

FAULKNER GATE CLOSURE

The Faulkner Gate will be closed July 2-5 for the Independence Day holiday. Normal hours will resume July 6. People should use the Daleville, Ozark or Enterprise gates during this time

BEAT THE HEAT

Splash! water park offers cool break from summer temps

Story on Page C1



PLAY BALL!

Scratch sinks Bucs, 8-4, to advance in playoffs

Story on Page D1



ARMYFLIER

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GEARING UP TO CELEBRATE

Freedom Fest offers up music, fireworks, food

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

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

Janice Erdlitz, DFMWR marketing director, 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.

"Freedom Fest is a celebration for our entire community," she said. "When we look around at our neighbors around the Wiregrass, we look forward to this day when we invite everyone out to celebrate our nation's independence with us at Fort Rucker. We all stand together, side by side, Soldier to neighbor, and feel the same powerful emotions of being proud Americans."

Event fields open to the public at 4 p.m. to provide food, vendors, activities, a children's 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 98th Army Band will return to the stage for a patriotic concert at 8:10 p.m. Fireworks begin at 9 p.m.

"We strive each year to make Freedom Fest something the entire community can enjoy," Erdlitz said. "We love being able to host this event and have our neighbors come out and join us. The event admission is free. You can enjoy the 98th Army Silver Wings Band perform and enjoy one of the best firework shows in the area. We take great pride in being about to make this event affordable for everyone to enjoy."

"We will have a kids' fun zone filled with inflatables," she added. "You can purchase arm bands or individual tickets for the area. We will also have some fun carnival-type rides available with individual tickets available for purchase. The WOCCs will have their confidence course there for kids to try out their skills at mastering the course with assistance, if needed. We will also have several helicopters out on static display and



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAM

Sgt. Ted E. Bear dressed up for Freedom Fest last year.

SEE CELEBRATE, PAGE A5



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAM

Workers at Lowe Army Heliport work together to clean a UH-60 Black Hawk June 15 using the more efficient water nozzles.

'NO SMALL FEAT'

ACLC receives award for sustainability, conservation efforts

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

With recent initiatives on Fort Rucker focusing on conservation and efficiency, such as the opening of the solar array, it's no surprise that organizations on the installation are being recognized for their efforts in sustainability and environmental conservation.

The Aviation Center Logistics Command was presented the U.S. Army Material Command Environmental Sustainability Team Award recently for its work in developing processes that focus on reducing Aviation maintenance energy use, water use and waste footprint through equipment acquisition and disposal, according to Genie Jones, ACLC environmental group leader.

"Through contract modifications, property management and procedure changes, ACLC's team is enhancing the community's environmental quality, reducing mission's environmental footprint, and reducing costs," she said of the team comprised of ACLC and Army Fleet Support environmental, logistics and property subject-matter experts.

Some of the team's accomplishments include new procedures for purchasing

equipment that supports energy and water conservation, and, in doing so, the team was able to reduce fossil fuel use, which saved more than \$57,000 in energy costs in 2014 alone.

Additionally, Jones said the development of innovative techniques, which include the review of over 40,000 line items and the first contract-wide equipment energy and water consumption baseline of over 9,000 items contributed to the reduction of water and energy consumption.

One example of that reduction comes with something as simple as the water nozzles used to wash aircraft on many of the flightlines, said Jones.

Since switching to new, efficient nozzles, the team has shown a 95-percent decrease in water consumption since using the new spray nozzles. In 2014, they went from using up to 3.3 million gallons of water per year to 170,000 gallons of water per year, which also translates from 450 gallons of water per aircraft, to using only 40 gallons of water per aircraft, in the first year it was implemented. In the following year, AFS reported an additional 30 percent decrease in water consumption per year.

"This initiative forced consideration of operating and support costs, which

typically can be 80 percent of lifecycle costs, up front and early in the acquisition process, to include energy and water consumption, and environmental disposal costs," said the environmental group leader. "This conservation program improved ACLC's mission of quality Aviation maintenance and logistics support to the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence by promoting more efficient use of resources through environmental compliance justification, feasibility studies to include operational savings, energy and water use deltas, disposal costs and review of potential impacts to personal safety and health."

ACLC's largest initiative was the review and replacement of equipment and furniture, more than 166,000 pounds of which was recycled through several local businesses, which resulted in a direct cost avoidance of more than \$23,000 in transportation and disposal costs, Jones said.

The equipment that was recycled, ranging from aircraft maintenance equipment to office furniture, was all replaced with more efficient, cost-effective equipment and furniture that will, over time, save money and, in

SEE ACLC, PAGE A5

Post offers incentives to hunters, trappers to target feral hogs

By Jay Mann
Public Affairs Specialist

If the chance to bag a 300-pound hog on a hunting trip is not enough, Fort Rucker offers some other incentives to entice people bring home the bacon.

In recent decades, feral hogs on Fort Rucker have become an issue that needs to be dealt with, said Doug Watkins, natural resources branch chief. "Over 20 years, it has evolved into a massive problem. Being an invasive species, these animals are now creating an environmental problem on Fort Rucker, as well as destroying our training lands. All of our surrounding neighbors are being severely impacted, as well."

Officials hope the incentives will help reduce the impact the animals are having, said John Clancy, outdoor recreation manager. "We are trying to get their population down because they destroy property by undermining roads, rooting the ground up, and competing with the native wildlife for space and food."

"Our hunter incentive program is a way we are fighting this population growth," he said. "If a hunter or trapper can harvest 20 hogs from August of last year to August of this year, they will get an additional Buck Tag added to the two that they can normally get."

People can get state hunting licenses and post permits at outdoor recreation, which also keeps all regulations, maps and descriptions of what can be hunted in the various hunting areas, Clancy added. Hunters also need to take the online safety course.

No experience? No problem. "We have a mentor program for people wanting to get into hunting, fishing or trapping for the first time," he

SEE HOGS, PAGE A5



COURTESY PHOTO

Feral hogs in a trap.

PERSPECTIVE

CSM’S BLOG:

The Master Leader Course — what to expect

By Sgt. 1st Class Janna Escudé
TRADOC

(*U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command CSM’s Blog Editor’s Note: The Master Leader Course is just one step in improving NCO education. Sgt. 1st Class Janna Escudé, TRADOC Institute for NCO Professional Development, shares her experience while attending the Army’s newly minted course in Maarch. The Master Leader Course will be just one of the NCO Leader Development topics covered by panel members from across the command at the next TRADOC Town Hall today from 3-6 p.m. while the panel discussion is from 4-5:30 p.m. People can tune in live at www.emc.army.mil/broadcast to get their questions answered.)

Why the Master Leader Course? Well first off, why not? It really just makes sense. Why would you just attend a Noncommissioned Officer Academy for every level of promotion, but leave master sergeant out of the equation?

Does it honestly make sense to have a gap of about 10 to 15 years before receiving new professional military education, despite your change in rank?

It didn’t to me, so when I was asked to attend Master Leader Course Operational Trial 2, you better believe I jumped all over it.

This was an opportunity for me to not only grow professionally, but to also have a say as to what was a really important curriculum for our future master sergeants. My first impression of attending the course was, “What have I just gotten myself into?”

First off, you get this nice, inviting welcome letter from the course commandant (thank you, CSM). It talks to you about in-processing



ARMY PHOTO

Sgt. 1st Class Janna Escudé

(check), passing the Army Physical Fitness Test (check), meeting the height and weight requirements (check), writing a three- to five-page paper in American Psychological Association format (check). Wait — what?

That’s right, if you haven’t done so in a while it’s time to brush up on your writing skills.

The surprises didn’t stop there, though. The next thing explained in the welcome letter was that the course was going to be a straight 15 days. Yes, you heard me right. No weekends, and in my case, no holidays. In all reality, it wasn’t that terrible – 15 days nonstop only means you’ll return home to your family that much sooner.

The first day of the course turned out not to be too bad. We had active duty, reservists, National Guard and even one Airman. One

Army School System at its finest, plus one. Right from the start, they divided the class up into two small groups, intentionally making us as diverse as possible.

