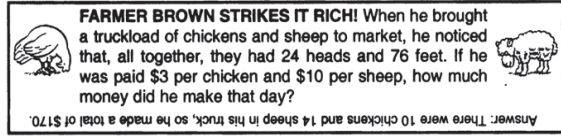
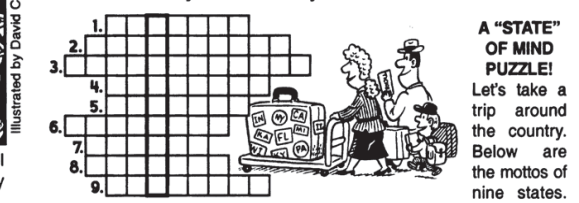
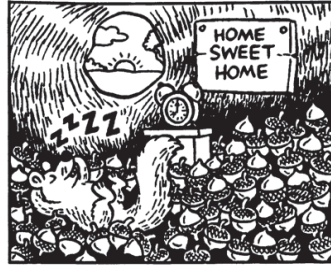
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

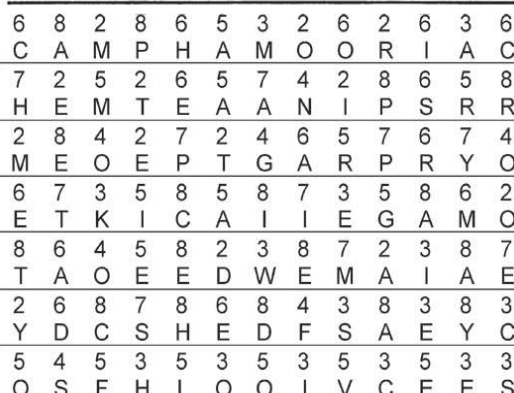
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



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Soldier hopes to win gold for USA

By Shannon Collins
Department of Defense News

WASHINGTON — A former Soldier set records at the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games as the first-ever female gold medalist in archery and the highest individual scorer ever in the coed competition.

Former Spc. Chasity Kuczer helped her Army team earn gold in the team competition, as well. She also earned gold medals in the women’s seated discus throw and discus in track and field and gold medals in team swimming and a silver medal for the backstroke.

Kuczer hopes to continue her streak in archery for Team America at the 2016 Invictus Games this week at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

Kuczer said she has had several surgeries since Warrior Games last year, but she’s been working up her strength and shooting.

“I’ve been shooting considerably higher scores than last year,” she said. “I want to get gold – I’ve been training for gold. We’ll have to see how the cards fall.”



PHOTO BY EJ HERSOM

Former Spc. Chasity Kuczer shoots her way to gold at the 2015 DOD Warrior Games.

More than 500 wounded, ill and injured service members from 15 nations will compete in 10 sporting events as they are cheered on by thousands of family members, friends and spectators.

Growing up in Seymour, Wisconsin, Kuczer said she practically grew up with a bow in one hand and a shotgun in the other.

The locomotive mechanic said she’s been shooting archery since she was 4 and grew up shooting shotguns, rifle and skeet.

“I did archery competitions – I

went to nationals in 2010 for trap skeet and sporting clays,” she said. “I also went to nationals for archery in 2008. I was the top four in the state and then the top 25 percent at nationals.”

For shooting competitions, she said she used 22s. She loved to shoot skeet, but now it’s difficult for her because of her injury.

Kuczer works on the electric, maintenance, generators and engines on trains for the Army. “I know how to operate a train, as well,” she said with a smile.

Because of her work on the trains, lifting heavy objects and going up and down heavy steps, she obtained a bilateral labral tear and had to have surgeries to her hips.

“I have problems with my hips, sciatica, nerve damage and problems with my lower back,” she said. The hardest part for Kuczer as she recovered from her surgeries was not being outdoors, skeet shooting.

“The surgeries kind of put me back, but adaptive sports at the (Warrior Transition Battalion) made me realize I can do other events. I can still be very active and partake in other sports,” she said. “I just needed to stay strong and positive.”

Kuczer said she’s honored to represent the Army and America and is confident in her chances.

“At the end of the day, I want to know I did my best,” she said. “I’ve been training extremely hard. I’ve been practicing shooting, along with shooting in competitions, and when I don’t shoot, I weight train.”

She said her dad, step-mom and two little sisters will be at the In-

victus Games to watch her compete.

“They are really proud of how I’ve been shooting and for what I’ve accomplished,” Kuczer said. “They said it’s great to see me smile again like I used too, to see something good coming out of something bad. It’s nice seeing how I’m an inspiration to my little sisters.”

Kuczer said adaptive sports like the Invictus Games are important for wounded warriors and have had a big impact on her.

“Adaptive sports and being part of the Warrior Games last year was a great experience,” she said. “I have met some of the greatest people on Earth who I am proud to call my family.”

Kuczer recommends adaptive sports to any wounded warriors who may be considering them.

“They save lives, bring people out of dark times and show them that I may be broken, but I can still play sports and be competitive,” she said. “Most of all, they put them with people who understand and push you to do better, be stronger and not to give up the fight.”

Hero

Continued from Page D1

that our supply lines were diverted. We had a difficult time getting some of the surgical supplies we needed.

“The junior officer who was an orthopedic surgeon and who had just graduated from his residency was my partner there,” she said. “He’d been a rotor-wing pilot before he’d gone into orthopedics – a really great guy. We’re standing at the scrub sink and lamenting the fact that our supplies weren’t what we wanted. And I said

to him ‘we’re going to have to improvise,’ and he counters, ‘we weren’t already?’”

