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visits Fort Rucker



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ARMY FLYER

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

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FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

JUNE 16, 2016

CELEBRATING FREEDOM

“Silver Wings,” Crossfire set to celebrate USA

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

Freedom Fest waits just around the corner and the 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band has spent months preparing to give their best performance of the year in honor of the nation’s freedom.

“Freedom Fest is our pièce de résistance, so to speak,” said Staff Sgt. Christine Permenter, Crossfire vocalist and leader. “For Crossfire, it is our biggest venue and our greatest performance in terms of reaching out to the Soldiers and patrons of the Wiregrass area. We work tirelessly for months for this performance so that we can put out the best

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COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band’s popular music ensemble, Crossfire, pose for a quick photo during practice in preparation for Freedom Fest July 1.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Fireworks explode over Fort Rucker during Freedom Fest at the festival fields last year.

Freedom Fest features food, fun, music

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

Freedom Fest returns to the Fort Rucker’s Festival Fields July 1 with food, live music, fun for all ages and one of the best fireworks displays in the Wiregrass.

Aida Stallings, Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation business manager, said the annual event is the perfect opportunity for Soldiers and families to celebrate the nation’s independence and experience a full day of local entertainment.

SEE FUN, PAGE A6



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Chloey Duffy, military family member, sits in an armored truck as then-Spc. Zac Christianson, 6th Military Police Detachment, helps her mother, Jordan, snap a photo during Freedom Fest at the festival fields last year.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Sgt. Maj. Antoine Duchatelier, B Company, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment; CW5 Doug Savell, Air Traffic Services Command, representing the oldest service member in attendance; Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general; and 2nd Lt. Andrew Fini, D Co, 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt., representing the youngest service member in attendance, cut the Army birthday cake Tuesday in honor of the Army’s 241st birthday at The Landing Zone.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AIM HIGH-ABOVE THE BEST

Air Force unit welcomes former Soldier as new commander

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Joint operations drives today’s military force, and Fort Rucker’s role in those efforts was apparent as Soldiers, Airmen families and friends welcomed a new Air Force commander to the installation.

Air Force Lt. Col. James L. Grigson assumed command of the 23rd Flying Training Squadron from Air Force Lt. Col. Jerry L. Crigger during a change of command ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum Friday.

Col. Shelley A. Rodriguez, 58th Operations Group commander, presided over the ceremony and welcomed the new commander while she bid farewell to Crigger.

“(Grigson), you’ve got big shoes to fill,” she said. “You’ve got a great squadron to lead, and you’ve got to



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Col. Shelley A. Rodriguez, 58th Operations Group commander, passes the unit colors to Lt. Col. James L. Grigson, 23rd Flying Training Squadron commander.

guide and mentor it to a level even higher than it is, and I have no doubt that you’ll do this. It’s a tremendous challenge, but I know you’re up to the task.”

Rodriguez spoke of the new commander’s past as a Soldier, which she said makes him perfect to take command.

“(Grigson) is particularly suited for this job since he was a former Army warrant officer who graduated from Fort Rucker 25 years ago, so he knows the place well,” said the colonel. “Of course, he saw the light and now works for us, so thank you to our Army friends out there for giving him the foundation for success and turning one of the good ones over to us. We know he is overqualified for the job.”

Grigson’s qualifications include more than 4,900 flight hours in multiple airframes, including the UH-1H, UH-60A/L, HH-60G and the TH-1H.

He began his military career when he entered the Army and served as a warrant officer from 1990-1999. He joined the Air Force in 1999 when he graduated from

SEE COMMANDER, PAGE A6



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Lt. Col. Kevin E. McHugh, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment commander, receives the colors from Col. Woodard B. Hopkins, 1st Aviation Brigade commander, as he assumes command during a ceremony Friday.

1-13th welcomes new command team

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment welcomed a new command team during a change of command and responsibility ceremony for the “Swift and Deadly” unit.

Lt. Col. Kevin E. McHugh, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment commander, assumed command from Lt. Col. Romeo R. Macalintal, Jr., and Command Sgt. Maj. George S. Webster assumed responsibility from Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald K. Graves, as the unit colors passed from Macalintal, to Col. Woodard B. Hopkins, 1st Aviation Brigade commander, to McHugh, signifying the command change during a ceremony on Howze Field Friday.

Hopkins presided over the ceremony and welcomed the new team while he bid farewell to the outgoing team, and expressed his full confidence in McHugh’s and Webster’s leadership.

“Today, one of the leading units in training excellence bids farewell to their command team and welcomes the new team,” said the 1st AB commander. “My initial impression of both of these leaders is that they respect and value this team, and I expect nothing less than excellence in the years to come for the Soldiers and civilians of the 1-13th under their leadership. I am confident that the Swift and Deadly battalion is getting an outstanding command team.”

McHugh graduated from George Mason University in 1997 and was commissioned in the Armor Branch. It wasn’t until 2000 that he came to Fort Rucker to attend the Aviation Captains Career Course and complete the Initial Entry Rotary Wing course.

Throughout his career, he’s held multiple leadership positions across the globe, including battalion assistant S-3 and B Company flight operations officer for the 2nd Bn., 52nd Avn. Regt. at Camp Humphreys, South Ko-

SEE 1-13TH, PAGE A6

PERSPECTIVE

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS: Treatable, normal response to abnormal events

By Dr. Joseph Maio
*Landstuhl Regional Medical Center
Clinical Psychologist*

LANDSTUHL, Germany — June is Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month, so it's a good time to think about this common problem.

Estimates of PTS in the military suggest that 12-15 percent of service members who have been deployed meet the PTSD diagnostic criteria.

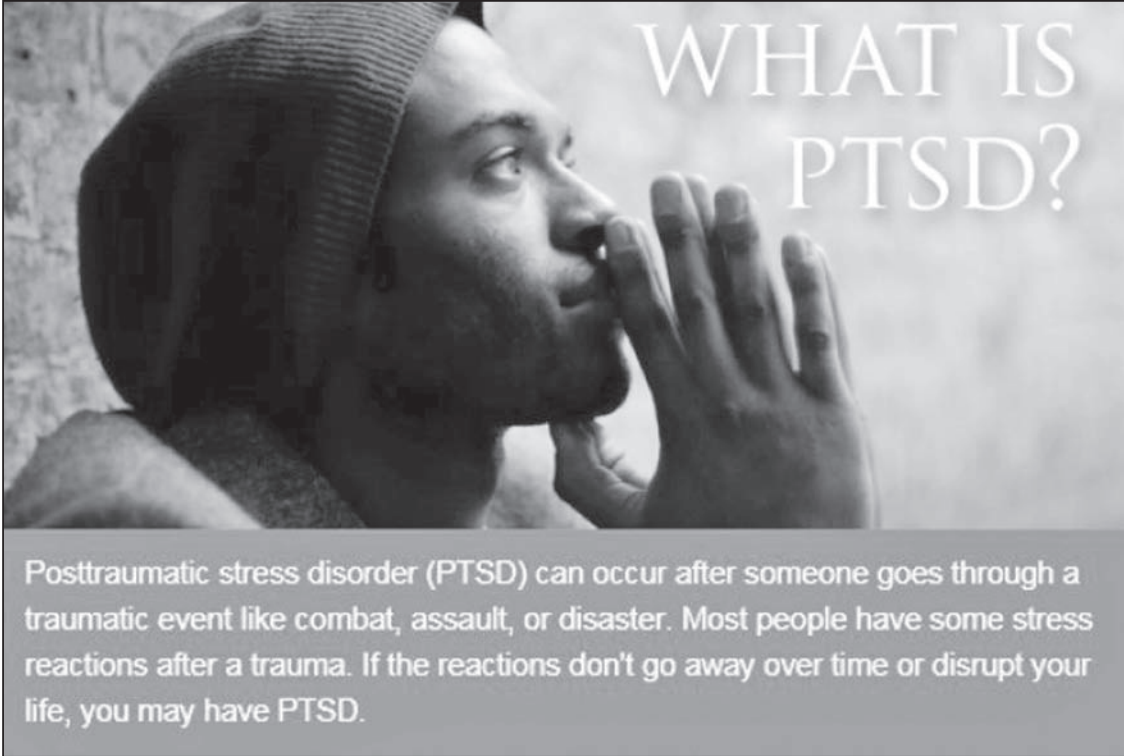
Many more experience the effects of PTS without necessarily having a diagnosis of PTSD. PTS also is common in the general U.S. population. Ten percent of women and 5 percent of men meet the criteria for PTSD as a result of the various traumas that people face — sexual abuse, domestic violence and other crimes. The rate of PTSD in females is higher because they are more likely to be victimized.

Some experts suggest that it is more appropriate to talk about Post-Traumatic Stress injury instead of using the label of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. It is important to recognize that PTS is not some disease you catch — it is the result of experiencing a severe trauma and then responding to that trauma in a very human way.

And PTS is a pervasive injury. It affects one's thinking, emotions, memory, sleep, physical health, sense of self and spirit.

Someone with PTS typically struggles with intrusive memories, images and nightmares, which create a kind of persistent mental torment. There is hypervigilance and a heightened level of arousal. The fight/flight/freeze response is in overdrive. Trauma survivors also tend to be irritable and angry.

PTS also is marked by avoidance — for example, avoiding public places and crowds. The person also puts a lot of effort into block-



ARMY GRAPHIC

ing out thoughts and memories of the trauma, and is reluctant to talk about it with anyone. Sometimes you see excessive use of alcohol or other drugs, excessive gambling or promiscuity. These behaviors are intended to numb the person emotionally, or distract them from the thoughts and feelings that torment them.

PTS often leads to a very negative view of self, others and the world — often leading to an exaggerated sense of danger and vulnerability, difficulty trusting others, unreasonable self-blame and guilt, and feelings of worthlessness. Furthermore, PTS can have a huge impact on relationships — the anger can be an issue, of course, but also emotional numbing, withdrawal and isolation take their toll on relationships.

Because the emotional impact of PTS is so strong, and some reactions are over the top compared to what one ordinarily sees in everyday life (like hitting the floor when a door slams), the person with PTS

starts to think they might be crazy. And, too often, uninformed people around them might suggest the same.

But it's not crazy at all. Indeed, it has been said that PTS is a normal response to abnormal events. Nonetheless, PTS can be confusing for family and friends. One often hears the statement that the person who came back from war is not the person who went away.

Different factors can increase the likelihood of developing PTS — a history of earlier trauma, multiple traumas, multiple deployments and prolonged exposure to traumatic situations. Also, it may be that some people's baseline brain chemistry puts them at greater risk for PTS. That is, the part of the brain that is responsible for the fight/flight/freeze response may be primed to react more intensely.

A key factor in the development and maintenance of PTS is what the person comes to believe as a result of the experience. Take this scenario: A Soldier loses a friend

in combat — a terrible event no matter what. If the surviving Soldier tells himself that his friend died because he was in a war environment, he will grieve over the loss of his friend, but PTS is less likely.

On the other hand, if the Soldier says, "It's my fault my friend died," the likelihood of PTS has gone up dramatically. Similarly, a returning Soldier who does not differentiate between the risk in a combat environment and the risk at home is more likely to develop PTS than a Soldier who sees that the risk at home is much lower.

The good news about PTS is that it is treatable, although it takes time and a lot of hard work. You can't completely erase the effects of PTS, but people can get to the point where the negative impact of the trauma is greatly reduced, where they are able to experience happiness and peace of mind again, where they have the freedom to do what they want out in the world and where they can have

solid, loving relationships again.

For most people, therapy happens in an outpatient clinic — for example, the LRMC behavioral health clinics that serve adults, adolescents, and children. Other military medical treatment facilities also have behavioral health clinics. One issue to consider is access to treatment for different categories of beneficiaries — active duty, family members, retirees and civilian employees.

If an MTF cannot provide the needed services there are providers on the economy. TRICARE can provide information about this option.

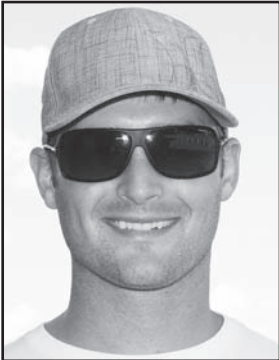
An important consideration in getting treatment is whether you are getting the right kind of treatment. There are three forms of treatment for PTS that have been shown to work. These are Cognitive Processing Therapy, Prolonged Exposure, and EMDR. It is important to ask what type of treatment the provider offers and, as treatment progresses, make sure the provider is sticking to the protocol.

Another consideration to ask about is how often someone can be seen. Trauma recovery is hard work, and it goes better with regular appointments. If someone is seen once every four to six weeks, they are at a disadvantage with respect to recovery. People who want to recover have to commit to regular appointments. If someone goes to therapy just once in a while, it is unrealistic to expect much progress.

There are good online resources related to PTS. For example, the National Center for PTSD is a solid source of information for patients, families, and professionals. There are also some Twitter feeds that can provide information and encouragement. Some of these include @ptsdpro, @ptsd, and @ptsdchat.

Rotor Wash

“Freedom Fest will be held on the festival fields July 1 from 4-10 p.m. How do you like to show your patriotism and celebrate?”



**2nd Lt. Jamie Carey,
D Co., 1st Bn., 145th
Avn. Regt.**

“Just enjoy the freedoms that have been provided.”



**2nd Lt. Jordan Allen,
D Co., 1st Bn., 145th
Avn. Regt.**

“I like to spend time with family and friends, and just enjoy their company.”



**Davis Martin,
military veteran**

“Get together with family and shoot off some fireworks.”



**2nd Lt. Tanya Oliver,
D Co., 1st Bn.,
145th Avn. Regt.**

“I take the time to recognize those who came before us to allow us to celebrate this day of freedom.”



**Pvt. Kayla Strickland,
68th Juliet**

“Cook out and have a party with your closest family and friends, and be thankful for the freedom that we have.”

COMMAND

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FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

Col. Shannon T. Miller
FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

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AAFES deputy director visits Fort Rucker



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Michael Immler (far left), Army and Air Force Exchange Service deputy director, takes a tour of AAFES facilities through the post exchange, escorted by Bennie Taylor, post exchange services business manager, during a visit to the installation June 9.

By Julie Mitchell
Army and Air Force Exchange Service Public Affairs

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service deputy director is making it his mission to ensure the Exchange is doing all it can to serve Soldiers at Fort Rucker.

To better understand how the Exchange can best meet the needs of the community, Mike Immler met with Col. Shannon T. Miller, garrison commander, during his visit June 9. He also toured the main exchange, food court, mall, express locations and military clothing to see firsthand how the Exchange supports Fort Rucker Soldiers.

“The Exchange is committed to helping make Fort Rucker a great place to live and work,” he said. “We are dedicated to ensuring Soldiers, retirees and their families have a place to shop and dine that they can be proud of.”

At Fort Rucker, the Exchange is dedicated to providing healthy options at restaurants and Express locations. Smoothies-N-Things, Popeyes, Subway, Charleys and Burger King all offer low-calorie choices.

Express locations are stocked with salads, fresh fruit, sandwiches, yogurt and more so Soldiers can make healthy choices on the go.

“It’s important for Soldiers to be mission-ready in both body and spirit,” Immler said. “Offering fresh, healthy choices in a convenient location makes it easier to make the right nutritional decisions.”

Every time Soldiers shop the Exchange, grab a snack at the express or dine at an Exchange restaurant, they are generating funds that help make life better at Fort Rucker.

“For every dollar earned, historically 67 cents comes back to the military community through Morale, Welfare and Recreation dividends,” Immler said. “Last year, sales at the Fort Rucker Exchange generated more than \$1.3 million on behalf of MWR programs. Every time shoppers go to an Exchange, they are improving their entire military community.”

Immler is the first civilian deputy director of the 120-year-old Exchange, which employs about 35,000 associates worldwide. In addition, 35 active-duty service members are assigned to the organization.

Sergeant Major of the Army’s new book club kicks off

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Put on a pot of Earl Grey, because the next time the sergeant major of the Army comes to your installation, he just may be hosting a book club where he and Soldiers will discuss titles with subject matter relevant to the profession of soldiering.

While as part of his book club the SMA aims to visit with and talk with some Soldiers, the real goal is to provide junior leadership with an opportunity to discuss with their Soldiers, outside of normal training, the Army-relevant themes and topics present in the books selected.

“We already ask Soldiers to read and understand regulations and policies – this is an opportunity to start a new initiative that’s fun, while also helping our squad leaders guide discussions on topics that relate to our profession,” said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey of the book club. “It shouldn’t feel like another task. I don’t want to force Soldiers to do this. I want them to want to read with me.”

The three books Dailey proposes be on Soldiers’ reading list

include one science fiction novel and two non-fiction titles.

-- Orson Scott Card’s “Ender’s Game,” a science fiction novel that focuses on futuristic military space conflict and the leadership and ethics of the titular military recruit, Andrew “Ender” Wiggin. Discussion on this book should happen between July and October of 2016

-- Simon Sinek’s “Leaders Eat Last,” a non-fiction title that discusses how good leadership puts the needs of their team before their own needs. Discussion on this book should happen between November 2016 and February 2017

-- Simon Sinek’s “Start With Why,” a non-fiction tile that discusses why leaders do what they do, rather than how. Discussion on this book should happen between March and June of 2017

Right now, the SMA is reading “Ender’s Game” in preparation for discussions he plans to have with Soldiers about the book, beginning in July. By then, the SMA’s office will have also provided a discussion guide for that book to help junior leaders discuss it with their own troops.