They mixed ranks, components and a variety of military occupational specialties, and I personally appreciated this breakdown. The amount of knowledge and experience in that room assured me I was about to be challenged like I had never been challenged before.

Now it was time to break down the course requirements and subjects. The subjects themselves didn’t seem all that intimidating: leadership, management, operations, joint operations, Soldier readiness and, of course, communications. Fairly easy stuff, right? Well, let’s not forget we are transitioning from a tactical to an operational viewpoint.

What did that mean to me? It meant I was now trying to see and plan for a much bigger picture than just my previous actions on the ground with my Soldiers. I thought I had some understanding, but I was nowhere prepared for the depth at which we would break down the operational environment.

Let’s see, you have to understand the operational variables, mission variables, the commander’s understanding and, of course, his intent. You need to know the current situation, what the desired end state is and the difference between the two. This will help determine the operational problem, so you can then attempt to solve that problem.

Whew, that’s a mouthful. I give super kudos to our instructors because for some of us, we went round and round trying to get it pieced all together, but eventually it did stick.

And thank goodness for our diverse classrooms. After breaking into small groups to collaborate, we began to see the bigger picture of our posture. This is where we really saw that experience and knowledge come out.

I learned so much from my peers during this group problem solving. Interacting in such a manner was one of my favorite parts of the course, not to mention the bonds I have now created with so many impressive seniors. This course really prepares you for those strategic jobs that will require a unique staff to make a successful product.

So, back to the requirements. I’ve already explained that you’ll take an APFT, and are required to meet the Army height and weights standards. Those are already understood. I also touched on the three- to five-page paper for turn-in at the beginning of the course.

Well, be prepared to do one more of those as a group project, requir-

ing a group briefing. You’ll get this pretty early on, so the sooner you start writing and working together on this, the better. You’ll also do a group project for the Military Decision Making Process, but, by this point, you feel like you really have the ins and outs, so you fly through this part of the course, especially knowing graduation is right around the corner.

Oh, I almost forgot the most important requirement – essay question evaluations! Gone are the days of multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank tests. Also gone are the days of using your notes. That’s why it’s important to brush up on your writing skills. Plus, you’ll want to read all the assignments as instructed and take good notes for review.

I’m not going to paint a picture that this course was easy by any means. It was rigorous, exhausting and a new style of the normal military testing we have come to appreciate. You have to do the work to be successful, and that’s a lot of work in just 15 days, but the reward is so worth it.

What’s the reward, you ask? Well, it has given me a taste of various positions I could one day be afforded the opportunity to hold. It has also given me faith that I will have the understanding to be successful in those positions.

It’s prepared me to not only work with others outside of my MOS, but to work with all forces across our military to assist in creating an operational environment that will keep us successful as a nation. Most importantly, the Master Leader Course has set me up to be a successful leader through versatility and professional enhancement.

Well done, U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, and thank you for the opportunity to attend such an influential course.

Rotor Wash



Pfc. Jessica Daye, A Company, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment.

“I became a Soldier because I wanted to give back to my country.”



Spc. Austin Christensen, B Co., 1st Bn., 11th Avn. Regt.

“I thought it would be a great opportunity to see the world and learn from a new perspective.”



W01 Jacob Radke, B Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt.

“The Army is a great learning opportunity and a way for me to grow as a person. I like to think that what we’re doing is helping shape this country into something we can be proud of.”



Pfc. Jacob Darden, A Co., 1st Bn., 13th Avn. Regt.

“I come from a military family, so military life is something I’m really familiar with and I could always see myself as a Solider. I wanted to continue my family’s military legacy.”



2nd Lt. Garret Childress, D Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt.

“I think it’s important to try and be part of something that’s bigger than one’s self. Being in the military teaches you to work as a team and work together for a common goal.”

COMMAND

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler
FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

Col. Shannon T. Miller
FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

Lisa Eichhorn
FORT RUCKER PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Jim Hughes
COMMAND INFORMATION OFFICER

David C. Agan Jr.
COMMAND INFORMATION OFFICER ASSISTANT

EDITORIAL STAFF

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mable Ruttlen
DISPLAY ADVERTISING
393-9713
mruttlen@eprisenow.com

CLASSIFIED ADS. (800) 779-2557

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SELFLESS SERVICE

NCOA volunteers help museum ‘out of a pickle’

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Many people say that volunteers are the backbone of a community, and that sentiment certainly rings true in the military community.

Soldiers from the NCO Academy took time June 11 for some selfless service to help one of the most frequented spots not only on Fort Rucker, but also throughout south Alabama – the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

Students and instructors, from SLC Class 004-16, as well as senior leaders, took part in a volunteer effort to help complete the exhibit foundations for a World War II and Korean War diorama to be displayed in the museum.

“We were in a bind here (in regards to the foundation for the exhibit),” said Robert Mitchell, museum curator. “Kayla Sutterfield, museum volunteer (and daughter) of Command Sgt. Maj. Micheal D. Sutterfield (1st Aviation Brigade command sergeant



COURTESY PHOTO

Soldiers help build a diorama at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum June 11.

major), suggested that we get some volunteers from one of the NCO courses. And, sure enough, they volunteered to come help out. They really got us out of a pickle.”

Mitchell said that the group of about 10 Soldiers, including the 1st Avn. Bde. CSM and his daughter, completed about two weeks of work in a little over two hours, which included putting down plywood and reinforcing the foundation for the new diorama.

Sgt. 1st Class Eric Kahle, NCOA, and his son, Harvey,

were among those to help out on the exhibit. For Kahle, it was all about giving back to his community.

“Every cycle we have students go out into the community and get involved by doing volunteer projects to show them how to take this back to their units and be a part of their community,” he said. “Mr. Mitchell reached out to us and my class was looking to find a volunteer project to work on, and this came along, so they jumped (at the opportunity).”

“This gets our unit out there,

and not just our unit, but Fort Rucker,” said Kahle. “We just want to show people that we care what goes on in the community just as much as in our units.”

The new exhibit will show a depiction of two aircraft of the first helicopter rescue mission in the jungles of Burma during World War II, as well as an exhibit of an H-19 helicopter on a mountain top resupply mission during the Korean War, said the curator.

The current exhibit isn’t gone, but moved to a new location to create a chronological flow of time throughout the museum as patrons walk through.

“What’s going to go in its place is a 10,000-pound H-19 helicopter, so the problem was that we had to reinforce the entire pedestal that it was going to be sitting on, so not only did the Soldiers re-deck the pedestal that the new exhibit will sit on, but they had to go underneath it and build stanchions to support where the landing gear is going to rest – there was just a lot going on,” said

Mitchell.

The entire process was a huge success because of the help from the Soldiers of the NCOA, he said, adding that the exhibit is slated to be complete by early August after a few more decisions are made on what materials to use for the base.

“The support we get from Soldiers is invaluable,” said Mitchell. “They’re eager, they’re hard working, they’re dedicated and they’re interested in preserving their history, so anytime we can get Soldiers involved is absolutely as good as it gets.”

The other Soldiers involved with the project were: Sgt. 1st Class Jay Wilhelm, Sgt. 1st Class Karissa Maradol, Sgt. 1st Class John Staudacher, Staff Sgt. Justin Hammond, Staff Sgt. Kevin Page, Staff Sgt. Matthew Samuelson, Staff Sgt. Derek Pollock and Staff Sgt. Jarin Trakel – all from the NCOA.

With the aid of these Soldiers, Mitchell said that the museum is able to display the many facets of

Army’s iWATCH program key to prevention efforts

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

In light of recent threats across the nation, most notably the recent attack in Orlando, Florida, that left 49 people dead in the worst mass shooting in U.S. history, Fort Rucker officials want to remind people to stay vigilant.

When it comes to the safety and security of people on Fort Rucker, as well as across local communities and throughout the nation, law enforcement can only do so much, said Cory Greenawalt, the Fort Rucker Training and Doctrine Command antiterrorism officer.