Lenhart served in both Iraq and Afghanistan, and at least two books came out of those experiences. She served as the director and editor in chief of “Pediatric Surgery and Medicine for Hostile Environments” and also as editor in chief of the award-winning “War Surgery in Afghanistan and Iraq.”

On the latter, she said, in order to get that book out to medical providers as fast as possible, she worked with the Army to

get the book distributed digitally into the field in advance of the availability of paper copies – though that happened, too.

“It was the first time they had ever transmitted a book like that through the Theater Data Medical System,” she said.

For medical professionals who have never served in combat environments, she provided this advice: “You have to be very cognizant of your circumstances, use your resources wisely, and be able to improvise, but do it in a smart way. You must understand the mechanics, and un-

derstand the anatomy, and understand what it is you are trying to accomplish in those particular areas, and know that what it is you are doing in certain cases isn’t the definitive surgery, but rather it is a stabilizing procedure so that you can then transport these casualties to higher levels of care.”

Lenhart said she accepted the award “on behalf of thousands of heroes who have served and continue to serve our country, ensure its safety and contribute to the welling of troops.”

Tech

Continued from Page D1

ber (2 percent) advocate for tightly restricting children’s technology usage.

“We know that technology is here to stay, but consider when you can carve out some dedicated tech-free time each day,” Dixon added.

In addition to implementing basic tech measures, she asks parents, especially those of young children, to use

May as a time to assess their children’s communication development and familiarize themselves with the signs of speech and language disorders. These are among the most common conditions young children experience, and they are highly treatable. However, it is important that parents not delay should they have concerns.

“Some parents may not take action about a speech delay until a child is 3 or older, even though they may have had concerns for a year or longer at that point,” Dixon

said. “Any parents with a concern should seek an assessment from a speech-language pathologist right away for the best possible outcome.”

For more information about communication milestones, visit <http://identifythesigns.org>.

To set up an interview with EDIS for developmental issues, including communication from birth to age 3, and EDIS Child Find for ages 3-5, call the EDIS Clinic at Lyster AHC at 255-7237.

FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRIEFS

Youth Fitness Extravaganza

Fort Rucker Youth Sports will host its Youth Fitness Extravaganza Monday, Wednesday, and May 20, 23, 25 and 26 for youth ages 7-18 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the youth football field on Ruf Avenue. Medals will be awarded to first-, second- and third-place finishers in various age categories. Activities include pushups, sit ups, agility drills, jump roping, tractor pushes, tire flips, sprints and more. People can register at parent central services or through Webtrac – deadline to register is Friday.

For more information or to sign-up, call 255-2254 or 255-9638.

Mother’s Day Fitness

Fortenberry-Colton Fitness Center will host a day for mothers to try fitness classes for free Friday. 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 Saturday 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 \$25.

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 Saturday; \$25 Sunday 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.

Free golf lesson

People looking for some quick tips on

how to build their golf skills can receive a free 10-minute lesson from PGA Professional Dale Wiggins at Silver Wings Golf Course May 21 from 4-6 p.m. For an appointment, call 598-2449.

Memorial Day Flag Tournament

Silver Wings Golf Course will host its Memorial Day Flag Tournament May 28 with tee times from 7-9 a.m. People can call the golf shop to schedule a tee time to participate in our flag event. Players will receive a flag with their name and target score. Target score is determined by taking 100-percent of a player’s handicap and adding it to par – a 12 handicap would have a target score of 84: handicap + par 72. When players reach their target score, they place the flag where the ball comes to rest. Participants can register as late as 9 a.m. the day of the tournament. Entry costs \$5, plus green fees and cart fee. Players must have a valid handicap. Prizes will be awarded based on the number of participants.

For more information, call 598-2449.

Registration for British Soccer Camp

Fort Rucker Youth Sports is partnering with Challenger Sports to bring the British Soccer Camp to the post May 31 to June

3. Registration for the camp runs now through May 26. There are four camp options. Youth are required to have a child, youth and school services membership and a current youth sports physical. Registration may be done on the WebTrac or at parent central services in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 193. Youth who register before Friday will receive an official British soccer jersey.

For more information, call 255-2257 or 255-2254.

Memorial Day Stars and Strikes

Rucker Lanes will host its Stars and Strikes special May 30 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. People can bowl for 25 cents per game and get 50-cent shoe rentals. For more information, call 255-9503.

Fort Rucker Softball Tournament

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host a softball tournament June 4 at 8 a.m. at the softball complex on Andrews Avenue. There is a \$200 entry fee per team. No more than 21 players can be on a team roster and participation is limited to the first 16 teams to enter. The deadline to enter is June 1. U-trip rules and three-home run rule will apply. The tournament is open to the public.

For more information, call 255-2296.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

REFILM	DULLEA	SALAMIS
IRONER	EGOIST	OLDSALT
PRECIPITATION	TOOTSIE	
IGOR	OUTSPOKEN	
CLOSEMOUTHED	NOTAN	
HIVES	REALISE	IMUP
IDEATE	SINO	ERASERS
CONTAMINATE	UNSIGHTLY	
OVINE	BROACH	
EMAIL	ELK	FABRICATION
SENSEI	LEADA	ISOLDE
PREMATURELY	LGA	TWEET
PARODY	VLOGS	
MASCULINE	DESTRUCTION	
APPROPOS	EBAN	MORNAY
PRIM	SPUNOUT	SOTHE
MADAT	RIAMBUNG	TIOUS
HONORABLE	OREL	
AMENITY	KANGAROO	WORDS
NEMESSES	ECARTE	CORONA
SNORERS	DETEST	KOREAN

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Trivia

Answers

- 4,164 to 1
- Venice, Italy
- Chlorophyll
- Clio
- An octagon
- About 16 days
- The Congo
- Vixen
- Jane Austen
- Mercury

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