Master Sgt. Michelle Johnson, a

spokesperson for the SMA’s office, said that Soldiers who want to read along with the SMA should not be focusing now on getting all three books, but should instead focus on locating a copy of “Ender’s Game” and work on that title alone.

While all three titles can be purchased online or in book stores, Soldiers who want to participate should not be required to purchase any of them. Instead, Soldiers should check with their local public or post Morale, Welfare, and Recreation library to see if the title is available in a hard copy, or online for digital checkout, said Karen Cole, director of the Army’s MWR Library Program.

“There should be print copies of Ender’s Game at your local MWR library, and there are copies available on the Army’s virtual library through Overdrive,” Cole said. “All you need is a library account.”

Cole said she is working to increase availability of all three titles in either hard copy at MWR libraries or online at OverDrive.

None of the three books that have been suggested by the SMA involve the U.S. Army directly, though one does involve a futuris-



ARMY ILLUSTRATION

tic, science-fiction-based military. But all three books provide opportunity to discuss themes and topics germane to professional development, as practiced by those outside the Army.

According to Dailey, one of the reasons for standing up a book club was to generate discussion of leadership concepts outside of the military world. He’s asked NCOs to “take our blinders off” and learn how the business world, academia, social scientists, for instance, are doing business or explaining the world.

While participation in the SMA’s Book Club is voluntary, Soldiers who want to participate can expect that the next time the SMA visits their installation he’ll have also scheduled time with Soldiers in squads who volunteer to participate, to lead discussion on one of

the titles he’s recommended.

Johnson said the SMA believes the book club will provide increased opportunities for squad leaders to interact with their Soldiers outside of regular training and instruction. So Soldiers can discuss the books together, even without the SMA in the room – and it’s the expectation that they will do just that.

The SMA also hopes the book club concept will help establish critical reading as a crucial skill for NCOs, considering the reading, research and writing curriculum now prominent in Army professional military education, including the Basic Leader Course, the Advanced Leader Course, the Senior Leader Course and the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy.

In the future, selections for the book club will come from a list generated by Soldiers themselves. It’s expected there will be an SMA Book Club-related website available in July that will allow Soldiers to make such recommendations, and to also house a discussion guide, links to library resources, the SMA’s book review, and online discussion sessions.

Security clearance investigations to include social media activity

By Paul Stevenson
Installation Management Command Public Affairs

VICENZA, Italy – People who use social media are constantly reminded to be careful when posting and sharing information because it’s almost impossible to know who might be monitoring their activity.

For people who want to get or maintain a security clearance, there is now one more reason to exercise online discipline. The Office of the Director of National Intelligence recently enacted a new policy under which federal agencies may consider publicly available social media information in connection with an application for a security clearance.

Security Executive Agent Directive 5 was signed May 12, codifying federal background investigative authority to incorporate publicly available social media information in the security clearance process.

According to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the new policy allows

investigators to scan an applicant’s history on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and other similar sites.

The guidelines make clear that agencies can target publicly available social media posts, if they deem it necessary, but cannot force individuals to hand over their passwords for private accounts, or provide pseudonyms for any profiles.

“Social media has become an integral – and very public – part of the fabric of most American’s daily lives,” said Bill Evanina, Director of ODN’s National Counterintelligence and Security Center. “We cannot afford to ignore this important open source in our effort to safeguard our secrets – and our nation’s security.”

Additionally, the policy states that social media information gathered as part of a background check will not be retained unless it is considered “relevant” to the security status of the person in question.

The policy does not require security investigations consider social media information. Instead, it permits the collection of publicly available social media information

if an agency head determines it is an appropriate investigative tool.

Social media can be a place where people show their true character, says U.S. Army Garrison Italy Command Security Office Alfred Bullard. So now those who need to have a background check give investigators the green light to check into their online activity.

“All personnel who have a security clearance or complete a Personnel Security Background Investigation for a security clearance are giving authorization to be subject to scrutiny of their social media to look for character, trustworthiness, reliability issues and foreign contacts,” said Bullard.

While the policy does focus on looking at online activity, it places important restrictions that limit the federal government’s reach into the private lives of clearance applicants and holders. Absent a national security concern, or criminal reporting requirement, information pertaining to individuals other than the individual being investigated – even information collected inadvertently – will not be pursued. In addition, investi-

gators may not request or require individuals to provide social media passwords, log into a private account or take any action that would disclose non-publicly available social media information.

Security clearance holders undergo intense scrutiny before obtaining – and while maintaining – a clearance. This includes reporting interactions with foreign nationals, obtaining permission to travel abroad, and undergoing extensive background investigations and re-investigations.

This is as it should be, Evanina said. These requirements, along with considering an applicant’s public social media presence, “are a small price to pay to protect our nation’s secrets and ensure the trust the American people have placed in us.”

Bullard said that being mindful when using social media is the best way to avoid any additional scrutiny during the investigative process. “Disparaging pictures or comments could raise character or behavior issues,” he said. “Character or behavior issues could be a deciding factor in the suspension or revocation of a security clearance.”

News Briefs

Power outages

Power outages are scheduled for the following dates, times and buildings:

- Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Bldgs. 6902, 6903, 6904, 6905 and 6906;
- Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for Bldgs. 6618, 6620 and 6621;
- June 26, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Bldg. 6600 (Army and Air Force Exchange Service Mini-Mall); and
- July 9, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for Bldg. 6901.

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://usaphcappsamedd.army.mil/Survey/se.aspx?s=251137452BC46511>. For more information, call 255-0529.

Changes of command

- The U.S. Army Aeromedical Center will host a change of command ceremony June 28 at

11 a.m. at The Landing. Lt. Col. Jon E. Baker will assume command from Col. Gary A. Wheeler.

- Aviation Center Logistics Command will host a change of command ceremony June 28 at 9 a.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Col. Michael Best will assume command from Col. Kenneth Kliethermes.
- Air Traffic Services Command and 164th Theater Airfield Operations Group will host a change of command ceremony June 28 at 1:30 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Col. Michael E. Demirjian will assume command from Col. Douglas C. Van Weelden III.

Hydrant testing in housing

The Fort Rucker Fire Department will conduct yearly hydrant testing in Allen Heights, Bowden Terrace and Munson Heights throughout June. If any discoloration of water is noticed, residents are advised by post fire department officials to allow the water to flow until it is clear again.

School physical appointments

To ensure the highest continuity of care possible while providing timely access for patients requiring a school physical, Lyster Army Health Clinic will offer school physical appointments during the dates and times below. These slots will fill quickly, so people should book as soon as possible. The appointments serve to provide additional times and dates for dual-working parents and those who cannot schedule an appointment during normal business hours.

Parents should make sure to bring any required documentation to the appointment, with the patient portion filled out completely. The appointment will be for the school physical only. Any other issues will need to be addressed with the primary care clinician.

Appointments are available: July 13, 1-3 p.m.; July 27, 4-6 p.m.; Aug. 3, 1-3 p.m.; Aug. 10, 4-6 p.m.; Aug. 24, 1-3 p.m.; Aug. 31, 4-6 p.m.; Sept. 7, 1-3 p.m.; Sept. 14, 4-6 p.m.; Sept. 21, 1-3 p.m.; and Sept. 28, 4-6 p.m.

FORCE OF THE FUTURE

SecDef unveils next wave of initiatives

By Cheryl Pellerin
Department of Defense News

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Ash Carter announced the next steps in his Force of the Future initiative to modernize the rules and regulations that govern how the Defense Department recruits, develops and retains service members and civilian employees June 9.

These are the third and fourth steps he's announced since a snowy week in February 2015, his first week in office, when he spoke urgently during an all-hands meeting about one of his top priorities: building the force of the future.

"Generations change, technologies change, labor markets change. That's why one of my responsibilities now – and a job for all of us in the years ahead – is to make sure that amid all this change DOD continues to recruit, develop and retain the most talented men and women America has to offer," Carter said during remarks in the Pentagon courtyard.

"It's critical we do so to meet and overcome the five challenges we face today – from Russia, China, North Korea, Iran and terrorism – especially (the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant)," he added, "and to be flexible and agile in preparing for ... unknown dangers we can't anticipate today."

The proposed changes – which the secretary called "the capstone of how the department is building the Force of the Future" – for the uniformed military services, focusing on giving them room to make common-sense improvements to the officer promotion system, and for DOD civilians, focusing on continuing to attract and retain the best talent, Carter said.

Landmark changes

The department is proposing four landmark changes to the 36-year-old Defense Officer Personnel Management Act, all of which Congress must approve.

Today, DOPMA governs the 100-year-old military "up or out" promotion system involving promotion boards, minimum time-in-grade requirements and maximum age limits that still mean officers have to be good enough to advance or they have to retire, the defense secretary said.

"Together, these stand to be the most consequential changes to our officer promotion system in over 30 years, if not more," Carter said, "and they'll improve that hundred-year-old system and help bring it into the 21st century."

The proposed DOPMA changes include the following.

- **Adjusting Lineal Numbers:** DOPMA limits how many personnel are allowed in each grade, so officers chosen for promotion must wait for an opening in the grade above them. When there is an opening, the order in which they advance is determined by line numbers based on seniority. This might mean an assignment goes to the senior person on the list, even if someone lower down would be better in the job, or that high-performing officers chosen for promotion ahead of their peers have to wait in line behind everyone who is more senior.
- **That's why we're seeking to change DOPMA** to let the services adjust lineal numbers based on superior performance," Carter said. "It's a key part of good talent management, and it'll help us recognize and incentivize the very best performers."
- **Deferring Promotion Boards:** DOPMA has specific timelines for officers coming up for promotion. Everyone in a year group is considered when the system says they've stayed long enough at their current grade, and they're considered in competition with their chronological peers. To advance, officers must meet experience and knowledge requirements within a specific amount of time, and the system can penalize deviations from the typical career path.
- **The second change we're seeking** – to ensure our force doesn't lose or penalize talented officers who wish to broaden their careers – is the authority for the services to be able to temporarily defer when those officers are considered for promotion," Carter said.

- **Expanding Lateral Entry:** Civilian doctors can become commissioned military officers at grades commensurate with their skill and experience, Carter said, but in most other specialized fields, there's no way for the services to recruit a properly skilled and experienced civilian who wants to serve in uniform without having to start at the lowest ranks.
- **In situations where, for example, a network defense or encryption expert from a tech company feels a call to serve and is willing to contribute to the DOD mission as a reservist or on active duty, the department needs a way to harness their expertise and put it to use, the secretary said.**



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Defense Secretary Ash Carter announces new "Force of the Future" initiatives at the Pentagon June 9.



DOD PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

"Allowing the military services to commission a wider segment of specialized outside talent ... who can meet our standards, who provide unique skills we need and who are willing to serve in uniform will help fill critical gaps in our force and will make us more effective," he added.

- **Enduring Flexibility:** Under certain conditions the services must be able to waive select DOPMA constraints to quickly build up expertise in a critical career field, the secretary said. This will enable them to respond to an uncertain future in ways that can be tailored to their specific capability requirements and personnel needs without casting off a system that still largely meets department needs for most officers across the force.

"Here we're seeking enduring flexibility for future defense secretaries to let the services make needed tweaks to DOPMA-related policies down the line, for purposes of improving the force," Carter said. "While the other three changes are about providing specific solutions to specific problems, this change will help us be prepared for what we can't anticipate."

Other military efforts

The department also is proposing other measures to improve military recruiting efforts, Carter said.

These include moving to an all-digital system for recruiting and processing new personnel into the military, and expanding work being done by DOD's Joint Advertising, Market Research and Studies program to leverage advances in data science and microtargeting to build a precision recruiting database and making sure the department has access to the nation's entire population.

"Rather than identifying geographic and demographic groups that already have a higher propensity to serve and sending recruiters to find people like them – which is what we do now – we're going to build and use this precision recruiting database to identify those who'd be a great service member but might not know it," the secretary added.

Changes for civilians

For DOD civilians, the department is proposing three changes to current policies. These include the following.

- **On-Campus Direct Hire Authority:** Today, if a DOD recruiter meets an undergraduate student, a graduate student or a recent graduate who is a perfect candidate for a particular job, the candidate must go to

the USAJOBS website and start a 90-day or longer process of applying for the job, not counting the time it takes to get a security clearance.

In this change, Carter said, "we're seeking authority from Congress to directly hire civilian employees from college campuses. ... This has potential to be a real game-changer for us. Our civilian recruiters will be able to go to a campus job fair, do some interviews, and if they find someone who's the right fit, they can make a tentative offer on the spot, pending security clearance."

- **Two-Way Talent Exchange with the Private Sector:** In this change, the department proposes to create a new two-way talent exchange program for DOD civilians with the private sector.

"Right now we only have one such program, and it's limited to information technology-related fields," Carter said. "If we want to send a civilian from the Defense Logistics Agency or the U.S. Transportation Command to spend six months at a place like Amazon or Federal Express to see what we might be able to learn, there's no formal mechanism for that."

- **Paid Parental Leave:** For this change, the department is calling on Congress to authorize paid maternity and paternity leave for DOD civilians.

"Parental leave is fully paid for military

personnel, and the same should be true for their civilian colleagues. We can't afford to risk losing civilian talent just because private-sector companies will pay them during their maternity and paternity leave and we won't," Carter said.

Other civilian efforts

The department has other proposals that will help build its civilian force of the future, the secretary said, including to better leverage existing authorities to directly hire more highly qualified experts across the department.

A highly qualified expert is an individual, usually from outside of the federal government, who possesses cutting-edge skills or world-class knowledge in a particular technical discipline or interdisciplinary field beyond the usual range of expertise. The expertise and skills of such personnel are generally not available within the department and are needed to satisfy emerging and nonpermanent requirements.

"Today," Carter said, "we only have about 90 such experts ... across DOD, including some really talented and innovative people like the director of the Defense Digital Service, the head of DoD's Strategic Capabilities Office and the Air Force's chief scientist, so we're going to use this authority more often and increase our number of highly qualified experts by 10 percent a year over the next five years."

The department also will increase participation by 10 percent a year over five years in the dozens of career-broadening programs now offered to civilians, and expand by 10 percent over five years DOD's decade-old scholarship-for-service program, which brings in graduates in mission-critical science, technology, engineering and math fields to build the next generation of DOD science and technology leaders, Carter said.

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PLAN B

Pseudolites preserve position information during GPS-denied conditions

By Kathryn Bailey
*Army Communications-Electronics
Research, Development
and Engineering Center Public Affairs*

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — Operation Desert Storm featured a nearly flawless invasion of Iraq across uncharted and unfriendly desert terrain in part because of the coalition’s new, secret weapon – the Global Positioning System.

Since 1991, Soldiers conducting tactical operations have relied heavily on GPS’ nearly perfect position navigational technology, but in recent years it has become clear that surrounding terrain and enemy jamming techniques can abruptly obstruct the GPS satellite signal.

“More than 12,000 miles separate the Earth from GPS satellites, and the signal power received is very low and fragile,” said Charlie Miller, chief of the Command, Power and Integration Directorate’s Positioning, Navigation and Timing Division, which is under the Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center. “Our goal is to develop innovative, non-satellite technologies that can substitute for GPS when its signal is temporarily compromised.”

One of these technologies is called pseudolites, which is a word-blend of “pseudo and satellite” and includes satellite-like transmitters that function similarly to GPS, but instead of signals coming down from space, they are transmitted closer to the Earth and reside in platforms such as a tent, vehicle or low flying aircraft.

Pseudolites are part of a multi-faceted solution for operation in GPS-denied environments under development in the Army’s Direct Reporting Program Manager Positioning, Navigation and Timing. Established in 2015, PM PNT is chartered to address critical issues and initiatives for PNT capabilities across Army portfolios. CERDEC is leveraging its 40-plus year expertise in highly technical PNT research and development efforts to refine and mature pseudolite solutions.

“Pseudolites’ close proximity to the ground allows Soldiers to obtain position information in environments that GPS ordinarily struggles to reach, including forests, valleys and canyons, or even partially within city buildings,” said John Delcolliano, CERDEC CP&I PNT Integrated Systems Branch chief. “Pseudolites are also harder for the en-



ARMY PHOTO

Pseudolites, satellite-like transmitters, could take over as the primary location information capability when Soldiers’ GPS systems are blocked by environmental or adversarial sources.

emy to jam versus the GPS signal.”

Like GPS, pseudolites consist of a transmitter and a receiver, but the pseudolites’ transmitter consists of two parts: the navigation system to tell the pseudolite where it is and a broadcasting system for it to share that information.

“It is like having a radio that tells you where it is located,” Delcolliano said.

The pseudolite transmitter, which includes a powerful anti-jam antenna, will send out a signal to a modified GPS receiver. The receiver will make a range measurement to determine how far away it is from the pseudolite to determine location.

The Army will initially retain current fielded GPS receivers that will just require software updates to be compatible with pseudolites.