“Due to recent events – attacks in Belgium; Paris; San Bernardino, California; and Orlando – the ‘See Something, Say Something’ campaign is being resonated throughout country by federal and local authorities,” he said. “Gathered information from these investigations are showing that there were signs of preparations (for attacks) seen by the public, but never reported. Law enforcement agencies at all levels are emphasizing the ‘See Something, Say Something’ mantra that could be the difference in lives saved.”

That’s where iWATCH Army comes in, which is an antiterrorism program that’s focuses on encouraging Army-wide community awareness and outreach efforts to address important topics related to protecting communities, not just from terrorist acts, but all crime, said Greenawalt.



ARMY GRAPHIC

“It’s a community program to help your neighborhood stay safe from terrorist activities and crime,” he said, adding that the program is a platform for people and their fellow Army community members to report behaviors and activities that seem out of the ordinary or make them feel uncomfortable.

To access the iWATCH Army website, people can visit: www.myarmyonesource.com/familyprogramsandservices/iwatchprogram/default.aspx.

Greenawalt said people should make this a topic of conversation between their loved ones and friends to remain vigilant because it’s up to everyone, not just law enforcement, to keep their communities safe.

“Parents need to talk to their children about this,” he said. “Although school is out, there are plenty of summertime activities that go on throughout the installation, so people need to watch out for suspicious behavior everywhere,” adding that parents should visit the iWATCH website for more

information that they can share with their children.

There are a number of different reasons to report suspicious activity, but Greenawalt said that keeping the installation safe is first and foremost. People’s awareness is at the forefront of defense that can help predict and prevent attacks before they happen.

“Our law enforcement is the reactionary force to reported activities, but they need more eyes and ears out there to help them – every person is a sensor,” said the antiterrorism officer. “Authorities can’t be everywhere at once.

“We are here to protect our country and our neighborhoods,” Greenawalt continued. “We’re the frontline of defense and then we call the proper authorities to take care of the issue. We see it, we report it, and we get the experts and the professionals to deal with it. That is how we protect ourselves.”

Some things Greenawalt suggests people look out for include: people drawing or measuring important buildings; strangers asking questions about security forces or security procedures; briefcases, suitcases, backpacks or any packages left unattended; cars or trucks left in no-parking zones in front of important buildings; intruders in secure areas; persons wearing clothes that are too big or bulky, or too hot for the weather; and even chemical smells or fumes that don’t seem right.

“Trust your instincts,” said the antiter-

rorism officer. “We rely on our senses every day of our lives. If a behavior or activity makes you feel uncomfortable, report it.”

When people report an incident, they should try to give as many details as possible. Greenawalt provided a checklist that people can use to make sure they get the necessary information: date and time; where it happened; what they witnessed; description of people involved including gender, height, build, ethnicity, hair color and age; and license plate numbers if available.

Greenawalt also advises people not to get directly involved unless there is an immediate threat or if it’s the only action available, and for them to allow the proper authorities to handle the situation.

He also advises that people share information regarding iWATCH Army to everyone they know.

“Everyone needs to get this kind of information out to their neighbors,” said Greenawalt. “This is not the kind of information that should be kept to themselves, but shared with the world. We strongly encourage people to share this information with each other so that they know what to do if they see something out of the ordinary.”

Greenawalt also stressed that 911 should only be called for emergency situations, but people can call the non-emergency line at 255-2222 to report any suspicious activities.

GRAND OPENING

Dr. Beverly Joiner, deputy to the garrison commander; Col. Shannon T. Miller, garrison commander; Col. Gary Wheeler, Lyster Army Health Clinic commander; Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general; Capt. Pamela Francis, Army Wellness Center officer in charge; and Anna Schwartz, Army Wellness Center director, cut the ribbon to open the Army’s 28th AWC, which opened at Fort Rucker Friday. The AWC is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and a professional staff that run a variety of assessments and tests, and provide tools and educational classes for Fort Rucker Soldiers, families, retirees and civilians.



PHOTO BY JENNY STRIPLING

News Briefs

Power outages

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

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

Changes of command

- Aviation Center Logistics Command will host a change of command ceremony Tuesday at 9 a.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Col.

Michael Best will assume command from Col. Kenneth Kliethermes.

- The U.S. Army Aeromedical Center will host a change of command ceremony Tuesday at 11 a.m. at The Landing. Lt. Col. Jon E. Baker will assume command from Col. Gary A. Wheeler.
- Air Traffic Services Command and 164th Theater Airfield Operations Group will host a change of command ceremony Tuesday 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.

WELCOME

SecArmy: Soldiers are nation's best ambassadors

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers, leaders from across the Department of Defense and personal guests welcomed Eric K. Fanning to his new role as the 22nd secretary of the Army during a full-honor arrival ceremony Monday at Summerall Field on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Virginia.

“Secretary Fanning served as my chief of staff when I first became secretary of defense,” said Secretary of Defense Ashton B. Carter. “I looked to him to help me recruit and attract a talented and innovative team of civilian and military leaders, many of whom are with us today.”

Carter said Fanning brings with him a breadth of experience at the helm of other military departments, including time as undersecretary of the Air Force, acting secretary of the Air Force, and also as deputy undersecretary of the Navy.

“That gives him a unique perspective on the pivotal connections that bind our joint force,” Carter said.

At a time where the U.S. is concerned about ISIL, Russian aggression, a rising and aggressive China, North Korea, and Iran, Carter said he’s confident that Fanning and Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley are right to lead the Army.

“Secretary Fanning and General Milley understand all this, understand what must be done to ensure the readiness and strength of the Army to confront the challenges of today’s security environment,” Carter said. “They’re working together to strengthen the Army’s unparalleled ability, forged over the last 15 years, and much longer, to carry out its core mission, which is to seize, to hold, and to dominate physical and human terrain.”

He said that in line with the Army’s No. 1 priority of readiness, both Fanning and Milley will work to strengthen the Army’s ability to fight in an array of conflicts — not just what it has been doing in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“They aren’t resting on the current excellence of our Army,” Carter said. “They’re doubling down on it, ensuring that our ground forces are agile, unrivaled in posture, ready for full-spectrum operations, and always prepared to defend America’s interests and values.

“So it is an honor to formally welcome Secretary Fanning as Secretary of the Army,” Carter said. “And I want to thank him for everything he is doing on behalf of all of the Soldiers and military families who serve today, from the mountains of Afghanistan to the plains of Eastern Europe to the Korean peninsula to enabling our partners on the ground in Iraq and Syria.”

Fanning was initially nominated by President Obama as secretary of the Army in November. He had been serving at the time as undersecretary of the Army. His confirmation to the position was delayed, however, and he left the secretary of the Army position in January without having been confirmed. He was later sworn in as secretary in May 2016, after having been confirmed by the Senate.

Despite the long delay in advance of his actually taking the helm, Milley said he’s known Fanning for quite some time, from back when the two were both being considered for their current positions, and says he’s grown confident with Fanning’s ability to lead.

“We are absolutely thrilled to have you finally aboard — there is much work to be done,” Milley said. “It’s no surprise to any of you who know him, but Eric Fanning is an incredible professional. He’s completely committed to our Army, both the Soldiers and their families, and he is first class in every way imaginable. As an Army, we could not be luckier and more proud of our new secretary ... I can tell you he is extraordinarily talented, and he is thoughtful, he is calm, and a man of immense personal courage and integrity. Eric Fanning is absolutely the right person to serve as our 22nd secretary of the Army.”

Together, Milley said, he and Fanning must continue to lead the Army through two conflicts in the Middle East, must continue to assure allies and deter adversaries in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Central and South America — and they must do that with a declining budget and with a drawdown in force structure.

“Secretary Fanning will lead us through tough resourcing decisions and challenging fiscal realities,” Milley said, “all the while setting the conditions for a future force that is balanced, modern and takes advantage of all the talents that all Americans have to offer, regardless of the



PHOTOS BY C. TODD LOPEZ

Secretary of the Army Eric K. Fanning inspects the Soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment ‘the Old Guard’ during a full honor arrival ceremony in his honor June 20 at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va.

color of their skin, regardless of their religion, regardless of their national origin, regardless of their gender, regardless of their identity, or their sexual preference. The U.S. Army is open to all Americans who meet the standard, regardless of who they are.