“It will be the same as obtaining a software upgrade for a Garmin or cellphone, and as such, will reduce the overall program costs and enable a more rapid fielding schedule,” said Kelly Fang, CERDEC CP&I PNT lead engineer.

Each pseudolite navigation system may also contain inertial measurement units, or IMUs, consisting of gyroscopes and accel-

erometers to provide a non-GPS dependent position solution. While inertial navigation may be a “throw-back” positioning technique and provides information that is less accurate than GPS, CERDEC is employing them as a solution that provides enough stand-alone capability to allow the Soldier to complete his or her mission should GPS become temporarily compromised.

“Inertial navigation, along with additional aiding technologies, may buy a Soldier just enough performance capability to keep on course during a critical mission, at least until GPS is restored,” Delcolliano said.

To address the overarching requirement for position information during all missions, CERDEC is looking to integrate pseudolites into mission command planning tools, effectively expanding pseudolites into a command and control capability. The current plan for pseudolites is to strategically locate enough units to ensure proper coverage across the battlefield.

“By providing the commander with a bird’s eye view of all Soldier and pseudolite positions, he would have the required situational awareness to relocate the pseudolites, or Soldiers, until enough PNT coverage

is available for the Soldier to complete the mission,” said Amelia Fortmayer, CERDEC CP&I PNT engineer.

The first pseudolite proof of concept demonstration occurred in 2011 at White Sands Missile Range with support from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and industry. The success of the demonstration played a pivotal role for the Army to establish PM PNT, and laid the groundwork for CERDEC’s latest research and development efforts, which include literally reaching for the stars to investigate celestial navigation as a viable option for pseudolites.

“A celestial solution consists of a camera that looks at the stars and recognizes patterns so the pseudolite can pinpoint its location on earth without GPS,” Fang said. “It will have stored star maps to compare to location information in the database, and could eventually track the sun and moon too.”

Terrain matching is another planned capability that will use a database of stored maps as a point of reference and a camera to photograph current terrain. The solution will compare the photo to the stored maps to achieve accurate position location information.

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Crossfire

Continued from Page A1

product we can.

“Many months of planning and preparation go into Freedom Fest,” she added. “We get back from Christmas break and literally start thinking about Freedom Fest, and how can we make this year better than last year.

“The group rehearses an average of 10 hours a week as a group – not including individual practice and preparation for rehearsals,” Permenter continued. “Sound technicians and production specialists within the band spend countless hours preparing the ambiance of the stage and the ‘bells and whistles’ that take the show from a great rock performance to a spectacular show! We also try every avenue of approach when it comes to getting the word out of the performance. We try to reach out to every newspaper that we can, radio advertisements, local television stations, etc.”

According to CW2 Daniel R. Parker, 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band commander, this year’s performance will have a little something for everyone.

“Preparation for Freedom Fest starts with guidance from the (commanding general),” he said. “In this case, we have a lot of freedom to build a production that speaks to and entertains the diverse population of the Fort Rucker and the Wiregrass while honoring our great country. With that guidance, we conceptualize, design and produce all of the aspects of the performance – selecting and preparing music; coordinating contracts for stage support; designing light, video, and sound schemes; and tapping into public affairs channels to help publicize



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

The 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band gives a live performance before the fireworks display during Freedom Fest at the festival fields last year.

the performance.

“This year’s Freedom Fest concert will feature ‘Crossfire,’ the 98th Army Band’s premiere popular music ensemble,” he added. “This Top 40 group will play both modern and classic music hits that everyone can enjoy. Also, we have the honor of playing a tribute song for our Gold Star Families. We collaborate with Survivor Outreach Services each year to honor these families and their Soldiers in the most fitting way that we, as musicians, can. It is truly an honor to have this chance to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed so much.”

What do the bands have planned for the Freedom Fest crowd?

“An evening of fun and entertainment,” Permenter said. “Crossfire has prepared a variety

of songs including hits from today as well as hitting a few classics. We plan to pay homage to two truly great, inspirational musicians who have passed this year. Their passing has affected each member of the group in some way, and we plan to pay tribute to them on July 1st. We also plan to dedicate a truly special song to the Gold Star Families. Their loss is again heavily felt among us and we plan on paying our respect in the best way we know how.”

According to Parker, Freedom Fest is more than just an opportunity for the bands to take the stage.

“Freedom Fest is a chance to give back to Fort Rucker and the communities of the Wiregrass,” he said. “Freedom Fest is a celebration of the history of

our nation and allows us the opportunity to both honor the sacrifices of the men and women who have fought or who are fighting to make America free every day and to thank those in our communities who support our Soldiers, support our military and support our nation.”

Spc. Clay Parler, vocalist and instrumentalist, said Freedom Fest is unlike any performance the bands do throughout the year.

“While all of the band’s performances are executed with precision and enthusiasm, Freedom Fest requires a much higher level of energy from all of the performers. Furthermore, a successful performance requires more physical communication on stage between performers,” he said.

Staff Sgt. William Peters, drum-

mer, echoed Parler’s sentiment.

“Performing at Freedom Fest differs greatly from other performances,” he said. “This is one of the biggest events that we support, and a lot of time and effort is put into this performance. The 98th Army Band has a unique mission and a big part of our mission is ceremonial. This gives us a chance to play some modern music and put on a high-energy show for the community.”

According to Permenter, Crossfire’s performance will provide some modern music for the crowd in addition to the traditional songs offered by the 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band.

“The songs that Crossfire performs for Freedom Fest are very carefully chosen so that we can put on an exciting show that will build throughout and grab the attention of our audience,” she said. “We choose songs that are not only hits in their corresponding genres, but also songs that we can make our own and apply our own special touch. We go through a rigorous trial and error process to not only make the song performance worthy, but to also make sure that the product we are putting forth is one we can be proud of.”

Parler added that collaboration is a key component in the performance process.

“It is a highly collaborative effort to choose and work on songs for this performance,” he said. “We have to choose songs very carefully, paying special attention to the abilities of every performer in the group; and, more importantly, we have to choose songs that will work well in a live setting and appeal to a larger audience.”

For more information about Freedom Fest, call 255-1749.

Fun

Continued from Page A1

“Fort Rucker’s Freedom Fest is set up for great family entertainment in an environment that celebrates our Soldiers near and far who continue to give and have given the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms,” she said. “We try every year to encompass an event which children and adults of all ages can enjoy. It is a day of celebration, family fun and entertainment.”

Event fields open to the public at 4 p.m. to provide food, vendors, activities, a kids’ fun zone, rides and static displays. Official opening remarks begin at 7 p.m. followed by the invocation, presentation of historic colors, presentation of national colors, the singing of the national anthem and a tribute to fallen heroes by the 98th Army

Band. After a short intermission, the band will return to the stage for a patriotic concert at 8:10 p.m. Fireworks begin at 9 p.m.

Admission to the event is free and open to the public. A gate access pass is required for civilians with no military ID and must be obtained prior to the day of the event. Visitor control centers will not be open July 1.

Visitors may obtain passes from one of two VCCs – at the Daleville and Ozark gates. The Daleville VCC is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays-Sundays. The Ozark VCC is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays-Fridays.

According to Stallings, visitors should not have trouble finding something they enjoy to eat at the event.

“We have a wide variety of food vendors some local, some from Georgia, northern parts of Alabama to the

southern parts of Florida, who have participated in the past freedom fest celebrations or have heard of how great it is and want to be a part of it,” she said. “Food options range from the traditional hamburger or hotdog to gator on a stick, barbecue sandwiches or plates, roasted corn, popcorn, boiled peanuts, fried cookies, pickles, Philly cheese steak sandwiches, ice cream, gelatos, lemonade and tea, smoothies, funnel cakes, cotton candy, ribs, sausage, turkey legs, fish and more.

“We will also have vendors selling merchandise,” she added. “New activities for the kids will be available, including bounce houses, laser tag, a mobile video game truck, obstacle courses, zip lines, face painting, a ‘choo choo’ train ride and more.”

For more information, call 255-1749.

Commander

Continued from Page A1

Air Force Training School and has served in multiple assignments throughout his career, including tours with the 66th Rescue Squadron, the 512th Rescue Squadron and Headquarters Air Force at the Pentagon.

Grigson graduated from the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 2012, and has served in multiple deployments in support of Opera-

tions Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, as well as Operation Northern Watch.

“Flying in south Alabama with this awesome squadron, training new Airmen to meet the Air Force mission – it doesn’t get any better than that,” said Grigson of his new assignment. “Night Nailers ... you all are machines, and I’m excited to continue working for you and leading you as we continue to train the best helicopter pilots in the world.”

The 23rd FTS is comprised of about 50

permanent-party Airmen and cycles more than 100 students through its training courses annually, said Rodriguez.

“(This unit) lays the foundation of the Air Force’s vertical-lift platforms,” she said. “Those who graduate populate major commands and execute the nation’s most important missions; special operations, rescue, nuclear security and the national capital support missions.”

During Crigger’s time in command, more than 260 Air Force helicopter pilots

graduated, most of who are now deployed across the globe, said Rodriguez, leaving Grigson with large shoes to fill.

Despite the high level of responsibility, the incoming commander said he is up to the task and looks forward to leading the unit.

“Colonel Rodriguez, thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve under you,” he said. “I don’t take the responsibility of this job lightly and, although I have big shoes to fill, I will not let you down.”

1-13th

Continued from Page A1

rea; commander for the D/58th Avn. Regt., also at Camp Humphreys; as well as a observer/trainer for the Aviation Heavy Lift and Tactical Operations Center at the Joint Readiness Training Center in Fort Polk, Louisiana.

McHugh comes to Fort Rucker from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where he served as a senior Aviation trainer in the Mission Command Training Program, and has served in multiple deployments, including with the 4th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division as the brigade Aviation officer and chief of operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2007-2009; as well as the brigade S4 and executive officer for the 7-101st General Support Aviation Battalion in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from 2010 to 2012.

“On the field to your front stands a group of our nation’s finest,” said McHugh during the ceremony. “They are Soldiers, some who have recently raised their right hands, and others who have and continue to serve for a purpose that is bigger and broader than themselves.

“They display dedication and the opportunity to lead a group of this caliber – I am truly humbled and honored to be here to day,” he continued. “To the Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment, you look absolutely flawless – thank you for doing what you do each and every day in support of our mission. It is my honor and privilege to assume this position, and I look forward to continuing the legacy of this great battalion.”

Webster also has a distinguished military career, entering the Army in 1994 and attending Advanced Individual Training at Fort Rucker where he became a 15P, Aviation operations specialist.

He’s held numerous operational and leadership positions, including operations specialist, Aviation operations chief, range control shift leader, recruiter, command Aviation NCO-in charge, Air Traffic Control operations chief and operations sergeant major.

He’s served across the world, from Fort Drum, New York, and Fort Hood, Texas, to Camp Humphreys, South Korea to Camp Doha, Kuwait.

“I’m excited and humbled to be part of the Golden Hawks team and I look forward to carrying on a mission that (Macalintal and Graves) have been responsible for leading,” said the incoming command sergeant major.

Both Graves and Macalintal expressed their utmost confidence in the incoming command team.

“I’ve been fortunate enough to serve with Webster before and I’m sure the Army got it right when selecting you to take responsibility for this outstanding unit,” said Graves.

“As the honor of leading the 1-13th comes to a close, I’ve been assured that the Swift and Deadly battalion will get to Soldier on with exactly the type of leaders needed to take this organization to further heights,” added Macalintal. “To Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs. McHugh, and Command Sergeant Major and Mrs. Webster, good luck, and I know you’ll do just fine.”

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Army Total Force partnerships improving readiness

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — More National Guard and Reserve units are partnering with the active component under the Army Forces Command Total Force Partnership Program, and one of the latest is an infantry brigade combat team from California.

All eight Army National Guard division headquarters are now partnered with an active component corps headquarters under the program, which seeks to operationalize the Army Total Force Policy signed by the secretary of the Army in 2012. U.S. Army Forces Command also partnered each of the 28 ARNG brigade combat teams to active BCTs in 2014, a FORSCOM spokesman said.

A recent example of how this type of partnership works is the California ARNG's 79th Infantry BCT, partnering with the 1st Armored Division's 4th Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment (Stryker) out of Fort Bliss, Texas.

From May 15 to June 4, the two units conducted joint training at Camp Roberts and Fort Hunter Liggett, both in California.

This type of partnership is "back to the future," said Lt. Col. David Murphy, commander, 1st Bn., 143rd Field Artillery Reg., 79th IBCT.

As a lieutenant in 1999, he said he recalls his unit partnering with the 29th Field Artillery Regiment out of Fort Carson, Colorado.

Since that time, however, focus shifted to operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the training partnerships melted away. The 79th IBCT, and others like it, trained in isolation.

That isolated training hurt readiness, Murphy said, because when a unit needed to deploy, more time was needed to integrate units at the pre-mobilization sites.



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. PAUL WADE

During annual training in May, Soldiers from Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 143rd Field Artillery Regiment, based out Ventura and Santa Maria, of the California Army National Guard, conducted a platoon defense lanes training at Camp Roberts.

Now that has changed, he said, with this year being the first year in over a decade that his unit has partnered with an active-duty one, and that partnership is expected to continue, he added.

The recent exercise Murphy's unit participated in with the 4-17th was called an "external combat training center" event, because it was not at an officially designated CTC.

Having said that, the training offered enough real-estate to conduct dynamic, high-fidelity training, including live-fire that comprised two gun raids with all the platoons, an airlift and an opposition force, he said. Also, First Army's 3rd Bn., 358th Field Artillery, out of Joint Base Lewis-

McChord, Washington, provided observer-controllers "who were very helpful to us."

Feedback from the platoon leaders indicated that they felt the joint training experience was highly beneficial and it gave them a chance to improve troop-leading procedures and become fully engaged in the training, without the usual administrative requirements and distractors getting in the way, he said. The noncommissioned officers had similar sentiments.

Murphy said he believes that as other units partner in likewise fashion, the Guard and Reserve will continue to maintain their status as a fully capable operational Reserve.

Army Forces Command Total Force Partnership Program aims to integrate the Army's active and reserve components for training exercises, planning and improved interoperability, according to Paul Boyce of FORSCOM.

In March, the Associated Units pilot program – an Army Total Force initiative – was launched and Army Chief of Staff Gen.

Mark A. Milley remarked, "Much of America's Army's capacity is resident in the Reserve components and we must rely more heavily on them to meet the demands of a complex global environment. The Associated Units pilot allows us to leverage the capabilities and capacities of the Active component, Army Reserve and the Army National Guard as one Army."

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835 N. Claxton: One of a kind home sitting on about an acre with a small pond, and it features six bedrooms and six full baths, formal living/dining room combination, large deck with doors out to patio for entertaining, eat-in kitchen, and large laundry/mud room with lots of cabinets and sink. Carport separates the house from a bonus room that would be great for entertaining or exercising. Floors are hardwood, ceramic tile and carpet. You have to make your appointment to see this house because it is bigger than it looks. **MARGE SIMMONS 477-1962**

JUST LISTED ~ \$141,000



106 Pratt: Country Living without the drive! It is hard to find a spacious 3 bedroom home almost hidden in the trees but only minutes from town...Well, here's one! Enjoy the shade from the trees out back or relax on the screened in porch in front. Workshop, bonus room, and plenty of storage. Move in ready, minutes from shopping and Ft Rucker. **CHRIS ROGERS 406-0726**

NEW LISTING WITH POOL ~ \$309,000



104 Frisco: Cotton Creek: This beautiful home with 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths features a sparkling pool, walk in closets in every bedroom, a walk in pantry, whirlpool tub and separate shower in the master bathroom, and built in outdoor speakers, as well as granite counters and stainless steel appliances in the kitchen. The open kitchen, large backyard with a covered patio and sparkling pool will make this house a pleasure to sit back and relax or entertain your family and friends. **SOMMER RAKES 406-1286**

JUST LISTED ~ \$187,650



919 Alberta: New on the market, this home has had updated double paned windows, bathrooms, and kitchen. Nice walk-in pantry and corner cupboard and island in kitchen. Area for small table and chairs. Den/eating area, formal living/dining room combination, and half bath right as you come in from the garage. French doors to covered patio and nice relaxing back yard with gazebo, storage shed and pool. Conveniently located to downtown, Public, churches and schools. Be sure to take a look at this two story!! **EVELYN HITCH 406-3436**

\$124,000



104 Regal: Affordable with 4 bedrooms, conveniently located to Ft Rucker, Harbord Creek Elementary school and shopping. Nearly New Appliances. All brick with a large two car garage and modern windows. The floorplan is mostly open with a large kitchen, dining area and family room all open to one another. The large living room is separate. A well maintained home with a big yard that is level in the front and slightly sloping in the back yard. The back yard is fenced and has a nice view. Detached shed with Electricity. **ROBIN FOY 389-4410**

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41 +/- ACRES



3530 CR 641: \$425,000: Country living close to town in this lovely custom home situated on 41 +/- acres perfect for hunting, gardening, ranching or just living the good life! Main level is immaculate w/an updated kitchen including granite countertops & stainless double ovens, split bedrooms & unbelievable storage. A private suite upstairs includes a sitting room, bedroom & full bath. Walk-in floored attic access is here also. A detached 2-car workshop w/electricity & a sink. Beautiful grounds on about 2 acres, 45-50 pecan trees. **JAN SAWYER 406-2393**

JUST LISTED ~ \$124,000



111 Beverly: Looking for large bedrooms, Two living areas and the downright comfort of home, this is it!!! **FRAN & DON KALTENBAUGH 790-5973**

\$139,500



184 Concord: Easy living in this gorgeous 3 BR/2 BA one level townhome. Oversized vinyl fenced yard with large shady, covered patio. Wood floors, new appliances, corner lot. Community fees covers pool, clubhouse and lawn care. **PAT LEGGETT 406-7653**

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PHOTOS BY SPC. ANTHONY RAMIREZ

Five UH-60 Black Hawks from 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, hover taxi to parking during Anakonda 16 June 6 at Inowroclaw Air Base, Poland.