“Mr. Secretary, on behalf of all the Soldiers in the Army today, all those that are retired and all the civilians of the U.S. Army, and all of our families, we want to welcome you from the bottom of our hearts to the team,” Milley said. “And I, for one, am so very proud to call you my secretary.”

Finally aboard

After the delayed nomination to his position, Fanning said he is glad to finally be aboard to lead more than a million Soldiers and civilians across the total force.

“Too few Americans have an understanding of what their Army is doing,” Fanning said. “They know about Iraq and Afghanistan, where many are serving valiantly today, and where too many made the ultimate sacrifice over the past 15 years ... but they don’t understand the full impact across our country and around the world.”

Fanning said that Soldiers serve as ambassadors around the world, even more so than those who serve professionally in that role.

“There are just over 15,000 foreign service members in our government,” Fanning said. “And as the chief said today, there are over 180k Soldiers outside the United States in over 140 countries. They don’t just fight for our freedoms, they represent us. Our Soldiers are the face of America.”

Last week, Fanning visited Poland, where American Soldiers were engaged in Anakonda 2016, a military exercise with partner nations that involved more than 30,000 participants from 24 countries.

“I asked a 19-year-old Soldier what his biggest surprise was, and he said, ‘support,’” Fanning said. “He meant the support of the Polish people. Crowds of Poles turned out, flags waving, as their convoy moved across Poland. And when they took a Bradley fighting vehicle to a nearby town for a static display, that young Soldier beamed with pride when he told me about the waves of children clamoring onto the vehicle for pictures.”

Fanning said that the young Soldier he met in Poland was thinking about the impact he and his Soldiers are having now.

But what he didn’t realize, Fanning said, is that “the impact of his and his Soldiers’ presence will last for years to come. And it happens all over the world.”

Fanning also expressed pride in leading a service that is typically the first called upon when nobody knows who else to call.

He cited the Army Corps of Engineers and their response to natural disasters as an example of that.

“When the problem is so big that they can’t think of who else can tackle it, they turn to the U.S. Army,” Fanning said.

During Hurricane Sandy, he said, the Corps drained 286 million gallons of saltwater in just nine days from the New York City subway system. In the 10 years following Hurricane Katrina, he said, the Corps designed and built a \$14.5 billion, 100-year storm protective system for New



Soldiers of the Old Guard fire cannons.

Orleans. It’s “a feat of engineering that included 133 miles of protections, 350 miles of canals, and a gated storm barrier that contains more concrete than the Hoover Dam, and is visible from space.”

Fanning also recognized the 400,000 Department of the Army civilians who support Soldiers, saying that those civilians include scientists, inventors, teachers, technicians, maintainers and weapons experts, and are responsible for running schools, test ranges, installations and commissaries.

“Like them, I am committed every day to do what is necessary to support our Soldiers as individuals and as an Army, to do what is asked of them, because much is and much will be,” he said.

Fanning said he is committed to an Army that makes resilient Soldiers that are both trained and equipped. He said the Army must also “redouble our efforts to eliminate sexual assault and suicide, we must ensure that everybody has access to behavioral health services, and that we eliminate the stigma attached with seeking health — (it’s) a sign of strength, not weakness.”

When it comes to readiness, he said, he is committed to ensuring Soldiers are

prepared to fight across a wide range of contingencies — “not just the kind of fighting we have seen in Iraq and Afghanistan. That means the kind of large-scale, integrated, decisive action training I witnessed in Poland last week. And to make sure they are equipped in a way that always maintains a decisive advantage over any adversary, we must work to get capability to them more rapidly, and as efficiently as possible, and we must find more ways to cut time and money out of acquisition processes to better serve our Soldiers, to be better stewards of taxpayer money, and to streamline the system for the many talented Army civilians who slog through the processes we put in their way.”

Finally, the Army’s new secretary touched on diversity in the Army as a strength.

“We must continue to open up opportunity for those who meet standards that were previously denied the opportunity to serve,” he said. “By leveraging diversity, and creating an inclusive environment in which all are valued, we engender opportunities to be part of the greatest mission there is: defending our nation’s security.”

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Celebrate

Continued from Page A1

other display areas for families to stroll through and enjoy. And we'll have tons of vendors. You'll be able to find some great festival food like roasted corn, funnel cakes, barbecue sandwiches and so much more."

Erdlitz added that there will also be pony rides, laser tag and zip lines.

Marcel Dumais, Fort Rucker chief of police, said safety remains the main priority during this year's event.

"As it stands right now, people who will be allowed to enter the installation during Freedom Fest are going to be Department of Defense ID card holders and anyone who possesses a (visitor's) pass," said the police chief. "There will not be any visitor control center operations that day (July 1), and it won't be like it was in years past, where we open up entry procedures for the Wiregrass

community to come on."

Visitors may obtain passes prior to the day of the event from one of two visitor control centers at the Daleville and Ozark gates. The Daleville VCC is open Mondays-Sundays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Ozark VCC is open Mondays-Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dumais said the measures are due to increased security across Army installations, and although Fort Rucker has no direct threat, he said the precautions are necessary.

"Safety comes first and the force protection level is based on a threat level that's been determined, which tells us that we need to increase our security posture," he said. "There is no directed or targeted threat to Fort Rucker, so we're being prudent with our security measures."

Normal security measures that have been in place in the past will also remain in place.

The event will have police patrols across the installation, as well as increased security throughout the venue to ensure the site is secure for the day of festivities, said Dumais. "Emergency medical service and the Fort Rucker Fire Department will also be on hand as a response team in the event of an emergency."

Also, there are certain items that are prohibited from being brought onto the installation during Freedom Fest, including: coolers, backpacks, pets, fireworks of any kind, glass containers, weapons of any kind, bicycles, scooters and skateboards.

Family members with medical needs or small children and babies will be allowed to bring bags for medical items of baby care items, which will be checked and tagged before entering the festival fields.

To help ensure a safe and secure Freedom Fest, Dumais also asked that people remain

vigilant and report any suspicious activity.

"If you see something, say something," he said. "If something looks suspicious or doesn't look quite right, don't just drive away or walk away without saying something. Give us a call and we'll send someone out there to see what it is. It's always better to be safe than sorry."

To report suspicious activity, call 255-2222.

"We're looking forward to a great Freedom Fest this year, and hope the Wiregrass will come out to enjoy the band and the fireworks like they do every year. We ask that anyone who will be coming out to celebrate safely," said Dumais. "We truly want all the people who join us in celebrating our nation's birthday to come and have a good time."

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

ACLC

Continued from Page A1

some cases, pay for themselves through the savings, she added.

With the addition of the new, energy-efficient equipment, energy consumption has been reduced, saving about \$177,000 a year on electricity in some instances, said Stacey Bedsole, AFS facility manager.

Some of that equipment includes new ovens that are used

to heat treat aircraft parts, which were also reduced from four to three, and replaced with new, energy-efficient models.

"The ovens are able to ramp up faster and get the job done quicker," he said. "Also, the previous ovens had to stay on all the time in order to make sure they were at the proper temperature when they needed to be used. The new ovens can be turned off and heated up when needed, saving substantially in energy costs."

Also, new hydraulic chillers were installed that reduce

waste by recirculating water that is used to cool the equipment rather than have the water pumped in and pumped back into the sewer system, which ends up conserving about 400,000 gallons of water annually per chiller, said Bedsole.

The conservations effort was no small feat, said Jones, adding that this type of effort couldn't be accomplished by any one person, which is why the recognition of all of the ACLC team members' efforts was one they were happy to receive.

Hogs

Continued from Page A1

said, adding that experienced hunters can become mentors by contacting outdoor recreation.

Outdoor recreation also has hunters who might be a little overwhelmed with all the meat that comes with a 300-pound hog covered. "We are currently installing a brand new walk-in game cooler for hunters," said Clancy. "A second game cooler will be installed around back shortly after, providing two options for hunters needing to temporarily store game."

Hunters can come to outdoor recreation and register for space in the cooler, he added.