INSTANT CAMARADERIE

12th CAB, Polish soldiers begin joint, multinational Anakonda 16

By Capt. Jaymon Bell
12th Combat Aviation Brigade
Public Affairs

INOWROCLAW, Poland — Polish soldiers from the 56th Aviation Base and U.S. Soldiers from the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade “Task Force Griffin,” augmented by 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 127th Aviation Support Battalion, 1st Armored Division Combat Aviation Brigade and 3rd Battalion, 501st Aviation, 1st AD CAB, participated in the Polish-led opening ceremonies for Anakonda 16 June 6 at Inowroclaw Air Base.

The ceremony marked the beginning of the exercise that will include combined planning, rehearsal and execution of air as-

sault, attack and heavy lift aviation operations culminating in a battalion-size air-assault.

“It was great meeting and shaking hands with the Polish soldiers after the ceremony,” said Pvt. Jalani Jones, a 42A Human Resources Specialist, from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st AD CAB. “The camaraderie was instant between us, even though we didn’t speak the same language.”

The 12th CAB deployed over 60 aircraft and 800 Soldiers to multiple locations throughout Poland.

“We do not always get the opportunity to work with foreign armies,” said Spc. Jarrett Green, an Aviation operations specialist from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd. Bn., 227th Avn. Regt., 1st ACB. “It’s a great

experience to see new European countries and how their militaries operate.”

The logistical planning for Anakonda 16 began months ago in Germany and the scale of the exercise provides a unique challenge when executing operations across such a large area.

“The reception and integration from our Polish allies has been fantastic,” said Maj. David Hankins, the brigade logistics officer for 12th CAB. “Their logistical support made our setup much easier.”

Anakonda 2016, scheduled to run through Friday, is a Polish national exercise designed to train, exercise and integrate Polish command and force structure into a joint multinational environment.



Polish Lt. Col. Cezary Trybanski salutes Polish Col. Grezegorz Matejuk, the 56th Aviation Base commander, and U.S. Army Col. Christopher Waters, 12th Combat Aviation Brigade commander, during the opening ceremony for Anakonda 16.



PHOTO BY CAPT. BRIAN H. HARRIS

Soldiers with the U.S. Army Air Ambulance Detachment, 2-158th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 16th Combat Aviation Brigade, conduct hoist training with civilian mountain rescue and sheriff's department personnel at Yakima Training Center, Wash., June 7. The Soldiers of Yakima Dustoff provide medical evacuation coverage for not only the Soldiers training at YTC, but also for local mountain and wilderness areas in partnership with civilian authorities.

Cadets develop tech-savvy mindset

By Michelle Eberhart
U.S. Military Academy at West Point
Public Affairs

It’s not just about shooting down drones. During this year’s cadet summer training, the Army Cyber Institute at West Point assisted West Point’s Department of Military Instruction by introducing an enemy drone during Urban Operations training.

This addition enabled cadets to integrate common warrior tasks and battle drills to that of modern warfare by requiring them to defeat unmanned aircraft system during their mission.

“It’s to help Soldiers and all branches think about cyber and how it’s going to affect the modern battlefield,” said Capt. Matthew Hutchison, a research scientist assigned to ACI.

Another ACI research scientist, Lt. Col. Daniel Huynh, agrees.

“We think it’s important to help show cadets what the future may look like. It’s more the idea of being able to look further down the road,” he said.

In this particular scenario, an infantry platoon of cadets is enabled with a cyber operator and bolstered with the capabilities of a cyber rifle, a device specifically created by ACI to disable drones.

“The cyber rifle started out as an idea of what cyber

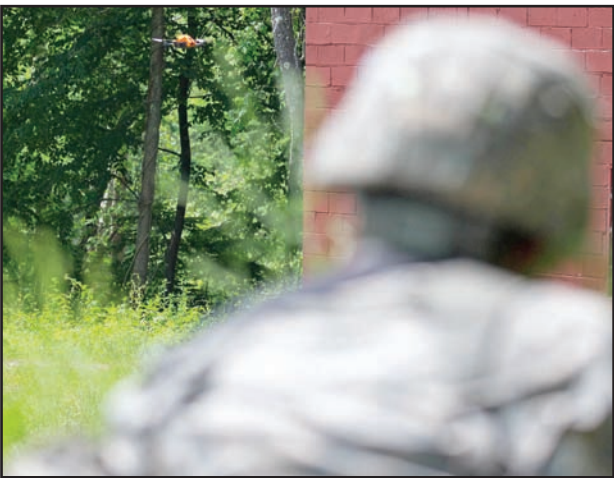


PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. VITO T. BRYANT

Cadet Austin Neal watches a drone of the opposing forces from his fighting position during Cadet Leader Development Training at West Point June 2.

would look like at the tactical level,” Hutchison said.

After creating a prototype using everyday household items, Hutchison and his cohorts created the first-generation cyber rifle with an airsoft rifle. The device accesses commercially available micro drones through basic Wi-Fi.

SEE MINDSET, PAGE B4

Partners exercise internal abilities

By Staff Sgt. Thomas Duval
Kosovo Forces
Multinational Battle Group - East

CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo — Since its humble beginnings in the 1860s when balloons were used for aerial reconnaissance, Army Aviation has been relied on by Soldiers to accomplish the operational and tactical needs of the United States Army.

From observation to troop movement, Aviators are called upon to be reliable professionals who can adapt to a wide variety of missions. Since 1999, Soldiers deployed to Kosovo in support of NATO’s peace support mission understand the importance of Aviation all too well.

June 8, multinational Aviators came together on Camp Bondsteel to test their adaptability by conducting a multinational and multi-ship operation in Kosovo deemed Operation Icarus.

“The purpose of the operation was to build the alliance between the U.S. and the NATO partners in Kosovo while exercising and assessing internal abilities to respond to complex situations and contingencies,” said Capt. William Hathaway, operations officer assigned to the 2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 285th Aviation Regiment.

The event incorporated crews from the U.S., Swiss and Croatian militaries and allowed the allied Aviation flight crews, planners and leaders to test their tactics, techniques and procedures alongside one another.

Additionally, Hathaway said the operation allowed

SEE PARTNERS, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. MARCO LECHUGA

A multinational multi-ship formation of rotary wing helicopters fly over Kosovo during Operation Icarus, June 8. The formation included a Croatian Mi-171, a Swiss AS-332 Super Puma and U.S. Army UH-60 Black Hawks.

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GENERAL

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The Coffee County Highway Department
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Fringe Benefits include: paid vacation, sick leave, health insurance, holidays, and State retirement. Closing Date: June 23, 2016.

Please apply at the Alabama Career Center, Enterprise, AL.
Coffee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CONSTRUCTION, MINING & TRADES

THE CITY OF ENTERPRISE
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FOR THE POSITION OF:

MAINTENANCE CONSTRUCTION WORKER I

Summary: responsible for sewer line maintenance/repair and road repair/maintenance. Operates auger. Measures, cuts, and installs sewer line. Repairs pot holes. Assists other Public Works divisions as assigned.

STARTING SALARY: \$9.32 /HR

OPENING DATE:

June 13th, 2016

CLOSING DATE:

June 27th, 2016

To Apply, visit: www.enterpriseal.gov
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CITY HALL, 501 S MAIN ST. ENTERPRISE,
AL. M-F, 7:30 - 4:30 EOE.

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IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
FOR THE POSITION OF:

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Starting Salary: \$11.70/HR

OPENING DATE:

June 13th, 2015

CLOSING DATE:

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Requirements: high school diploma or equivalent; with good computer skills and basic knowledge of automobile title applications. Previous experience preferred but not required. Salary dependant on experience with a Salary range beginning at \$ 9.25 per hour.

A more detailed job description is available at the Alabama Career Center. All applications/resumes must be submitted to the Alabama Career Center.

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STARTING SALARY: \$11.70 /HR

OPENING DATE:

June 13th, 2016

CLOSING DATE:

June 27th, 2016

To Apply, visit:
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Continued from Page B1

the units to access their decision making process all the way from the crew chiefs to the leaders.

“Decisions made during the exercise are not as important as understanding why those decision were made, and the resolve to refine the process that led to a particular decision,” said Hathaway. “Stressing the capabilities of the individual and of the collective team, in a safe manner, is all that is required to ascertain the deficiencies in those capabilities and of the processes in place.”

Understanding these capabilities is important for any organization, but even more so when dealing with multinational allies with different procedures.

“There is the potential when conducting multi-ship operations that something could go wrong ... with airframes and aircrews with different procedures and capabilities, this potential is increased,” said Hathaway.

Hathaway said the potential of these hazards decrease when the allied forces improve familiarity and build trust between the aircrews.

With 31 troop contributing nations supporting the Kosovo Force mission, trusting each other plays a vital role for mission success and could be the difference in life and death.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. THOMAS DUVAL

Turkish soldiers, serving as a reactionary force, transfer from a UH-60 Black Hawk to a Swiss AS-332 Super Puma in response to a downed air craft scenario.

To stress this point, Hathaway and his team took the training beyond a simple multi-ship formation flying over Kosovo, adding a few potentially catastrophic twists to the scenario.

About 45 minutes into the flight, two UH-60 Black Hawks carrying a Turkish reactionary force broke off from the multinational formation and began a simulated plummet towards the surrounding mountaintops.

Two downed aircraft and multiple casual-

ties made an already difficult mission even harder.

“Injecting a two-ship downed aircraft scenario into an already, admittedly, complex flight creates the potential for any error to be compounded,” said Hathaway. “No organization can grow and develop without first determining the areas in which improvement is needed.”

By recognizing these errors in an austere training environment, the unit can prevent

them from happening in a real-world scenario, he added.

With more than 4,400 KFOR service members relying on the Aviation crews for various movements throughout Kosovo, perfecting these skills while eliminating errors directly impacts KFOR’s ability to accomplish its mission.

“By working in cohesion with other NATO partners, KFOR’s overall ability to maintain a safe and secure environment in Kosovo is strengthened,” Hathaway said. “Additionally by stressing the capabilities of MedEvac helicopter response to mass casualty situations, the MedEvac unit will be better situated to provide real-world response in the Kosovo area of operations.”

From troop movement to medical evacuation, the aviators of Multinational Battle Group-East and KFOR overcame each obstacle thrown in their direction and proved they were prepared to work together to accomplish any mission.

The MNBG-E and KFOR flight crews plan to conduct similar training in the future as they look to refine internal and multi-echelon processes that improve the units overall readiness and, in turn, provide the historical reliability Army aviation is known for in KFOR’s ability to maintain a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement in Kosovo.

Mindset

Continued from Page B1

The ACI researchers recognized that the device needed to be ruggedized, so with the help of West Point’s Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science they were able to make the rifle more user friendly. The end state was that with minimal training and proper aim, a cadet could disarm a drone and cause it to drop.

“It happens to be an M-4 form factor so everybody can put their hands on it and squeeze a trigger, and it feels Army-ish, instead of just some sort of goofy antenna and laptop,” said Hutchison. “The cadets like it – to hold something in your hand and have an effect on a computer system.”

Capt. Frederick Waage, the ACI research scientist who operated the rifle during the exercise, is looking toward the future as well.

“The Army Cyber Institute isn’t necessarily focused on providing a technical solution to troops on ground,” Waage clarified. “We’re trying to create a vision and inspire that creative vision in cadets for what the future of warfare might be like, particularly when you look at disruptive tech, such as micro-drones.”

Waage hopes that modern Soldiers will share that vision with him, even if ACI’s cyber rifle is only for demonstrations.

“When we look to the future, there’s not going to be a silver bullet piece of technology that’s going to solve our problems, it’s the people themselves and their ability to be flexible and adaptable with technology,” Waage continued. “Knowing when to pull away from technology and knowing when to work to develop smarter technology so we’re creating adaptable, flexible minds. That’s really what our objective is for the Army Cyber Institute.”

But why not use a kinetic rifle to shoot down a drone? “Drones are actually really hard to see just because they’re small and they’re so maneuverable so they provide really small target service,” Hutchinson explained. “Also, in an urban area like this, you may not want to engage it with kinetic fire depending on who’s in the area.

“Whereas our Wi-Fi answer, essentially an electronic attack on this drone, is pretty innocuous to the surrounding population, it’s pretty quiet and slick and you can have the element of surprise in your assault,” Hutchison continued. “This is a capability that we’re hoping will exist in the future, it’s just kind of trying to open the cadets’ eyes to the fact that cyber is an enabler that’s going to help in the battlefield from here on out and how disruptive technologies are kind of changing our operating environment.”

Huynh noted that these exercises have been piquing cadets’ interests.

“It’s exciting! The cadets are really receptive to it and we’re seeing them come up to our officers asking, ‘Hey what is that?’ or they’re asking these good questions, ‘How do I become a cyber officer?’ or ‘How do I become an EW (electronic warfare) officer?’ which is cool. It’s exciting to see everything work out,” he added.

Cadet Austin Neal, the cadet in charge of the UO lane, said that although he doesn’t plan on branching cyber, he expects to be working alongside cyber platoons once he commissions.

“Being out here and watching them integrate and seeing the direction that the Cyber Branch can take with the infantry or with the other branches is really interesting,” Neal said. “Hopefully, the big Army can see how we’re doing it here and maybe we can integrate cyber assets into more real-life scenarios in the future.”



PHOTO BY MICHELLE EBERHART

Capt. Matthew Hutchinson, a research scientist assigned to the Army Cyber Institute, operates a drone.

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JUNE 16, 2016

Vacation BIBLE SCHOOL



Students sit down for stories of Joseph's journey told by Joseph himself, portrayed by Caleb Hildenbrandt, volunteer, as his palace guard, Chaplain Jim Pennington, keeps watch.



Josh Molver takes a break from sampling treats at the bakery to pose for the camera. Molver and his fellow group members had the opportunity to sample bread and desserts once popular in ancient Egypt.

Children end weeklong journey through ancient Egypt

By **Jeremy Henderson**
Army Flier Staff Writer

Children ended a weeklong journey through ancient Egypt during vacation Bible school at Fort Rucker's Main Chapel Complex Friday.

Children learned about the Bible through the eyes of Joseph, who Nancy Jankoski, Fort Rucker Religious Support Office director of religious education, described as "a young person who has many times of hardship, but he maintains his character, his integrity and his faith in God throughout every crisis he faces."

"Joseph can be a role model for children," she added. "He experienced problems in getting along with his brothers, he had to figure out how to survive and thrive in a foreign culture without the support of family and friends. He had to grow in his understanding of life and find a way to overcome difficulties."

According to Jankoski, stations scattered throughout the Spiritual Life Center provided

a complete sensory experience for participants.

"After the opening praise celebration, each tribe rotated through a series of activity stations and marketplace shops," she said. "In the activity centers, they participated in skits and music, games from the time of ancient Egypt, and made crafts."

Children rotated through marketplace shops that tapped all five senses during their time at the Life in Egypt station and scribe school, Jankoski added.

The program, open to children kindergarten through sixth grade, created an environment for camaraderie, education and personal growth, Jankoski said.

"The VBS program allows children to be themselves," she said. "They can laugh while putting together dirt, straw and water and mixing it up to form a brick. They can expend their energy doing games that children down thru the ages have done. They can sample treats, try new skills, and make friends. Most importantly, they can understand the importance of their spiritual side."



Students learned how to write hieroglyphics at the scribe school.



Students who visited the palace guard station were given a glimpse into the daily training guards completed in ancient Egypt.



Dee Brown, VBS volunteer, speaks to the Benjamin tribe, comprised of fifth and sixth grade students, inside the beauty salon and barbershop.



Rabbits were among the animals available at the program's petting zoo.



Students attempt to catch a ball, attached with a string, inside a cup. The simple toy, popular in ancient Egypt, has three ends with different size cups to provide different difficulty levels.

Photos by Jeremy Henderson

ON POST

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

Freedom Fest

Fort Rucker will host Freedom Fest July 1 from 4-10 p.m. on the festival fields for a day of food, activities and fun, culminating in one of the area’s largest fireworks show, according to organizers. The 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band will provide the live entertainment. Other activities include a variety of displays, children’s inflatable fun zone, rides, and a variety of local and regional vendors. The event is free and open to the public. No glass, coolers, backpacks or pets will be allowed. For more information, call 255-1749.

ScreamFree train the trainer

The Fort Rucker Family Advocacy Program will host a ScreamFree train the trainer session June 23-24 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Munson Heights Community Center. The sessions is limited to 15 participants. The deadline to register is Friday.

For more information and to register, call 255-3898.

Newcomers welcome

Army Community Service will host a newcomers welcome Friday 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.

Dueling Pianos

The Landing will host Dueling Pianos Friday from 8 p.m. to midnight in the ballroom. Billed as a high-energy, all request, sing along, clap along, rock n’ roll, comedy piano show, the event is open to the public for ages 16 and older. Doors open at 7 p.m. Advance tickets cost \$12 through today, and cost \$16 the day of the event and at the door. VIP tables are also available for \$150. VIP tables seat 10 patrons and are guaranteed to be located near the stage. Advance tickets may be purchased at The Landing, The Landing Zone, Coffee Zone at Lyster and MWR Central in Bldg. 5700.

For more information, call 255-9810.

Fathers Day brunch

The Landing Zone will host its Fathers Day brunch Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 255-0768.

FRG leadership training

Army Community Service will host family readiness group leadership training Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371F. For more information, call 255-3817.

Mom & Me: Dad too!

Army Community Service hosts its Mom & Me: Dad too! playgroup Mondays from 9:30–11 a.m. at The Commons. The playgroup is for families with children ages birth to 3 years old.

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

Tot Time

Army Community Service hosts its Tot Time playgroup Wednesdays from 9:30-11a.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950. The playgroup is for children 12-36 months and their caregivers. The playgroup provides programs and activities that enhance caregiver-child interaction, and stimulate child growth and development.

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

Resilience Through Art Work Space

The Fort Rucker Arts and Crafts Center will host its Resilience Through Art Work Space grand opening June 23 from 1-3 p.m. The Resiliency through Art program is not an art class and no prior art experience is needed. Instead, participants are encouraged to explore various art mediums with open expectations, concentrating on the process of creativity, not the end product, according to organizers. The program focuses on the process of personal expression through art in a small group setting. Participants will find art naturally relaxing when used in the supportive environment of the arts and crafts center. The program is free to service members and retirees. The program is Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

For more information, call 255-9020.

Employment readiness class

The Fort Rucker Employment Readiness Program hosts orientation sessions monthly



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Right Arm Night

The Landing Zone will host Right Arm Night June 23 from 4-6 p.m., hosted by the 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment. Right Arm Night is an Army tradition, promoting a night of camaraderie and esprit de corps as leaders come together and treat those who help them accomplish the mission. Complimentary appetizers will be served while supplies last. Right Arm Night is held every month, and both military and civilians are welcome. For more information, call 255-0768.

in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, in the Army Community Service multipurpose room, with the next session June 23. People who attend will meet in Rm. 350 at 8:40 a.m. to fill out paperwork before going to the multipurpose room. The class will end at about 11 a.m. The sessions will inform people on the essentials of the program and provide job search tips, as well. Advance registration is required and attendance at a session is mandatory for participation in the program.

For more information, call 255-2594.

Relocation readiness workshop

Army Community Service will host its relocation readiness workshop June 24 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.

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

Six Flags day trip

MWR Central will host a day trip to Six Flags in Georgia June 25. The trip will depart Fort Rucker at 5 a.m. and return around 10 p.m. Cost for the trip is \$65 per person, and includes transportation and tickets to Six Flags. The minimum number of participants for this trip is 21 people. The deadline to register is June 23.

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

Army Family Team Building app

People can complete Army Family Team Building training through AFTB’s app. Visit <http://www.ftruckermwr.com/acs/army-family-team-building/> to find the direct link to the app. Once complete, people can contact Fort Rucker AFTB to receive their certificate. Search for AFTB in the app store for Apple devices. For more information, call 255-9637.

Summer reading program

Center Library’s 2016 Summer Reading Programs – Reading: Sport of Champions! – continues June 29 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at The Commons with a live show featuring magic, puppets, comedy, storytelling and audience participation. Each summer reading program is open to authorized patrons and is Exceptional Family Member Program friendly. Registration is required.

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

Family resilience training

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

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

Library summer craft

The Center Library will host a summer craft session July 12 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages 3-11. Light refreshments will be served. Space will be limited to the first 65 children to register. The event will be for au-

DFMWR Spotlight

Family & MWR

Father’s Day Specials

Sunday, June 19

Father’s Day Bowling: 10 am–8 pm
Bring Dad out to Rucker Lanes for a Father’s Day Bowl. Bowl for 25¢ per game and 50¢ shoe rental per person. For more details call Rucker Lanes, (334)255-9503.

Father’s Day Brunch Special: 9 am–2 pm
Join The Landing Zone and treat dad on Father’s Day. For more details call The Landing Zone, (334)598-8025.

Pensacola Baseball Father’s Day Trip
Join MWR Central for an opportunity to experience the Blue Wahoos baseball team in Pensacola. A party deck pass has been reserved, which includes a buffet style meal, seating, beverages, and a souvenir hat! Tickets with transportation are \$50 per person, and \$35 per person for those who want to drive themselves. MWR Central will depart from Bldg. 5700 at 12 pm on June 19 and travel to Pensacola for the baseball game. Sign up at MWR Central, (334)255-2997.

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Fort Rucker MWR

thorized patrons and will be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

Babysitter training course

Fort Rucker Child, Youth and Schools Services will host a free, one-day babysitter training course July 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the youth center, Bldg. 2800, on Seventh and Division Road. To help people become certified babysitters, the course will include American Red Cross cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid training, home and fire

safety training, basic childcare and feeding, diaper changing, and basic child abuse awareness training. The course is for CYSS members, ages 13-18, and limited to the first 10 youth to enroll. A valid CYSS registration is required. Youth must bring a snack and lunch. Permission forms must be signed by a parent for the child abuse awareness training and release forms for youth names to be placed on the CYSS babysitter list. Youth must complete the training to receive certification. People need to register by June 27.

To register, call 255-9638 or visit <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil>.

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 16-19

Thursday, June 16

Keanu (R)7 p.m.

Friday, June 17

Finding Dory (PG)4 & 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 18

Finding Dory (PG)4 & 7 p.m.

Sunday, June 19

Finding Dory (PG)1 & 4 p.m.

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

GOING MOBILE

Army launches new website on 241st birthday

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Deep within the Pentagon, a team of programmers and Web designers have been working for over a year now to bring the Army's award-winning flagship website, Army.mil, up to the latest Web standards and to add some much-needed gloss to the site.

"Our Soldiers, civilians, family members and those who support our Army deserve a website that represents them and the greatest team on earth — the United States Army," said Brig. Gen. Malcolm Frost, the chief of Army Public Affairs.

"The new Army.mil website was built with this goal foremost on our mind. The Office of the Chief of Public Affairs has put together a modern site, viewable over all mobile devices, that clearly and simply shares the Army's story with the American people," he said. Most striking among the changes, which went live on the Army's birthday Tuesday, is the implementation of a "responsive grid" design.

"The idea of a responsive website is that it displays correctly on every device, including smartphones, tablets and a variety of browsers," said Zack Kevit, the Army.mil project manager. "All of the design decisions, the layout decisions, the coding decisions and the framework we use to display the content has been driven by the goal to make the site more mobile-friendly — because that's the direction our audience is moving."

About 40 percent of the site's visitors now come from mobile devices, he added.

The redesign of Army.mil involved a complete re-write of all of the site's code, Kevit



ARMY GRAPHIC

said.

"We took a deep look at the structure of everything, including the information architecture, the file structure, the corresponding sites and all the legacy data on there," he said. "It's all new now. It's lighter and faster."

Johnathan Howard, Army.mil technical director, added that two updates contributing to both increased speed and security on Army.mil is the enabling of HTTPS and HTTP/2.

"Policy mandates that all sites have HTTPS connectivity — and Army.mil is the first among its sister services to make that happen. Enabling of the HTTP/2 protocol will also improve site performance," he said. "Pages will load more quickly."

Bringing harmony

The version of Army.mil being replaced has existed since 2006 with only a few minor design refreshes over the past decade, according to the Web team.

With the Army's need to high-

light communication campaigns on the homepage, we decided to create a flexible mosaic like framework to bring harmony and order to a large amount of diverse content, said Lia DiValentin, a Web designer with the Army.mil team.

The new visual centerpiece functions as the Army's virtual "digital bulletin board," and allows the Army to easily promote different types of high priority content within one cohesive structure.

The team said the new site enables them to give more emphasis to Army communication campaigns that are promoted by the Army's public affairs staff at the request of Army senior leadership.

Army branding

Another design element Burlovich said has been included in the new Army.mil is adherence to the Enterprise Army Brand. The Army has a marketing office that in addition to developing commercials and other advertising for the Army, also

develops a branding strategy for the service so that magazine, television, Web, and newspaper advertising, for instance, all look the same in terms of colors, typefaces, graphics, and use of the Army logo and camouflage patterns.

"Previously, Army.mil had its own brand," she said. "Now it follows the look and feel of the overall Army brand. If somebody sees an Army commercial or poster, and then comes to Army.mil — they will associate the colors, typography and imagery more closely."

Content management system

Much of what's on Army.mil — in particular the print news stories and most of the imagery — comes from a content management system called CORE. Redesign of that back-end is slated for this year.

CORE is a system that is used to share articles, videos and photos produced by public affairs officers from units across the Army.

Army.mil programmers have

developed a new application programming interface to connect CORE to the new design. Howard said that documentation for the API will eventually be made available to other Web developers, enabling them to use CORE-provided content.

"Other Army websites can utilize the content, as well," Howard continued. "They can do all the news management through CORE with minimal recoding of their pages."

Feature microsites

The site also includes an array of feature microsites for various Army topics and themes. Chief among those are the "Valor" pages for individual Army Medal of Honor recipients. There are more than 20 of those on the site.

Army.mil also hosts dozens of other microsites categorized as "Events" for things like the Best Ranger Competition, or Best Warrior Competition; "Heritage" for topics like D-Day, Battle of the Bulge, or the Korean War; and "Resources" for things like the Army values, the Ready and Resilient campaign, and Army uniforms, symbols and insignia.

Great teamwork

Maj. Charlene LaMountain, chief of the Army's Online and Social Media Division, manages both Army.mil and the Army's social media efforts. She said the Army.mil team has done an exceptional job of development of the new Army.mil site, all while keeping Army priorities at the forefront.

"They've done their research," LaMountain said. "The Army.mil team has put a lot of effort into delivering a great new website that shares the Army's story, and we are really proud of the result."

New Army ad campaign highlights those who inspire Hollywood's heroes

Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army is launching the second phase of a new advertising campaign in mid-June in conjunction with a promotional period for the movie "Independence Day: Resurgence."

In a television spot called "The U.S. Army: A Source of Inspiration," footage from the new film shows troops preparing to attack a spaceship. A voice-over says "when the Soldiers in the movie rise up ... when they adapt to a new threat facing the world ... when they find a way to win no matter what ... remember where Hollywood gets that from."

As the music climaxes, the screen shows a montage of real Army combat footage.

That's definitely inspirational, said Mark Davis, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for marketing and director of the Army Marketing and Research Group, after previewing the new spot at a recent Army public affairs leadership forum.

The AMRG mission is to support recruiting and retention through aggressive, innovative and cost-effective marketing. The new ad campaign will focus on motivating potential recruits toward science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM careers in the Army, while highlighting the real-life heroes fictional characters are based on: U.S. Army Soldiers.

The campaign's television commercial will air on major networks including ESPN, MTV, Syfy, BET, Discovery, the History Channel, USA, TNT and more beginning Monday. An Army spot will also play in cinemas around the country prior to the release of the new Independence Day film scheduled for June 24.

In addition, there will be a supporting social media campaign, all aimed at improv-

ing the public's perception of the Army.

Davis said polls and focus groups have shown the Army is associated with being large, "ordinary," and low-tech.

Many of those questioned, he said, believe the Army is a service that will accept anyone. "They believe the Army is a last-resort place — it's where you go if you can't get a job at McDonalds."

While that may be the perception of those polled, Davis said, the perception is unfounded. The Army actually employs 27,000 scientists, he said, and "the stuff we invent is phenomenal."

"We've got everything from astronauts to deep-sea divers in the United States Army," Davis said, though the force hasn't done a good enough job communicating that.

The futuristic technology and innovation depicted in the new "Independence Day" film highlights the types of capabilities achievable in today's Army, according to the campaign overview.

The campaign, which launched May 9, is designed to curb misperceptions about the Army being low-tech. And it's especially aimed at the Army's recruiting demographic of 18-24 year-olds during the critical summer recruiting months.

The ad campaign is designed to leverage FOX Studio's promotions and drive potential recruits to the goarmy.com website through the Army's JoinESD.com microsite. ESD stands for "Earth Space Defense," and it's the force that repels aliens in the new movie.

The new interactive microsite will "test users' problem-solving skills, ability to work under pressure, pattern recognition and risk analysis to determine their 'role' in the ESD, while also providing information on relevant Army MOSs that exist today," officials said.

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MEET YOUR ARMY

Best Ranger NCO: Grit a powerful force

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — To succeed sometimes means overcoming failure, said Staff Sgt. Erich Friedlein.

Friedlein not only failed once, but twice before capturing the much-coveted title of Best Ranger for 2016. It was a two-person team competition so he split the honor this year with Capt. Robert Killian. The competition was in April at Fort Benning, Georgia.

The win for both Soldiers was significant because this was the first two time National Guard Soldiers took the title since the competition started 33 years ago. Friedlein is in the Pennsylvania ARNG and Killian is in the Colorado ARNG.

Grit can be painful

Friedlein said his first two tries for Best Ranger took an enormous physical toll on his body. Training included seemingly endless work on the obstacle course, rappelling, airborne jumps, and a variety of strength and endurance exercises. But each time victory slipped through his grasp, Friedlein said it made him all the more determined to succeed, so he willed himself to go back for more punishment because winning was his focus.

While training for his third attempt, Friedlein also went to school to become a master fitness trainer. He's been activated and now trains other master fitness trainers from all components at Fort Benning.

One of the blocks of MFT instruction is Performance Triad, which emphasizes the importance of sleep, activity and nutrition on performance and injury reduction.

While Friedlein said he was already getting a lot of activity, he



PHOTOS COURTESY OF STAFF SGT. ERICH FRIEDLEIN

Capt. Robert Killian and Staff Sgt. Erich Friedlein cross the finish line of the final event at Best Ranger Competition at Fort Benning, Ga., in April.

paid closer attention to sleep and nutrition because of what he'd learned. As a result, his recovery times got shorter and he grew noticeably stronger, giving him what could have been the winning edge.

However, April 1, just two weeks prior to the competition, something happened that could have been a distractor: Friedlein's wife, Danielle, gave birth to their first child, Leo.

Friedlein was there for the delivery, an excited dad, he said, but he quickly refocused on his goal of winning and not didn't allow himself to get too distracted by this blessed event.

There to see him take the championship was his mother, younger sister, wife and infant son.

Focus on goals

Now that Friedlein won Best

Ranger, he said his goal is focused totally on mentoring other Soldiers and helping them attain success, whether it be physically demanding responsibilities or leadership challenges.

Friedlein admitted that as a young man, he had no goals or ambitions, despite having a father who was an Air Force colonel and someone he looked up to. He said a friend of his was in the Army National Guard, so, at age 22, he sort of drifted into the Army to see what it was all about. That was in 2006.

The Army "sort of grew on me," he said. "I found everything about it appealing." From 2008 to 2009, he pulled duty in Iraq.

Friedlein said the Army is in now in his veins and he'll be in it for the long haul.

Asked about his favorite mov-



Killian and Friedlein hold up their Colt .45-caliber revolvers that were awarded them as winners of the Best Ranger Competition.

ie, Friedlein said it's probably "John Wick." He said the movie has some parallels to his own life of setting goals, overcoming adversity and attaining goals.

However, he said the action

hero in the movie is out for revenge, so that's where the parallels end.

The other distinction is that Friedlein is a real-life action hero figure.

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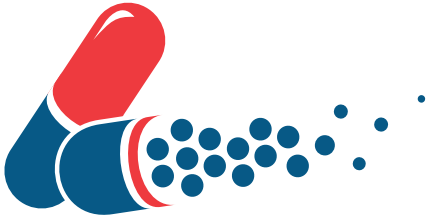


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ROTC mints over 1 million new officers during 100-year history

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Where do new Army officers come from? They come from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York; Officer Candidate School; and, for a century now, the Reserve Officer Training Corps.

The ROTC program was established by Congress June 3, 1916. Today, after 100 years of providing officers to lead America's Army, it is responsible for providing some 70 percent of new lieutenants to the Regular Army, Army National Guard and Army Reserve — about 5,300 new officers each year in total to the Army. The Army's ROTC program also produces officers for the Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force, as well.

Army senior leaders, including Under Secretary of the Army Patrick J. Murphy; Gen. Dennis L. Via, commander of Army Materiel Command; and Maj. Gen. Christopher P. Hughes, commanding general of Cadet Command — all graduates of the ROTC program — attended a commemoration event June 3 at the Pentagon to recognize the 100th anniversary of the program.