The Feral Hog Volunteer Trapping Program enlists help from the community surrounding Fort Rucker to help control the population while offering trappers of all experience levels education and equip-

ment. Trapping is really the only proven effective method for controlling a population of this size, said Watkins. The program supplies the trap and the bait for volunteers that want to help control the hog population, he said.

Feral hogs have been designated an invasive species by both the Federal government and the State of Alabama, said Daniel Spillers, fish and wildlife administrator.

"You can take some out by hunting," he added, "but traps are a better way. One person can impact the problem more with trapping. Estimates say that you need to take 80 percent of the population each year just to keep up with the population growth. That is a tremendous amount when you are talking thousands of hogs."

The natural resources branch supplies one 50-pound bag of corn per trap, per month, and volunteers need to check their

trap for hogs on a daily basis, depending on whether the trigger is set. Then hunters need to notify wildlife personnel of the numbers of hogs caught on a weekly or monthly basis, said Watkins. "And volunteer trappers need to obtain an Alabama State Hunting License and a Fort Rucker Hunting Permit in order to trap."

Alabama state law applies to all hunting and trapping done on Fort Rucker, explained Watkins. People can read Fort Rucker Regulation 215-1 for the most up-to-date rules on Fort Rucker hunting and trapping.


"Additionally, we need people that are willing to accept feral hog meat when we have a surplus. Anyone interested in being added to our donation list can contact us at 255-2416," added Spillers.

The problem is not localized to Fort Rucker, explained Spillers. "There are many city-, county- and state-run pro-

grams to assist private land owners with trapping costs and information. The level of assistance people can get depends on where they live in the U.S. and what programs are available in their area."

Watkins explained that Fort Rucker is working closely with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – the federal agency that specializes in the removal of problem wildlife. "We have had them here on numerous occasions and we are following the recommended plan for Fort Rucker closely. We have consulted with Auburn University and various other biologists in the local area to develop the best strategy for combating this problem."

For information on the Feral Hog Volunteer Trapping Program, call the natural resources branch at 255-9363 or 255-2416. For information on hunting hogs and incentive deer tags, call outdoor recreation at 255-4305.



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DIRECTIONS: From Boll Weevil Circle to East Lee Street (Highway 27). House on R a couple of blocks beyond the YMCA (corner of Lee and Russell Street).



Judy Dunn
301-5656

Open Sunday, June 26 • 1:00 - 3:00



100 Creeke Lane • \$106,900

Well maintained 2 BR/2.5 BA townhome with all appliances to include washer/dryer. Updated glass tile back splash in kitchen, large bedrooms each with its own personal bathroom, covered porch overlooks nice corner lot with privacy fence on cul de sac street. Great location, convenient to Ft. Rucker, shopping and restaurants.

DIRECTIONS: From Boll Weevil Circle on Shell Field Rd, turn right on Creeke Lane, home is first one on right.



Jonathan Purvis-Stevens
447-3100

Open Sunday, June 26 • 1:00 - 3:00



306 E Sommer Oak • \$258,900

Beautiful large (over 2450 sq. ft.) three bedroom/two & 1/2 bath home in Sommer Brooke. The complete interior has been freshly painted. Hardwood floors in living area and Master BR. New tile in kitchen. Master Bath completely remodeled last year. Also features an oversized garage, a generator that cuts on automatically with loss of power, and a Reni tankless water heater. The library/office could be converted to a 4th bedroom if needed. Come see all this home has to offer.

DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 27 toward Ozark, turn right on Porter Lunsford Rd, go about a mile and turn left into Sommer Brooke, Take first right onto Sommer Oak Drive, the house will be on the Right.



Bob Kuykendall
369-8534

Open Sunday, June 26 • 2:00 - 4:00



112 Woodale • \$115,000

NEW ROOF! Come see this updated home on a convenient cul de sac street right off Rucker Blvd. The warm and inviting family room with a wood burning fireplace is the interior focal point. Fresh paint and new carpet throughout, a master w/a large walk-in closet, and 2 other split bedrooms, make this the perfect place for newlyweds or a young family. The large deck extends to a gazebo where everyone is sure to enjoy summer evenings with family and friends. Lots of storage and an interior laundry room.

DIRECTIONS: From Rucker Blvd. toward Ft. Rucker turn left on Woodale. House is on right near the end of the cul de sac.



Jan Sawyer
406-2393

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200 Sandy Hills: Ozark. Just like new. Freshly painted interior & exterior in June 2016. Carpet to be installed by end of June. Rinnai tankless gas water heater. Stainless steel appliances to include gas range. Granite countertops give the kitchen a special touch. Access to the back deck from Kitchen. Tray ceilings in Living room & Master Bedroom. Double vanities in master bath. Walk in closets in all bedrooms! Tons of closets! Storage. Security System. Matching Storage Shed. HVAC serviced-June 2016. This home is move in ready!! **SHAWN REEVES 475-6405**



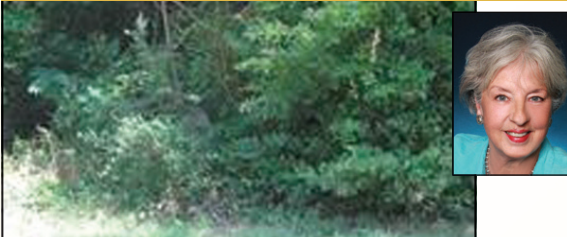
JUST LISTED ~ \$268,000



203 Sonya: Excellent Brick Home with split floor plan - Features grand foyer, open living room with fireplace, tray ceilings, formal dining room, breakfast nook, granite counter tops, ample cabinets, pantry, beautiful flooring, covered porch and patio, fenced yard with fire pit and much more - Convenient to Ft Rucker and shopping. **BOB KUYKENDALL 369-8534**



JUST LISTED ~ \$5,000



Clarke Street: Level, wooded residential lot just off Boll Weevil Circle. **JUDY DUNN 301-5656**



JUST LISTED ~ \$98,000



3261 CR 606: For under \$100,000 you can have a brick house and approx. 1 acre of land. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths plus a bonus room. **JACKIE THOMPSON 406-1231**



JUST LISTED MONDAY ~ \$187,000



108 Belvedere: Beautiful 3 bedroom 2 bath home with open floor plan. Custom mantel with gas log fireplace, crown molding in foyer, living room, kitchen, dining area and master bedroom. Sitting area/computer niche in master bedroom. All 3 bedrooms have walk-in closets. A 17'x14' extended concrete patio with fire pit has been added off the covered back porch. The garage is currently assembled as a workshop with cable drop and insulated garage door. **TEXT TERRI 406-2072**



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\$194,000



113 Christy: Like new with open floor plan and beautiful cabinet work. 3 BR/2 BA. Large, fenced back yard with shed. Convenient to Enterprise Fort Rucker gate. **TEXT TERRI 406-2072**



\$226,000



409 Oak Ridge: You can definitely call this home your "Forever Home". It features split bedrooms with tray ceilings in the master bedroom and the grandroom, gas log fireplace in grandroom, formal dining room with hardwood floors, kitchen with bar and breakfast area complete with all appliances. The yard is level and landscaped with a privacy fence, and there is a shed/playhouse for storage or play. Backed up to wooded area, enjoy barbeques on the covered patio and/or sit around the fire pit. **EVELYN HITCH 406-3436**



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JUST LISTED JUNE 15TH ~ \$95,000



153 Concord: Ideal townhome community with pool and clubhouse and convenient to Ft Rucker and Enterprise and with easy access to US 84 and a straight shot to Dothan. This one is in great shape and just waiting for someone to call it home, 2 BR/2.5 BA. What a great investment! What a fun place to live! **JAN SAWYER 406-2393**



\$55,000



113 Deerfield: Nice all brick home, needs a facelift, wonderful home good bones, great rental potential. Bring your paintbrush and your design ideas. Owners are not going to remodel, it sells as is! Sellers are motivated. **DEBBIE SUNBROCK 406-9079**



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U.S., POLAND TEAM UP FOR ANAKONDA 16



PHOTO BY SPC. RYAN TATUM

Soldiers from the 10th Engineer Battalion prepare a Shadow UAS for launch at Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area, Poland, June 10 in support of Exercise Anakonda 16.

Shadow UAS flies for the first time in Poland

By Maj. Randy Ready
For Army News Service

DRAWSKO POMORSKIE TRAINING AREA, Poland — Soldiers from the 10th Engineer Battalion made history becoming the first U.S. military unit to fly a Shadow unmanned aircraft system in Poland.

The historic flight came as the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division participated in Anakonda 16, a Polish-led exercise that took place throughout the country June 7 through Friday.

The exercise involved over 30,000 participants from 24 nations, and supported assurance and deterrence measures by demonstrating allied defense capabilities to deploy, mass and sustain combat power.

Sgt. Patrick Fain, a UAS operator with Shadow Platoon, D Company, 10th En. Bn., said being a part of the maiden Shadow flight in Poland was very important to the platoon.

“It’s a pretty big deal to us,” said Fain, a native of Casa Grande, Arizona. “It validates all the hard work we’ve been doing to get this done.”

The flight didn’t come without its challenges, though, as the crew had to fight through those obstacles and have not had any issues since their first flight.

Spc. John Larocco, another UAS operator with the Shadow Platoon and an Atlanta native, said they were able to work through those obstacles and have not had any issues since their first flight.

“We’re getting a lot of flight time,” said Larocco. “Once we got the first bird off ground, it’s been very smooth.”

The Shadow platoon’s mission is to gather intelligence, conduct air reconnaissance, surveillance and targeting for the brigade.

“Support-wise, we’re the eyes in the sky,” stated Spc. Cadarrel Wilkins, another UAS operator in the platoon, who hails from Dekalb, Mississippi. “We keep

SEE UAS, PAGE B4

Forces execute air assault during exercise

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

SWIDWIN, Poland — Over 35 NATO helicopters from the Polish 1st Army Aviation Brigade, 25th Air Cavalry Brigade and the U.S. 12th Combat Aviation Brigade “Task Force Griffin” participated in a battalion size air assault of over 400 Sky Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade, during exercise Anakonda 16 June 10-11 at the 21st Tactical Air Base.

This multi-ship, battalion-size air assault enabled the Sky Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, Airborne Brigade, to move quickly to their objective and seize the initiative from the opposing force.

Air assault operations, supported by attack Aviation, rapidly reposition personnel and equipment to enable the combined arms team to strike over extended distances and terrain to attack the enemy where and when it is most vulnerable, according to FM 3-40.

Task Force Griffin is currently augmented by regionally allocated forces from 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 3rd Battalion, 501st Aviation, 1st Armored Division Combat Aviation and 127th Aviation Support Battalion,

1st Armored Division Combat Aviation Brigade.

The foundation for the battalion assault began in March at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany. As part of a gated training strategy, 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, conducted company-level air assaults with the 173rd during their combat training center rotation.

The strategy met the necessary key training events to make the battalion air assault during Anakonda 16 possible.

“We had lift Aviation from three Army brigades and two Polish brigades, so the planning was a bit tough,” said CW2 Kyle Rossi, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot from A Company, 3-227th Avn. Regt. “And it’s pretty amazing that everything went according to the plan.”

The attack Aviation of the task force from the 25th Air Cavalry Brigades and 1-3rd Avn. Regt., conducted landing zone reconnaissance, assessed the threat present in the landing area and also screened the area south of the objective to search for armored forces.

The AH-64 Apache uses the fire control radar system to detect, identify, prioritize and destroy enemy armored threats. This creates time and maneuver space for the

SEE EXERCISE, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY SPC. ANTONIO RAMIREZ

Helicopters from the Polish 1st Army Aviation Brigade, 25th Air Cavalry Brigade, and the U.S. 12th Combat Aviation Brigade “Task Force Griffin” stage for a battalion-size air assault of over 400 Sky Soldiers from 1-503rd Inf. Regt. during exercise Anakonda 16 June 10 in Swidwin, Poland.



PHOTO BY AIR FORCE AIRMAN 1ST CLASS SEAN CARNES

Two 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade CH-47 Chinooks take off after transporting M119A3 howitzers during exercise Crescent Reach 16 at Fort Bragg, N.C., May 26.

16th CAB’s Yakima Dustoff trains for civilian mountain rescue operations

By Capt. Brian Harris
16th Combat Aviation Brigade
Public Affairs

YAKIMA TRAINING CENTER, Wash. — Pilots, flight paramedics and crew chiefs assigned to U.S. Army Air Ambulance Detachment and civilian volunteers from Central Washington Mountain Rescue conducted medical evacuation hoist training June 7.

The unit, part of the 16th Combat Aviation Brigade and nicknamed Yakima Dustoff, provides medical evacuation coverage for thousands of Soldiers from Joint Base Lewis-McChord training at YTC each year. In addition, the detachment works with the Yakima County Sheriff’s Department and civilian volunteers to provide medical evacuation coverage to the nearby mountain and natural areas.

“USAAAD possesses unique skills

SEE RESCUE, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY CAPT. BRIAN HARRIS

HH-60 Black Hawk crew chiefs assigned to U.S. Air Ambulance Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, 16th Combat Aviation Brigade, conduct hoist training while a volunteer from Central Washington Mountain Rescue watches at Yakima Training Center, Washington, June 7.

Air Cav. provides troops downed aircraft training

By Capt. Kat Kaliski
1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division
Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas — Members of 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, along members of Fort Hood’s Fire Station 3, trained the 3rd Cavalry Regiment on responding to a downed helicopter in preparation for the regiment’s upcoming deployment.

The goal of the training is to prepare the Soldiers for “all the things that could happen with a downed aircraft,” said CW3 Philip Learn, Aviation mission survivability officer for 1st Air Cav. Bde., who spearheaded the training.

The 3rd Cav. Regt. Soldiers are infantry mortar men who will be acting as the aerial reaction force in theater. Their role will be first responders and security at crash sites.

“If the scene is too dangerous, 3rd Cav. Regt. may be the only rescue team on the site,” Learn said.

The firemen and 1st Air Cav. Soldiers covered such issues as: extraction, handling hazardous material, leaking fuel, first aid, spinal straps for stability and mortuary affairs, to name a few.

This training is not uncommon for 1st Air Cav who routinely helps non-Aviation units prepare for aerial reaction.

“We team with the firefighters about every 6 months for aerial reaction training,” said CW2 Thomas Gorgeny, an AH-64 Apache pilot for 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 22nd Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cav. Bde.

The brigade trains an array of Soldiers and also members of the Air Force.

“I love showing my aircraft and showing them something they don’t often see,” said Gorgeny.

The Aviators demonstrated how the pilots could potentially be positioned by taking the infantry men on the flight line and mimicking how they might find crews in an Apache, UH-60 Black Hawk or CH-47 Chinook aircraft, and showed the Soldiers what would need to be done to quickly and successfully recover them.

The brigade made the training as thorough and as real as possible, according to Learn and his team.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. JULIE WALLACE MYLES

Fort Hood Fire Station 3 demonstrates the equipment necessary to conduct a proper crew extraction in the event of a downed aircraft.

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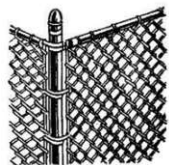
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UAS

Continued from Page B1

people safe by scouting ahead – that’s our job.”

For Anakonda, the Shadow Platoon flew missions in support of units from Albania, Bulgaria, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Sweden and the United States.

“We’re here to support the brigade, and the rest of our al-

lies and partners as best as possible,” said Fain. “Our objective is to support all the other nations as they request, and hopefully build some better relationships with them.”

Other than being a part of history, working with the multinational units has been the highlight of Anakonda for Wilkins.

“Just them being around, and we’re getting to see how their army works compared to ours,” said Wilkins. “It’s

good to see those things. It’s good to build those relationships for the future.”

Wilkins added they hope to work with the Poles more in the future and integrate their UAS operations, so they can provide even better aerial reconnaissance to the Soldiers on the ground.