"ROTC is the largest producer of U.S. military officers in the United States," Hughes said. "In fact, since its inception in 1916, ROTC has produced over one million officers for our military. At the end of 1918, ROTC produced its first 103 commissioned officers, and produces more than 7,500 total, across the services, every year — men and women who have chosen to serve our nation, as our leaders, for the Army, the Marine Corps, the Navy and the Air Force."

Today, ROTC has programs at over 300 universities and campuses across the country, Hughes said. Many of those schools also offer their program to nearby college campuses who are unable to host their own program. So the total footprint for campuses served by an Army ROTC program exceeds 1,000.

"Each of these programs strives to recruit the best possible cadets



PHOTO BY C. TODD LOPEZ

Gen. Dennis L. Via, commander of Army Materiel Command; Maj. Gen. Christopher P. Hughes, commanding general of Cadet Command; and ROTC Cadet 1st Lt. Morgan Mercer, of Bowie State University, cut a birthday cake June 3 during the 100th anniversary of ROTC commemoration at the Pentagon.

to lead our armed forces, and to that end, ROTC has become our nation's largest grantor of scholarships at our universities," Hughes said. "They award more than \$431 million each year to roughly 23,700 cadets, putting young men and women on a pathway to advanced education at top-tier colleges and universities around the country, while volunteering to serve a cause greater than themselves: to serve their nation as leaders in one of the noblest professions in our country — that of the U.S. military."

Gen. Dennis Via, a 1980 graduate of the ROTC program at Virginia State University, said it was ROTC that opened his eyes to the possibilities that available to him in the U.S. Army.

"Virginia State introduced me, a small country boy, to a world of endless possibilities," he said. "But it was ROTC that opened that door to the new world. When

I reflect back on those days, I often think of the huge difference ROTC made in my life, and the difference ROTC has made in the lives of thousands of other former cadets like me, throughout their careers.

"Today, when I visit universities and ROTC battalions across the nation, I am so very proud to see how the program and the cadets are woven into the very fabric of the campus communities. The young men and women who have passed through our ROTC battalions over the last 100 years have benefited greatly from the leadership, discipline, structure and positive environment that the program provides."

In addition to creating new officers, Via said that the ROTC program is also partly responsible for creating the diversity that's now seen in the Army.

"They have led the way for diversity and inclusion in our force,"

he said. "The Army that we have all come to know today would not exist as it does without the college and university ROTC program."

While the future of conflict is uncertain, Via said, he's confident that the ROTC program will continue to provide officers that are well-prepared to lead America's Army.

"I can say with full confidence that with the enduring excellence of the ROTC program, our armed forces will continue to be the best-trained and best-equipped and certainly the best-led fighting force in the world."

At the Pentagon event were some of those future officers, now in the ROTC program, including ROTC Cadet Staff Sergeant Charles Derrick and ROTC Cadet Private Michael Wong — both students at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Derrick, who studies international affairs and geographic in-

formation systems, said he plans to accept a commission into the National Guard — something his grandfather had done before him. His service, he said, will bridge his professional and personal goals.

The ROTC program, he said, is "sort of a segue between my professional aspirations and the things I care about. Helping people is something that's important to me, and this was really a way that could materialize."

Wong, who studies economics and international affairs, said he's competing for a commission in the Regular Army — he wants to go active duty as an armor officer, or possibly military intelligence or engineer.

"I have the chance to compete for an active duty slot," he said. "It's not set in stone. I have to achieve a high enough grade point average, things like that. I have to do well enough to actually gain the active duty slot."





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Festival celebrates Alabama peaches

From Staff Reports
Army Flier

The Chilton County Peach Festival will celebrate Alabama peaches June 18-25 at various times and locations. Pageants and tournaments will be held throughout the week, along with the Peach Run, art exhibitions,

a cook-off, fishing tournament, live music, parades, live and silent auctions, barbecue and more.

One featured event will be the 12th annual Peach Jam June 24 at Clanton City Park from 5-11 p.m. This year's event will feature free admission, live entertainment, arts and crafts ven-

dors, a children's playground, food and activities for the whole family. For information on the Peach Jam, call 205-755-2400 or visit <http://www.peachjamjubilee.com>.

For more information on the entire festival, call 205-755-2400 or visit <http://chiltonchamberonline.com/>.



WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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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 19 – Landmark Park will offer free admission to fathers on Fathers' Day when accompanied by their children, ages 12 and younger. Landmark Park is a 135-acre natural science and history museum located on the outskirts of Dothan. Features of the park include nature trails, a planetarium, playground, picnic areas, an elevated boardwalk, a turn-of-the-century farmstead with sheep, goats, pigs, chickens, cows and other farm animals and crops typical of an 1890's farm. In addition, the park includes a drugstore with operating soda fountain, one-room school, general store, and historic church, all preserved from the surrounding area. The park is open Mondays-Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sundays from noon to 6 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for children and is free for park members and children ages 2 and under. The park is located on U.S. Hwy 431 North. For more

information, call 794-3452 or visit www.landmarkparkdothan.com

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 160-24, 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.

JULY 29 — A ROK Back 2 School concert is scheduled for at 7 p.m. featuring 7eventh Time Down, whose hits include "God is on the Move" and "Just Say Jesus," with special guest Shiloh at the Northview High School Convocation Center. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, and \$30 for VIP tickvets. Tickets are available online at <http://www.itickets.com/events/359688>. Proceeds go to benefit the Kyle Leonard Memorial Scholarship. For additional information call 662-251-9990 or visit www.rokproductionsinc.com.

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

JUNE 25-26 – The New Hope Freewill Baptist Church in Abbeville, 3819 County Road 31, will host the annual Youth Convention of the Mt. Hosea-Star Bethel Freewill Baptist Association June 165 at 10 a.m., featuring pastor and moderator Eddie L Baker. The theme will be Train up the Child! The convention will continue June 166 at 10 a.m. with Pastor Randy Sewell of Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Florida, as guest speaker. All churches are invited to attend. Dinner will be served.

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

Beyond Briefs

Hermit Crab Festival

Lynn Haven, Florida, will host its first Hermit Crab Festival at Leslie Porter Wayside Park June 18 from 2-7 p.m. Admission will be free to the event that will feature a fishing tournament, hermit crab race, 5K Twilight Run, live music, and vendors selling crafts and food.

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

Zoo animal enrichment day

The Montgomery Zoo will host its animal enrichment day July 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. According to zoo officials, from zoo animals to pets at home, and even including people, everyone needs enrichment – a chance to smell a new scent, taste a new favor, lay a new game or figure out a puzzle. Enrichment is an effort to tap into and stimulate ther basic five senses: touch, sight, smell, taste and hearing. The result is to stimulate behaviors resembling those for that species in the wild. Zoo admission: adults, 13 and older, \$15; children, 3-12, \$11; toddlers, 2 and younger, free. For more information, call 334-240-4900 or visit www.montgomeryzoo.com/announcements/enrichmenfeb.

Taco Libre!

Lightning Line is bringing the state's first Taco Festival to Montgomery June 18 from 2-8 p.m. at the Union Station Train Shed, 300 Walter Street. The event will feature a wide assortment of tacos from local joints, as well as food trucks from all over the state, according to organizers. A portion of the proceeds will go to EAT South!

For more information, visit the Lightning Line Facebook page.

Alabama Blueberry Festival

Brewton's Jennings Park will host the Alabama Blueberry Festival June 18. The festival will include arts and crafts vendors, a car show, live entertainment, blueberries, blueberry bushes, cookbooks and food. There is also a free children's section. The festival is known as the home of the original blueberry ice cream – made especially for the festival. Jennings Park is located at the intersection of Hwys. 41 and 31.

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

Fathers Day at zoo

The Montgomery Zoo will host its celebration of Fathers Day June 19 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. – with free admission for dads.

For more information, call 334-240-4930 or visit www.montgomeryzoo.com.

Legends Cruise

Montgomery's Harriott II Riverboat will host a Legends Cruise honoring Prince and Michael Jackson June 25 from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. The event is billed by organizers as a night of music, poetry and comedy designed to celebrate two iconic legends of the music industry. Also, a \$100 cash prize will be awarded to the best Michael Jackson and Prince outfits.

For more information, call 334-558-6520 or visit: www.facebook.com/events/1091588580884032/.

Gun, knife show

The Central Alabama Sports Commission Montgomery Gun and Knife Show will be held June 25-26 in Montgomery at the Multiplex at Crampton Bowl. More than 350 exhibitors will be present. All federal, state and local firearm ordinances and laws must be obeyed.

Show hours will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 25 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 26. Admission is \$7 for adults, and children 12 and younger are admitted for free.

For more information, call 334-322-8818.

'Beauty and the Beast'

Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" will be on stage at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery July 8-17. Ticket prices vary based on play, date and availability of seating. For more information, call 334-271-5353 or visit: www.asf.net/Plays-and-Shows/Disney-s-Beauty-and-the-Beast.aspx.

Genealogy 101

The Alabama Department of Archives and History in Montgomery presents Genealogy 101: A Workshop for Beginners July 9 from 9 a.m. to noon. The archives' expert genealogist, Nancy Dupree, will host the workshop featuring step-by-step instruction followed by hands-on research in the ADAH's EBSCO Research Room. Participants will be given a solid foundation to craft an effective research plan and learn valuable skills to help navigate the oftentimes overwhelming world of genealogical research, according to Dupree.

Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 334-242-4364 or visit: www.archives.alabama.gov.

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>.



ARMY PHOTO

Joann Valenzuela, in the middle in the black cap, holds the flag she carried from Vilseck, Germany, to the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania Feb. 14 along with other members of the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors expedition.

Survivor climbs Mount Kilimanjaro to honor Soldiers

By Anne Fugate
USAG Grafenwoehr

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — “I’m going to do it.” That was Joann Valenzuela’s immediate thought when she saw the TAPS flyer for a Mount Kilimanjaro climb for surviving family members.

And she did. Valenzuela and nine other survivors summited the highest peak in Africa Feb. 14, 2016, during a climb sponsored by the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors.

It was a coincidence, Valenzuela said, that the six-day climb peaked on Valentine’s Day, but fitting, considering the climb’s purpose: remembering and honoring their fallen service members.

As they scaled the 19,341 feet, each of the climbers carried mementoes of their loved ones. Valenzuela carried letters that her husband, Staff Sgt. Edwin Valenzuela, had mailed the day he was killed in Bosnia.

She also carried a United States flag on which were written the names of 97 Soldiers from Grafenwoehr and Vilseck who were killed in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Even though her husband was never stationed here, Valenzuela wanted to take something honoring Soldiers from the garrison where she has worked as a school age center director since 2007.

“Honoring the memory of Ed goes beyond just him,” Valenzuela said. “We climbed the mountain in memory of our loved ones, but in support of all. It was important to recognize Soldiers from the community where I live now, to honor them and not let them be forgotten.”

Valenzuela said she wanted to do two things when the group reached the top of the mountain: get a photo with the flag she carried and read the letters from her husband.

band.

She got the photo eventually.

“It feels like there are a million people up there, with all the expeditions going up the different routes,” she said. “We had to wait our turn to take photos at the peak.”

When they unfurled the flag, some of the ink had smudged, though the names were still legible. The flag had been packed in a plastic bag, but one corner had gotten wet during a heavy rainstorm the day before.

She did not read the letters.

“I have read those letters once and not opened them since. I thought that would be the perfect place to finally re-read them,” Valenzuela said.

“But what do you know about the top until you get there? You’re freezing cold, your fingers are freezing, the wind is blowing hard, and you’re so high up, the air is so thin, that your faculties kind of go. I did not want to take any chance that I would lose those letters.”

Though Valenzuela has always been active – she’s run half-marathons, snowboarded, gone bungee-jumping, even jumped out of an airplane – she expected the climb to be physically challenging.

“You’re carrying a 45-pound pack and walking eight hours. Even on the day we did just five hours, it was five hours straight up, so it’s not like it was an easy trek,” she said.

“And twice we had to hug huge rocks and inch around and up on these narrow, narrow ledges, and behind you, it is just straight down. I don’t know what we would have done without our guides.”

Still, when Valenzuela describes the climb, she does not focus on the physical aspects, but on the emotional.

“I’m not sure that ‘hard’ is the word,” she said. “I would say that it was very emotional, and cathartic. You’re walking with people who have all had the same

experience, talking about your loved one’s life and what they meant to you.”

The group’s shared experience as survivors made them more determined to succeed, Valenzuela said.

“We were in it together and were going to make it together. We weren’t going to let anyone not make it to the top.”

They started up the final stretch Feb. 13 at 11 p.m., using headlamps to climb through the dark, and reached the summit at 7 a.m. Feb. 14.

“When we finally reached the top, I cried,” Valenzuela said. “Partly because I was tired, but mostly because I was thrilled and proud and thankful. And of course because I was remembering why I was there.”

Today Valenzuela sees the challenge of running a half-marathon or climbing a mountain as a positive way to remember and honor her Soldier, and also support other survivors.

“You never forget,” Valenzuela said, “but you do continue to live. I can honor his memory by persevering and living life. I can get out there and celebrate life, and maybe help others remember and celebrate.”

Valenzuela points out, though, that it took her some time to arrive at that kind of response.

“This year it’s 20 years since I lost

Ed, and I still remember what it first felt like. There were times I felt frozen, like I couldn’t remember how to do the simplest things. I’d lost my friend, my lover, my confidant. I’d lost a big part of my identity--I was the wife of a Soldier, and now who was I?” Valenzuela said. “But as hard as it is to believe when it first happens, your feelings do change. You never forget, but it does get better”

She credits TAPS, a not-for-profit organization that provides resources for those grieving the death of a service member, with giving her a community of support that helped her through the toughest times. She first came in contact with TAPS members at a memorial ceremony at Arlington Cemetery in 1997.

“I saw this group of people all sitting together, and there was something about them, this sense of warmth. I just had to go over and ask, ‘Who are you guys?’”

Since then, wherever she has lived, she has been involved in TAPS programs and support networks. Even when living overseas, she still tries to go to TAPS’ annual national seminar over the Memorial Day weekend.

“No one wants to be part of this club,” Valenzuela said, “but I have always said, especially in those first few years, the people who helped me and listened to me saved my life.”

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8 a.m. Traditional Protestant Service

Main Post Chapel, Building 8940
9 a.m. Catholic Mass Sunday
11 a.m. Liturgical Protestant Service
12:05 p.m. Catholic aMass (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)
12 p.m. Eckankar Worship Service (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
Wings Chapel, 8:30 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.

Adult Bible Study
Soldier Service Center, 12 p.m.

Youth Group Bible Study
Spiritual Life Center, 5:30 p.m.

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

Thursdays
Adult Bible Study
Spiritual Life Center, 9 a.m.

Latter-Day Saints Bible Study
Wings Chapel, 6:30 p.m.

Saturdays
Protestant Men of the Chapel
Wings Chapel (1st Saturday), 8 a.m.

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JUNE 16, 2016



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFau

Competitors take to the water as they begin the Army Strong Triathlon on West Beach at Lake Tholocco Saturday.

PUT TO THE TEST

Competitors take on challenging Army Strong Triathlon

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

In one of its most physically demanding events of the year, Fort Rucker tested people's mettle with the Army Strong Triathlon where competitors swam, biked and ran to see what they were made of.

With 137 participants and 27 team members competing in the three-pronged event, the course, which was held on West Beach at Lake Tholocco started with a quarter-mile swim, followed by a 10.6-mile bike ride and culminated with a 3.1-mile run.

The overall winner was Charlie Johnson, civilian participant, who finished with a time of 58:34:02.

Johnson competes regularly in triathlons with his wife, Sandy, who both came up from Tallahassee, Florida, to compete.

"We found out about this triathlon through all of my friends," said Charlie. "They've been coming up here for a number of years and told me about how it was a wonderful race and just a wonderful place to be."

"I've never competed in a triathlon in the state of Alabama and we decided to come really just on a whim," he said. "(The night before the race), around 10 p.m., we were out at a restaurant and me and my wife decided, 'hey, lets go do the race,' so we woke up at 3 a.m. and drove over here and got here just in time."

For the Johnsons, who between the two of them have competed in over 100 triathlons, competing in triathlons is more than about just a



Sandy Johnson, civilian participant, gives Lucca Fischer, military family member, a high five as she rounds the corner to finish up her 3.1-mile run during the Army Strong Triathlon on West Beach at Lake Tholocco Saturday.

competition, but about a lifestyle that not only keeps their bodies healthy, but also their minds and relationship, as well.

"Participating in triathlons is a lifestyle and, sure, it keeps me healthy," said Charlie. "It's something to wake me up each day and it's a form of dedication, and I think it carries over into my work

life and just anything that I do."

If it weren't for triathlons, the Johnsons would never have met, he added.

"It really keeps our relationship strong because we're both so passionate about it," said Sandy. "We encourage each other and we push each other because when you're both into the same thing it makes

it pretty easy. When I don't want to work out he's pulling me up to get out the door and if he doesn't want to work out I'm pulling him, so it's just constant motivation."

The couple trains for long distance and put in up to 20 hours of training in a week, and although its hard work, it's something they both enjoy, but also not something



Bikers make their way through the 10.6-mile course during the Army Strong Triathlon held on West Beach at Lake Tholocco Saturday.

that they were able to achieve overnight.