“More than one eye in the sky is always a good thing,” said Wilkins.

Exercise

Continued from Page B1

infiltration of the ground force.

“The Polish and American attack Aviation forces conducted thorough mission

planning, which really synchronized our forces,” said CW2 Cody Schoonover, an AH-64 Apache pilot and attack air mission commander from C Co., 1-3rd Avn. Regt. “This allowed us to divide and conquer the

battle space.”

The 173rd Airborne Brigade (Sky Soldiers) is the U.S. Army’s contingency response force in Europe, providing rapid forces to the United States European, Africa

and Central commands’ areas of responsibilities. Forward-based in Italy and Germany, the brigade routinely trains alongside NATO allies and partners to build interoperability and strengthen the alliance.

Rescue

Continued from Page B1

and resources that are not available in the local area,” said Maj. Brad Kistler, USAAAD commander and Bay City, Texas, native. “Additionally, the cross training in both rescue operations and medical training are invaluable to enhancing the knowledge base of the unit’s flight paramedics and pilots.”

Volunteers from Central Washington Mountain Rescue, CWMR, have trained with USAAAD numerous times, but this was their first time being lowered and raised from an aircraft via the hoist system.

“Cooperative training with the various rescue agencies equates to a win-win setting,” said Bill Hatch, CWMR president. “Utilization of available resources benefits those whom we serve. It only stands to reason that if we potentially will serve together that we must train together.”

CWMR is a volunteer organization that works with the Yakima County Sheriff’s Department to assist with emergencies in the nearby area, which includes Mount Adams, the second-highest mountain in the state.

“With the Army’s help, the capabilities of Central Washington Mountain Rescue are established for specific responses, enhanced and made readily available, which are all necessary to complete search and rescue missions of varied types in the Cascades and where mutual aid is requested,” said Marty Lentsch, CWMR training coordinator.

Yakima County Sheriff’s Department personnel were also present at the training, and they provide oversight and coordination for rescues.

“It is tremendous to have this incredible tool available,” said Yakima County Sheriff Brian Winter. “Our partnership with Dustoff provides Yakima County with a short-notice, all-weather, high-altitude, 24-hour hoist capability that saves lives.”

The training also helped the Soldiers of USAAAD to practice their skills, and to ensure civilian volunteers were prepared to work with the Army for real-world rescues.

“The benefits of this training is that it will facilitate getting the civilian rescue personnel to the lost or injured hiker quicker than to hike to their point,” said Sgt. 1st Class Alexis Marulanda, USAAAD first sergeant and Piscataway, New Jersey, native. “Also, it will get them to the area that might not be accessible by foot. They are also being training on SKED operations, which will further assist the medic and crew chief if they are not able to get to the patient themselves and have to rely on rescue team for

the packaging and extraction.”

While the training focused on the mission of rescuing civilians in the local area, it also helped to prepare USAAAD’s Soldiers for combat operations.

“This is a skill that is very necessary for any future deployments to areas of operations that involve mountainous terrain and will make these Soldiers an asset to that unit,” said Marulanda.

The continued partnership between the military, law enforcement and civilian volunteers has made the citizens of Yakima County and the surrounding areas safer.

“Civilian mountain rescue members and active-duty Army personnel were and are able to train together for a common goal,” said Winter. “Truly, this opportunity will have and is having a far reaching impact within our community.”

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JUNE 23, 2016

BEAT the summer HEAT

Splash! water park offers cool break from summer temps

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

When that familiar wave of heat grips the Wiregrass during the summer months, Fort Rucker is always there to offer a place for people to cool down.

Splash! Pool and Spray Park is one of Fort Rucker's most popular and well-known swimming hot spots that gives families of Soldiers and civilians a unique way to stay cool during some of hottest months of the year, according to Robert Koren, Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation aquatics manager.

The park is currently open six days a week, Wednesdays-Mondays (closed on Tuesdays) from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Splash! boasts the largest recreational pool on post available to the general public, and features a host of amenities to keep children, teens and adults entertained for hours.

With a little something for everyone, the park houses a pool, which all ages can enjoy, two slides, a rock wall, diving board, and a spray park with multiple spray features that small children can enjoy. There is also the Tiki bar for adults that serves food and beverages, and has tables and lounge chairs, so they can relax as their children play.

The park is a great, local getaway with multiple attractions suited for all ages at an affordable price, he said.

For Emily Simpson, military spouse, and her children, Splash! is one place they said can't be beat when it comes to beating the heat on a local level.

"I think this place is absolutely amazing to bring your children for a day out, especially to cool off when it's getting hot," she said. "I really didn't expect that this would be here on the installation, but my children love it and we have a good time coming out with all of our friends to get our children together and just have a good time."

Simpson said it's not just the location that makes it easy and convenient for her family to get away for a day on the water, but the prices, as well.

"We just get the season pass because we know we're going to be out here a lot," she said. "You really can't beat it. Instead of packing up and heading to the



PHOTO BY TORI EVANS

Children come shooting out of the water slide as a lifeguard stands guard up top during a day at Splash! Pool and Spray Park.

beach, which we still do from time to time, we can just save on some gas, and come here and we'll have just as much fun – it's really great."

The price for admission depends on military affiliation and age: admission for active-duty personnel, family members and retirees is \$3 for ages 3-17, and \$4 for 18 and up; Department of Defense employees, family members and contractors is \$4 for ages 3-17, and \$5 for 18 and up; and admission for the general public is \$5 for ages 3-17, and \$6 for 18 and up. Children ages 2 years and younger are admitted for free. A 15-percent discount is available for groups of 15-50 people.

Season passes are also available for purchase, and prices start at \$40 per person for active-duty personnel and retirees, and season passes will be good through the end of the summer season. For a full list of season pass prices, visit <http://rucker.armymwr.com/us/rucker/programs/aquatics>.

SPLASH! is also available for rent for private parties after park hours for \$125 per hour, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and can be rented as late as 9 p.m. In order to schedule a party, patrons must check with the front desk of the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center on Andrews



PHOTO BY TORI EVANS

Splash! Pool and Spray park is currently open six days a week, Wednesdays-Mondays from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. It is closed Tuesdays.



FILE PHOTO

Children enjoy the water park during a previous swimming season.



FILE PHOTO

Family members enjoy a game of water basketball.

Avenue for availability.

Not only is Splash! one of the most enjoyable facilities on post for people to visit, but it's also one of the safest with more than 60 lifeguards on staff who watch over all of Fort Rucker's swimming facilities to provide a safe, fun swimming environment, said Koren.

Safety at SPLASH! is always a top priority, he said. Between eight to 12 lifeguards are scheduled at the park each day, and each lifeguard is trained in American Red Cross lifeguarding, first

aid, CPR and AED administration every two years.

Additionally, the lifeguard staff participates in mandatory in-service training to refresh and perfect lifesaving skills every two weeks.

Army regulation also requires that people utilizing the swimming facilities on Fort Rucker only use U.S. Coast Guard-approved flotation aides. Also, children who wish to ride the slides must be at least 36 inches tall and be able to swim on their own.

Training equips youth with job, life skills

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

An upcoming Fort Rucker Child, Youth and School Services training course seeks to help local youth gain part-time employment and life skills.

The free one-day CYSS babysitter training course, set for July 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the youth center, Bldg. 2800, will cover 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.

"Youth can expect to walk away with knowledge on safety, basic child care, safe play, first aid, CPR and critical emergency skills, caregiving skills and basics of running a business," Charlotte Hardy, CYSS PCS and outreach services director, said. "Youth can also expect to learn the basics like identifying child abuse and how to report it, playing with and feeding children,



ARMY GRAPHIC

emergency preparedness, how to run a babysitting business and how to make business cards."

The course is open to CYSS youth ages 13 – 18 and limited to the first 10 participants to enroll. A valid CYSS registration is required. Participants must bring a snack and lunch. Registration is open until June 27.

According to Hardy, the training course's benefits extend beyond earning extra cash during the summer and after school.