"I wasn't naturally a triathlete, so I started from scratch," said Sandy. "Breaking that initial 30-minute 5K was huge, and you have to build up to it. I'd complete the Olympic distance running or complete a half Iron Man competition, and now I've complete 14 full Iron Man competitions."

"For me, it's all about achieving something that you didn't think you could do," she said. "Every time you achieve that, you just get more excited and you want to see what the limits are, and I've yet to find that limit."

Although the triathlete couple has competed in numerous triathlons throughout their lives, they said Fort Rucker's course was more than satisfactory.

"I thought the course was great," said Charlie. "There are different sizes of races, there are some that have 50 people competing and some that have 2,000 people competing, and for the size of this race, I thought it was very well organized and the people were great - I wouldn't change a thing about it."

TOTAL WELLNESS

New center offers tools for health, wellness, behavioral change

By Jenny Stripling
Lyster Army Health Clinic
Public Affairs Office

Those looking to take control of their health and general well-being, but who find they need extra support to get started with a plan may find an answer by visiting the new Army Wellness Center at Fort Rucker.

The Fort Rucker Army Wellness Center hosts a ribbon cutting for the opening of the center Friday at 9 a.m.

A U.S. Army Medical Command initiative overseen by the Army Public Health Center, the AWC at Fort Rucker is the 28th center to open its doors and will officially begin seeing eligible Fort Rucker community members in early July.

The AWC provides active-duty Soldiers, Reserve members, National Guard members, family members, military retirees, and Department of the Army civilians with free standardized primary prevention programs and services that promote enhanced and sustained healthy lifestyles to improve the overall wellbeing of Soldiers and family members.

The new AWC is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and a professional staff who will run a variety of assessments and tests to set people up with an action plan and provide them with tools and educational classes, so they can be on their way to better health.

The AWC approach is holistic, taking into account all of an individual's physical, psychological and social circumstances to meet individualized goals in both health and fitness.

Services include health assessment, biometric screening, exercise testing, exercise prescription, body composition analysis, metabolic testing, biofeedback,



PHOTO BY JENNY STRIPLING

Shanae Loiseau, Army Wellness Center health promotion technician, runs an analysis with the BodPod at the new Fort Rucker AWC.

wellness coaching, and education in healthy nutrition, weight management, stress management, general wellness, good sleep habits and tobacco education.

"These services would potentially cost someone thousands at an off-post establishment and are absolutely free to eligible clients," said Anna Schwartz, project lead of the AWC. "One of our main goals is to prevent disease and other health issues. We want to assist our clients in achieving and maintaining healthy lifestyles with positive behavior change."

Referrals can be made to AWC by medical providers or unit commanders; however, self-referrals may also be made and are always welcome, although it is best to schedule an appointment in advance to ensure preparation guidelines are adhered to.

When a client visits the AWC, their encounter is



CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PHOTO

This 2006 photograph depicts a female *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, the species of mosquito primarily responsible for the spread of the Zika virus disease to people.

Army scientists test Zika vaccine candidate

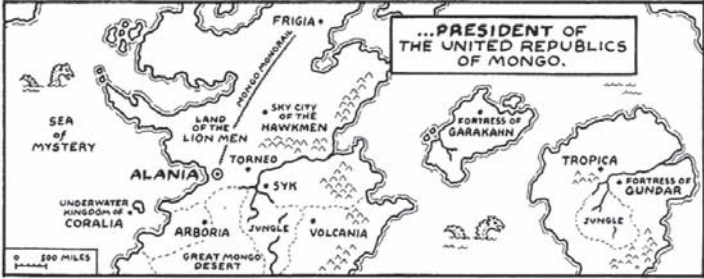
By Cheryl Pellerin
Department of Defense News

WASHINGTON - As mosquitoes carrying the Zika virus spread illness to people across the Americas and beyond, scientists at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research are moving quickly, conducting preclinical research on a Zika vaccine candidate with collaborators at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and planning to start human testing before the year ends.

The process has gone quickly, Army Col. (Dr.) Stephen Thomas said, because the institute's scientists know their flaviviruses. These include the mosquito-borne viruses that cause yellow fever, dengue, Japanese encephalitis and Zika virus diseases.

Thomas, an infectious disease physician and a vaccinologist specializing in flaviviruses, is the former deputy commander for operations at WRAIR in Silver Spring,

DOWN TIME



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



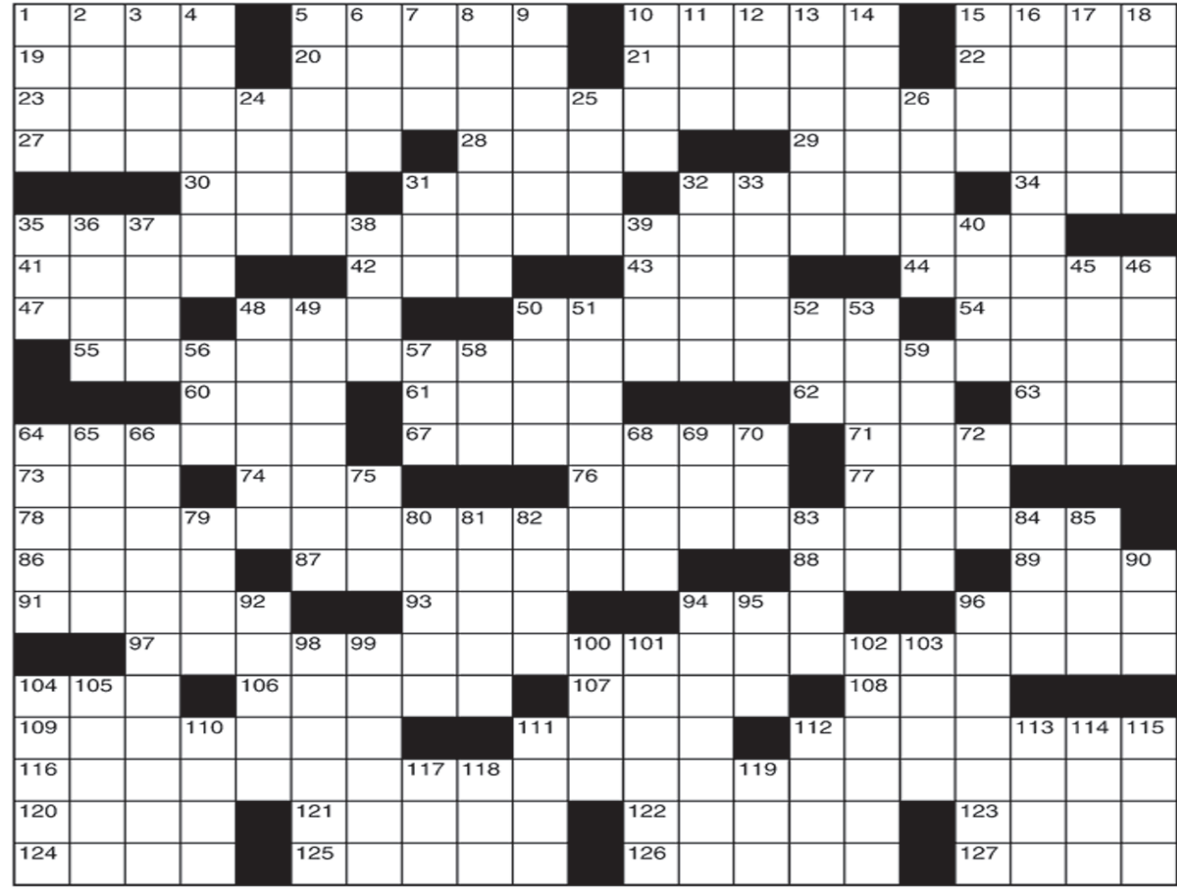
TRIVIA

1. HISTORY: What major event in France's history is marked by the year 1789?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What European city is known as the City of Peace and Justice?
3. MUSIC: What is the next to the last note in the scale that begins "do, re, mi ..."?
4. MEDICAL: What is involved in a phlebotomy?
5. CHEMISTRY: What is another name for sodium chloride?
6. LANGUAGE: What was a bard's profession in ancient times?
7. FAMOUS QUOTES: Which 19th-century writer once said, "Nothing that is worth knowing can be taught"?
8. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What kind of creature is a pollywog?
9. GAMES: How many pieces make up a double-six domino set?
10. SCIENCE: What are the four life stages of a butterfly?

See Page D4 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword THE NATIONALIST AND THE NEWBORN

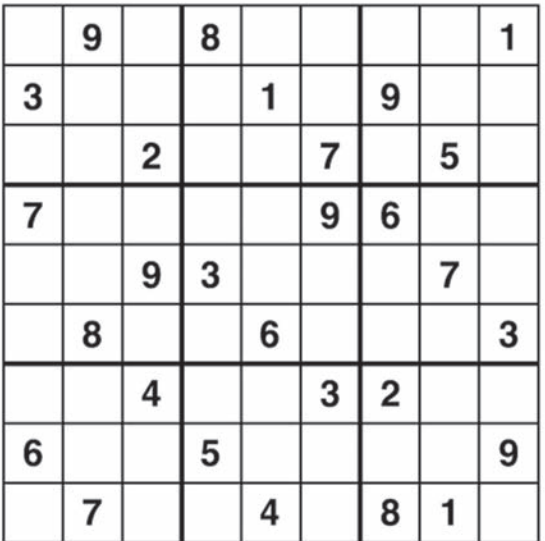
- ACROSS**
- 1 Mrs. Alfred Hitchcock
 - 5 Had an expectation
 - 10 "C'est moi," in English
 - 15 Car financing co., once
 - 19 Malicious
 - 20 Greater than
 - 21 Of film sound effects
 - 22 Quiet stretch
 - 23 Start of a riddle
 - 27 Like potatoes
 - 28 — a soul (nobody)
 - 29 Coagulated
 - 30 Similar to
 - 31 Have — (know the right person)
 - 32 Online letter
 - 34 Serpent follower
 - 35 Riddle, part 2
 - 41 Wields
 - 42 Kitten sound
 - 43 Flatow or Glass of radio
 - 44 SeaWorld attractions
 - 47 Minivan driver, often
 - 48 Geol., e.g.
 - 50 Smart guy
 - 54 Purview
 - 55 Riddle, part 3
 - 60 Many millennia
 - 61 Thrill rider's inhalation
 - 62 Thrown
 - 63 Grafton's "— for Evidence"
 - 64 Graph anew
 - 67 Riddle, part 4
 - 71 Jim who played Ernest P. Worrell
 - 73 Smelter input
 - 74 Lilt syllable
 - 76 Blockhead
 - 77 Is, pluralized
 - 78 Riddle, part 5
 - 86 Befuddled
 - 87 Poison in many murder mysteries
 - 88 Some small batteries
 - 89 Barn bird
 - 91 Bird homes
 - 93 Flamboyant stole
 - 94 Actress Grier
 - 96 Soft cheese
 - 97 End of the riddle
 - 104 "Hostel" director Roth
 - 106 Besmirch
 - 107 "May — a favor?"
 - 108 "Gloria in excelsis —"
 - 109 Making out
 - 111 "— all know ..."
 - 112 Buildup of unfinished work
 - 116 Riddle's answer
 - 120 Lead-ins to big days
 - 121 Elvis hit, e.g.
 - 122 Bang or pop
 - 123 Unit of matter
 - 124 Cardinal and cherry
 - 125 Auto type
 - 126 "Eeew!"
 - 127 \$1,000 units, in slang
 - 10 Doubtful
 - 11 To boot
 - 12 35mm camera option
 - 13 Resident of Islam's spiritual center
 - 14 Cornea coverer
 - 15 Overfill
 - 16 Like a triplex
 - 17 Patriot Ethan
 - 18 Bonnie's pal
 - 24 Sch. for the Bruins
 - 25 Novelist Sarah — Jewett
 - 26 Manuscript leaf
 - 31 Yes vote
 - 32 Zimbalist of "The F.B.I."
 - 33 Marlins' city
 - 35 "Tasty!"
 - 36 With 113-Down, recently
 - 37 Pixar's lost clown fish
 - 38 "Jake and —" (comedy Web series)
 - 39 River to the Seine
 - 40 Trapped like —
 - 45 Cliffside nest
 - 46 Full of lip
 - 48 Suave
 - 49 Situated in the middle
 - 50 Long (for)
 - 51 Blocked
 - 52 Comic actress
 - 53 Gasteyer
 - 53 Blissful state
 - 56 Buddhism, e.g.: Abbr.
 - 57 John Deere Classic org.
 - 58 Dorm
 - 59 Leaders, for short
 - 59 Wolves (down)
 - 64 "Mr. Bean" star Atkinson
 - 65 Wipe chalk from
 - 66 Ale brand until 2011
 - 68 Put on
 - 69 Nabokov's longest novel
 - 70 Male issue
 - 72 Stephen of "Stuck"
 - 75 "— ideas?"
 - 79 Like a Mass: Abbr.
 - 80 African land
 - 81 From here — (henceforth)
 - 82 Ampule, e.g.
 - 83 Poet's foot
 - 84 Kin of "me neither"
 - 85 Leia, to Luke
 - 90 Piano piece
 - 92 Bridal gown fabric
 - 94 Sit to be painted by, perhaps
 - 95 "Great" bird
 - 96 Schoolchild's burden
 - 98 Dances with dipping
 - 99 Squirm
 - 100 Menu choice
 - 101 Deviating off course
 - 102 "My Cup Runneth Over" singer
 - 103 Bi- plus octa-
 - 104 Go in
 - 105 Go out
 - 110 Hug go-with
 - 111 Port city of Yemen
 - 112 Firm cheese
 - 113 See 36-Down
 - 114 It uses a double reed
 - 115 Places to lift
 - 117 Tally (up)
 - 118 Long of "Premonition"
 - 119 2016 Olympics city



See Page D4 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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See Page D4 for this week's answers.

KID's CORNER



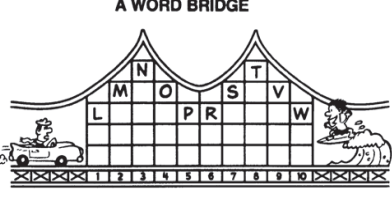
HIDDEN IN THE ABOVE FRAME is a famous proverb. Find it by reading every other letter as you go around it clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Answer: Starting with the second "T" down in the right rail.

LET'S SEE HOW YOU "STACK UP" WITH THIS ONE! If 7 bricklayers, with 7 trowels, can lay 7 tons of bricks in 7 days, how long would it take 10 bricklayers, with 10 trowels, to lay 10 tons of bricks?

TRY "RACKING UP" A PERFECT SCORE! Pictured below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in Grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in grid B.

1. Prohibits from doing.
2. Animal home.
3. A connecting element.
4. An earnest appeal.



The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each word, plus plenty of hints.

Illustrated by David Coulson

1. Side sheltered from the wind.
2. Type of shark.
3. A wanderer.
4. Legendary bad giant.
5. A small piece of butter.
6. Untrained and inexperienced.
7. A swindle.
8. Good with animals.
9. A small glass container.
10. An artificial covering.

1. Catches someone.
2. A prevaricator.
3. Used for baking.
4. Pallid.

Answers: 1. Lee 2. Mako 3. Nomad 4. Corpse 5. Pit 6. Rain 7. Scum 8. Jarner 9. Vial 10. Wig.

Wishing Well®

8	3	8	2	4	2	3	6	5	6	7	3	8
A	A	B	C	A	A	F	Y	C	O	N	F	E
4	3	4	8	2	5	8	3	7	2	4	2	4
R	I	E	A	S	L	M	R	O	H	W	I	A
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5	4	3	2	3	6	4	8	3	4	6	5	3
H	A	F	R	A	A	R	M	C	E	R	I	T
5	4	8	3	5	4	8	5	3	5	8	3	5
N	E	I	I	K	R	L	I	O	N	E	N	G

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTONOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Answers: 1. Left 2. Right 3. Left 4. Right 5. Left 6. Right 7. Left 8. Right 9. Left 10. Right 11. Left 12. Right 13. Left 14. Right 15. Left 16. Right 17. Left 18. Right 19. Left 20. Right 21. Left 22. Right 23. Left 24. Right 25. Left 26. Right 27. Left 28. Right 29. Left 30. Right 31. Left 32. Right 33. Left 34. Right 35. Left 36. Right 37. Left 38. Right 39. Left 40. Right 41. Left 42. Right 43. Left 44. Right 45. Left 46. Right 47. Left 48. Right 49. Left 50. Right 51. Left 52. Right 53. Left 54. Right 55. Left 56. Right 57. Left 58. Right 59. Left 60. Right 61. Left 62. Right 63. Left 64. Right 65. Left 66. Right 67. Left 68. Right 69. Left 70. Right 71. Left 72. Right 73. Left 74. Right 75. Left 76. Right 77. Left 78. Right 79. Left 80. Right 81. Left 82. Right 83. Left 84. Right 85. Left 86. Right 87. Left 88. Right 89. Left 90. Right 91. Left 92. Right 93. Left 94. Right 95. Left 96. Right 97. Left 98. Right 99. Left 100. Right 101. Left 102. Right 103. Left 104. Right 105. 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4th Army marksman wins Olympic seat

By Brenda Rolin

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit
Public Affairs

CAMP PERRY, Ohio — A fourth Soldier from the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit will join his teammates in Rio de Janeiro in August after the 2016 Air Olympic Trials June 3-5 at Camp Perry.

Spc. Dan Lowe, from Olympia, Washington, earned one of two available air rifle seats on the U.S. Olympic Shooting Team June 5 during the Olympic Trials, two years after his assignment to USAMU.

Three other USAMU marksmen have already taken their places on the U.S. Olympic Shooting Team. They are Sgts. 1st Class Michael McPhail, of Darlington, Wisconsin, for 50-meter prone rifle; Josh Richmond, of Hillsgrove, Pennsylvania; and Glenn Eller, of Katy, Texas, both for double trap, a shotgun discipline.

A fifth military shooter, Staff Sgt. Keith Sanderson of the Army World Class Athlete Program, has also qualified for the Olympics in rapid-fire pistol shooting.

“There was an awful lot of pressure on this match,” Lowe said. “I spent a lot of time on positive thoughts – the confidence you take to the line will make or break you.”

Lowe shoots in three disciplines – smallbore 50-meter prone rifle, smallbore three-position rifle and air rifle – but excels in air rifle, said his coach, four-time Olympian Sgt. 1st Class Jason Parker.

Parker said Lowe has the confidence needed to win in a tight situation.

“(His) strength is what he demonstrated today,” Parker said. “He is absolutely fearless – he can go into a competition, and shoot a good score and come away with a medal. He thrives on the energy and the spotlight.”

Yet, the three-day competition was somewhat of a roller coaster



PHOTO BY BRENDA ROLIN

Spc. Dan Lowe, U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, aims downrange during the 2016 Air Olympic Trials June 5.

ride for Lowe. After the first day of competition, he was in second place, but seemed to falter on the second day, finishing in sixth.

On the final day, however, he roared back to life and was in second place behind Lucas Kozeniesky, U.S. Shooting Team member, before going into the finals.

Kozeniesky was unbeatable at 10 points ahead of Lowe – competitors can only earn a maximum of eight points in the finals – and he had already earned one of the two air rifle seats.

That left second-place Lowe fighting for the final air rifle seat with two other shooters – Spc. Bryant Wallizer, a World Class Athlete Program Soldier, and U.S. Team member Dempster Christenson. Both were just a few points behind him.

Lowe persevered and finished in first place in the finals, secur-

ing his victory and the second air rifle seat, while Wallizer finished in eighth and Christenson ended up in third in the finals. Neither had enough points to pass Lowe.

“The second day was a little rough, but this is the Olympic Trials and a lot of things can happen, so you do the very best you can and that is what he did,” Parker said about Lowe. “He shot a world-class final today and you just can’t ask for more.”

Staff Sgts. George Norton, air rifle, and Greg Markowski of Sycow, Poland, air pistol, also competed in the Air Olympic Trials. Although neither earned enough points to win seats on the U.S. Olympic Shooting Team, Norton, of Salinas, Kansas, said he was extremely proud of his teammate Lowe and of his performance.

“Dan didn’t take anything



Lowe will join three other USAMU Soldiers at the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro in August.

for granted and his scores were excellent,” Norton said. “Dan came into Day 3, and he fought hard and he shot an amazing score and then he won the final. Anyone else might not have

been able to do that, but Dan came back.”

Norton won the men’s three-position rifle event during the 2016 Smallbore Olympic Trials in April, but because there were no U.S. seats available in that discipline, he couldn’t join the U.S. Olympic Shooting Team for that victory.

“I am very proud of the results I had in the men’s three-position and without the support of Sergeant First Class Jason Parker, the International Team, the USAMU Custom Firearms Shop, the USAMU and the Army, I would not be where I am today,” Norton said.

Army Olympians provide a direct connection between the Army and the American people through competitions, demonstrations, outreach and engagements on the local, regional and national level.

Veteran takes aim at Ultimate Champion title

By Shannon Collins

Department of Defense News

WASHINGTON — A retired Army sergeant takes aim at the target, draws back on the bowstring of his recurve bow with his teeth and releases, scoring a nine as he hits in the ring surrounding the bullseye in the Invictus Games in Orlando, Florida, May 9.

Robbie Gaupp is a medically retired Texas Army National Guardsman who first used a recurve bow when he competed in the novice team recurve before the Invictus Games, earned the bronze medal with his team.

He also earned bronze medals in the men’s 100-meter and 200-meter in running in his disability category. Gaupp said he hopes this will help his chances at becoming the Ultimate Warrior at the Department of Defense Warrior Games at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York, June 15-21.

Invictus Games

“I only had four hours of practice on the recurve,” he said. “[I’d] never shot it before in my life.”

Gaupp usually shoots the compound bow, but he credits teamwork and the training he received from his Team Army coaches for his success at the Invictus games.

“We talked to each other on the line, and we all came in there with different disabilities,” he said. “This was our first time shooting together as a team, and we went in with the mindset that we were walking away with a medal.”

While Gaupp appreciates earning a medal with his teammates, he said the spirit of the Invictus Games was important.

“We know we have injuries and watching someone overcome something that they were given with their disability is far superior than winning a medal anytime,” he said.

Injury

While out on mission in 2008 with Border Support Security for the state of Texas for Operation Jump Start, Gaupp shattered his right shoulder, tore his ligaments and tendons and his chest cavity.

He was right-handed, and now has to do everything with his left after two surgeries were only able to salvage his arm.

“Luckily, I’m alive. It could’ve been worse. I have two wonderful kids. Yeah sometimes it’s a struggle because they want to do things I can’t do but it’s all good,” Gaupp said of his son, Anzel, 9, and Patience, 7.

His children said they were really proud of him at the Invictus Games.

“I’m really proud of him,” Patience said of her dad. “He shot pretty good. He’s awesome.”

Anzel said he’s never tried archery but “dad’s going to teach me.”

When asked what they both want people to know most about their father they said in unison, “That he’s an athlete.”



PHOTO BY E.J. HERSOM

U.S. Invictus team archer Robbie Gaupp uses his teeth to pull back on the bowstring during the archery competition at the 2016 Invictus Games in Orlando, Fla., May 9.

Adaptive sports

Gaupp said he went to a dark place when he got injured but then he decided to give adaptive sports a try and learned just how resilient he is. He encourages other service members to try them as well.

“Don’t give up,” he said. “... Say to yourself, ‘I got this. I can do this and you know what? I can make this.’ You’ve got find this within yourself. No matter what, you can overcome anything. We can adapt.”

He said that while he can no longer do things the way he used to, “it doesn’t stop me from trying. I know I’m not going to ever be able to catch a football the same. I’m not going to be able to run the same. So I just adapted to that, and I found a way to make it even better, and yes, I might not ever be able to run as fast as I could, but I’m going to get as close as I possibly can.”

Warrior Games

Gaupp has competed in several Warrior Games, but his first games meant a lot to him. “I had nothing. I didn’t know where I was. I didn’t know what I was going to do. Life was all confusing to me. I was a general mess,” he said. “It was like ‘Wow, I’ve got the opportunity to compete with other injured Soldiers who are overcoming adversity, so when I’m down, I get to watch somebody who may have a worse injury than me and say to myself – if they can do it, I can do it!’”

“Watching those people succeed made me want to push harder to make myself succeed,” he added.

This year, he is shooting for the Ultimate Champion title, a pentathlon-style competition that pits athletes against each other in a variety of disciplines. Points are earned in each discipline, and the athlete who collects the most points is crowned Ultimate Champion of the DOD Warrior Games.

“I can’t wait because the Army’s never had an Ultimate Warrior – I think I have a great chance to do that,” he said.

Gaupp is also on the U.S. Paralympics track and field team. He is qualified, but doesn’t know if he has been selected yet for the team for Rio de Janeiro in September. He also plans on going to nationals.

“I don’t know if I made the team, but if not, I’m not giving up,” he said. “I’ll shoot for 2020 and 2024.”

At the DOD Warrior Games, about 250 wounded, ill and injured service members and veterans representing teams from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, U.S. Special Operations Command and the United Kingdom armed forces will participate in eight sporting events – archery, cycling, track and field, shooting, sitting volleyball, swimming and wheelchair basketball. The DOD Warrior Games highlight the resiliency and warrior spirit of service members, veterans and their families and caregivers.

Wellness

Continued from Page D1

documented in their electronic health record. Their medical provider is integrated into their wellness plan, has the ability to give direction and oversight to the wellness center, and is able to follow their patients’ progress.

“The center promotes and encourages living healthy lifestyles using a whole

person approach. We know that engaging in healthy habits now will improve readiness and prevent long-term and costly diseases later,” said Col. Gary Wheeler, Lyster Army Health Clinic commander. “The AWC is all about partnering with Soldiers, families, civilians and retirees to make and sustain healthy lifestyle choices.”

Improving health and fitness across the

force remains a top priority for Army leadership. AWCs are a leading effort in Amy Medicine’s goal of transforming from a healthcare system to a system for health.

“We have so much to offer the Fort Rucker community, especially in regard to Soldier readiness and resiliency,” Schwartz said. “We hope this center will inspire everyone to make health and fitness a priority because a healthier envi-

ronment or installation has a direct impact on Soldier performance and, ultimately, well-being.”

The Army Wellness Center is located at 4102 Gladiator Street, Bldg. 4102, and is open Mondays-Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., with the exception of Wednesdays when the center is open 7:30-noon.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 255-3923.

Zika

Continued from Page D1

Maryland, and the Zika program lead.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is tracking active Zika virus transmission in 39 countries and territories in the Americas, eight in Oceania and the Pacific Islands, and one in the western African island nation of Cape Verde.

In the continental United States, CDC reports 618 travel-associated Zika cases, 11 sexually transmitted cases, one case of Zika-related Guillain-Barré syndrome, but so far there have been no reports of locally acquired mosquito-borne cases.

Zika signals

“Zika is a flavivirus and we have been working on flaviviruses our entire history – since 1893 (on yellow fever),” he said. “So, it’s in our DNA to work on flaviviruses and we’ve been doing vaccine development for flaviviruses since World War II.”

He noted that before Albert Sabin developed a polio vaccine, he was in the Army and helped to develop vaccines for dengue and Japanese encephalitis.

Because of that background and ongoing biosurveillance efforts, Thomas said, “when we started to see signals of increased Zika activity in southeast Asia a couple of years ago, it made sense that when we really started to see the uptick in activity in Central and, primarily, South America that we should bring our subject-matter expertise and our capabilities to bear as part of the whole-of-U.S.-government response.”

And then there was the clock.

“There’s a race to get this done as quickly as possible,” he said, “because there’s a public health emergency going on,” and because WRAIR is focused on supporting U.S. force readiness for service members deployed worldwide.

Making vaccines

One of the reasons WRAIR can move fast on vaccines is its Pilot Bioproduction Facility for vaccines and biologics, established in 1958 to develop vaccines for Defense Department mission-related disease threats.

Today the facility also manufactures clinical-grade material for clients in the public and private sectors through cooperative research and development agreements, according to the WRAIR website.

“The vaccine facility belongs to us, so we’re able to control what they work on and when they work on it, and we’re able to be very agile and redirect resources when we need to,” Thomas said, adding that the facility produces 15 to 20 vaccine candidates a year.

Something else that helped WRAIR scientists get a head start on Zika vaccine prototypes is a biosurveillance program conducted at one of the three WRAIR overseas expeditionary research laboratories, this one in Bangkok.

Global biosurveillance

The U.S. Army medical component of the Armed Forces Research Institute of the Medical Sciences was established after a cholera epidemic in 1956. The laboratory is an agency of the U.S. Embassy-Thailand and is located at the Royal Thai Army Medical Center in Bangkok.

Together, AFRIMS in Southeast Asia and U.S. Army research platforms in Tbilisi, Georgia, and in Kenya, Mozambique, Uganda, Nigeria and Tanzania constitute special WRAIR foreign activities and form one of the largest pieces of a global DOD network. The network includes Navy medical research labs in Peru, Singapore and Egypt, a detachment in Ghana, and partner labs around the world.

“At the end of last year, we started to talk amongst ourselves that this Zika signal was starting to heat up,” Thomas recalled. “We had seen what happened with (mosquito-borne) dengue in Central and South America (beginning) in the ‘80s. It went from having very little activity, and when the viruses got introduced through travel and other means, it really took off.”

Thomas and his colleagues also watched chikungunya – a mosquito-borne alphavirus that likely originated in central and east Africa – make its way to Central and South America and the Caribbean between 2007 and 2013.

“It was the same scenario playing out again and again, where you have this susceptible population because the virus has not circulated there before, so they have no herd immu-

nity,” Thomas said. “Then you have the vector, in this case mosquitoes, capable of transmitting, and then you get introduction of the virus into that area and it starts taking off. We saw it with dengue, saw it again with chikungunya and ... we saw it in this country with West Nile.”

Because of Zika virus biosurveillance at AFRIMS in Bangkok, Thomas and his colleagues were able early on to get a strain of Zika from Asia that allowed them to do initial experimentation while they waited to get another strain that would be a basis for the vaccine, he said.

Zika vaccine effort

Thomas and his colleagues considered many factors when planning the Zika virus vaccine development effort, he said, including a charge by DOD to get something in the field as quickly as possible while mitigating regulatory agency risk and speeding up the process where possible, he said.

He explained regulatory risk this way: “We are working on a type of vaccine that the [Food and Drug Administration] has seen before and has licensed before. It’s the same (cell-based) technology we used to develop the Japanese encephalitis vaccine.”

The researchers are trying to mitigate risk by avoiding unproven technologies that could cause a licensing delay, he noted.

WRAIR is working on the vaccine in collaboration with other U.S. government agencies, including the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority – part of the Department of Health and Human Services – and the National Institutes of Health National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. It is also exploring collaborations with pharmaceutical companies, Thomas said.

The vaccine will contain a killed strain of the virus that is circulating now in South America, he added.

“This is not something like dengue, where there are four dengue virus types and you have to include every type,” he explained. “We feel pretty comfortable that for an initial vaccine construct, a single strain will be sufficient. We believe that it’s a good idea (to use) the strain that is causing the congenital syndromes and neurologic defects appearing in that region.”

FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRIEFS

Baseball Father’s Day trip

MWR Central will host a Fathers Day baseball trip to Pensacola, Florida, Sunday to watch the Pensacola Blue Wahoos play. A party deck pass has been reserved, which includes a buffet style meal, seating, beverages and a souvenir hat. Tickets with transportation cost \$50 per person, and \$35 for those who want to drive themselves. MWR Central will depart Fort Rucker from Bldg. 5700 at noon and travel to Pensacola for the baseball game. Anticipated return time to Fort Rucker will be around 9:30 p.m.

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

Fathers Day Bowl

Rucker Lanes will host its Fathers Day Bowl special Sunday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. People can bowl for 25 cents per game and get 50-cent shoe rentals.

For more information, call 255-9503.

Deep sea fishing trip

Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation will host a deep-sea fishing trip Saturday aboard the Vera Marie in Destin, Florida. All participants have to do is sit back, relax and enjoy a day of fishing. Everything else will be taken care of. The bus will depart Fort Rucker at 4 a.m. from Bldg. 5700 and return at 8 p.m. Officials recommend bringing a small cooler with drinks and snacks – no glass. The cost is \$85 per person, plus tip. The price includes transportation to and from Destin, bait, rod, reel, fishing license, six-hour fishing trip, and fish cut and cleaned at the end of the trip. The trip is limited to 42 participants.

For more information or to sign up, visit ODR or call 255-4305, or MWR Central 255-2997.

Youth bowling league

Rucker Lanes will host the Child, Youth and Schools Services Middle School and Teen Summer Youth Bowling League July 12-Aug. 2. Coaches will assist and train youth on different bowling techniques. League members must be CYSS members ages 11-18 – grades six–12. Registration for the league runs June 21-July 5. Each session will include a U.S. Bowling Congress award ceremony and party.

For more information or to sign-up, call 255-2260.

Independence Day Golf Scramble

Silver Wings Golf Course will host the Fort Rucker Independence Day Golf Scramble July 4. The format is four-person team scramble with a minimum of 18 teams and a limit of 36 teams. Registration, a

continental breakfast and range open at 7 a.m. Announcements will be at 7:45 a.m. and there will be an 8 a.m. shotgun start. Lunch and awards will immediately follow play. Entry fee is \$45 per player for non-members and \$35 per player for members. Entry fee includes tournament course fees, range balls, tee gifts, tournament meals and prizes. Mulligan’s will be sold -- two for \$10 or \$40 for a team. Registration deadline is June 30. The tournament will be open to the public.

For all tournament details, call 598-2449.

Stars and Strikes

Rucker Lanes will host its Independence Day Stars and Strikes special July 4 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.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Trivia

Answers

1. French Revolution begins
2. The Hague
3. ti
4. Drawing blood for tests
5. Table salt
6. Poet
7. Oscar Wilde
8. A tadpole
9. 28
10. Egg, larva, pupa, adult



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