"It helps prepare them for how to handle the everyday responsibilities, and the importance behind

being and becoming a dependable, reliable and responsible youth," she said. "Also, the course will arm them with the necessary information for handling an emergency. The information will hopefully never be needed, but it's always best to be prepared in case of an emergency. This training can also give youth the confidence needed to be a good child care provider."

Youth not yet registered with CYSS can still take advantage of the training course by registering now, according to Hardy. Membership is open to children of active duty military, retirees, government

employees, Department of Defense employees and government contractors.

"Parents must complete online pre-registration at <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil>," she said. "After online registration is completed, they will need to call parent central services at 255-9638 to schedule an appointment to finalize the online registration. Also, youth registration can be done at the teen youth center on Seventh Avenue, Bldg. 2800."

Parents must sign permission forms for child abuse awareness training and release forms for

youth names to be placed on the CYSS babysitter list. Youth must complete the one-day training to receive certification. A separate babysitter training course will be offered through the Youth Center for youth ages 11 and 12, according to Hardy.

"Their names will not go on the babysitter list until they turn 13 – with consent from their parents," she said. "There are some parents that only want their youth to take the babysitter training course for them to babysit their younger siblings. The CPR and first aid training is good for everyone to have, from adults to pre-teens."

"At this time we do not have the date scheduled for that age group," she added. "Look for the information to be posted on the Fort Rucker Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation website under 'Youth Center' and in 'At Ease' magazine."

For more information, call 255-9638 or visit <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil>.

ON POST

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

Right Arm Night

The Landing Zone will host Right Arm Night today from 4-6 p.m., hosted by the 1st Battalion, 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.

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.

Relocation readiness workshop

Army Community Service will host its relocation readiness workshop Friday 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 Saturday. 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 today.

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

International Spouses Get Together

Army Community Service hosts its International Spouses Get Together the first Friday of every month at 9 a.m. at the Allen Heights Community Center. According to ACS officials, the get together is a place for spouses to find support, and help with finding resources for obtaining U.S. citizenship, education, drivers licenses and more. Multilingual volunteers are available.

For more information, call 255-3735.

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 3:30p.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 Monday.

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

Summer reading program

Center Library’s 2016 Summer Reading Programs – Reading: Sport of Champions! – continues Wednesday 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.

‘Beauty and the Beast’ trip

MWR Central Day will host a trip to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival’s production of Disney’s “Beauty and the Beast” in Montgomery July 24. Cost for the trip is \$60 for adults and \$50 for children, and includes ticket and transportation to the show.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Job fair

A scene from last year’s job fair. The 13th annual Fort Rucker Area Job Fair is scheduled for July 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Carroll High School in Ozark. The event is hosted by the Fort Rucker Transition Assistance Program, Army Community Service, the City of Ozark and the Ozark Chamber of Commerce. The fair is open to the public and free to all job seekers. Representatives from government contractors, employment agencies and local companies will be on hand. Workshops will be conducted prior to the job fair, including: resume writing, interviewing skills and personal branding. Attendees should bring their resumes, be prepared to be interviewed and be dressed for success, according to organizers. For more information, call 255-2558 or 255-1117.

The bus will depart Fort Rucker at 11:15 a.m. and should return at about 7 p.m. The deadline to register is July 1.

For more information and to register, call 255-2997.

Credit Reporting 101

Army Community Service will host its Credit Reporting 101 July 7 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at The Commons. Topics will include how people’s credit history impacts their financial future, credit reports versus credit scores, what’s in a credit report, how credit scores are determined, building and maintaining a good credit history, obtaining a copy of a credit report and disputing credit report errors. Pre-registration is required by July 6. Free child care is available and people can make the arrangements when they register.

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

Employment readiness class

The Fort Rucker Employment Readiness Program hosts orientation sessions monthly in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, in the Army Community Service multipurpose room, with the next session July 7. 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.

White-water rafting

MWR Central will host a day trip for white water rafting down the Chattahoochee River July 16. This is a beginner-level trip, so people don’t need to worry if they haven’t been white-water rafting before, according to organizers. Cost is \$59 per person, which includes transportation to and from Columbus, Georgia, and a two-hour instructor-led trip. The bus will depart from Bldg. 5700 at 9 a.m. and return to Fort Rucker around 6 p.m. The trip is limited to 28 people and participants must be 7 or older. The deadline to register is July 8.

For more information or to register, call 255-2997.

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

DFMWR Spotlight

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be for authorized patrons and will be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

Tail Waggin’ Tutors

Parents with children who struggle with reading are welcomed to check out the Center Library’s Tail Waggin’ Tutors July 14 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. The program allows children to read to a furry, non-judgmental friend – the registered therapy dogs provide a safe space for children to practice

and improve their reading skills. Children who can read on their own can sign up for a session. Space is limited to the first 20 people to register. The program is open to authorized patrons and is Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

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

Book club for adults

The Center Library hosts a book club for adults the third Tuesday of each month from 5-6 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call 255-3885.

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 23-26

Thursday, June 23

Finding Dory (PG)7 p.m.

Friday, June 24

Finding Dory (PG)7 p.m.

Saturday, June 25

The Jungle Book (PG)4 p.m.
Finding Dory (PG)7 p.m.

Sunday, June 26

Ratchet & Clank (PG)1 p.m.
Money Monster (R)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.

WAVE OF UNITY

Allied, partner nations unite in Saber Strike 16

By Staff Sgt. Steven Colvin
U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs

TAPA TRAINING BASE, Estonia – A wave of unity took place as allied and partner nations from 13 different countries joined together for the opening ceremony of Saber Strike 16 at Tapa Training Base June 13.

Saber Strike 16 featured allied and partner-nation ground forces conducting live-fire, command post, and cyber and electronic warfare training, plus the integration of U.S. close-air support with multinational ground forces.

Leading up to the exercise, the 2nd Cavalry Regiment conducted a 2,200-kilometer tactical road march, called Dragoon Ride II. The march from Vilseck, Germany, to Tapa was a demonstration of NATO's ability to move forces quickly across the alliance.

"It's a long way from Rose Barracks to Tapa, but you have made it," said Estonian army Brig. Gen. Artur Tiganik, the deputy commander of the Estonian army. "Saber Strike is no longer simply three Baltic states



Flags wave as soldiers of 13 different countries form up for the opening ceremony of Saber Strike 16 at Tapa Training Base, Estonia, June 13.

and U.S. Army exercise in Europe," he continued. "It is a regional training event with 13 allied and partner nations."

Exercises like Saber Strike

provide participating nations with tough realistic training that strengthens their ability to operate as a combined force, demonstrates the resolve and commit-

ment of the alliance and partner nations, and presents a credible deterrent.

In his welcome remarks, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Kramer,

deputy commander of the Virginia National Guard's 29th Infantry Division, and the deputy exercise director, stressed the importance of a strong alliance military capability by reminding everyone what former President Ronald Reagan once said, "Peace is not the absence of conflict, it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means."

"Saber Strike does exactly that," said Kramer. "They show strength through resolve, determination and sharing of the common desire to control the sovereignty and destiny of one's own nation."

Saber Strike is a long-standing U.S. Army Europe-led cooperative training exercise designed to prepare the 13 participating nations to support multinational contingency operations. The exercise ran from May 27 through Wednesday in multiple locations throughout Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and served as a proving ground for units to validate their ability to assemble rapid-reaction forces and deploy them on short notice.

Estonia opens Force Integration Unit to reach full NATO capability

By Staff Sgt. Steven Colvin
U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs

TALLINN, Estonia — The Estonian NATO Force Integration Unit headquarters opened its new building in Tallinn June 13.

The Estonian NFIU is one of six 40-person NATO headquarters established along the alliance's eastern flank. Designed and manned to facilitate the reception and movement of NATO and partner nation forces within the country they reside in, NFIUs are part of NATO's adaptation to a security environment dominated by a resurgent and aggressive Russia.

The grand opening of the new Estonian NFIU building at the Estonian Military Headquarters comes one year after it was established.

Although only a year old, the Estonian NFIU is already fully capable of providing support to Exercise Saber Strike 16, a NATO exercise being hosted by Estonia.

Canadian Lt. Cmd. James Baird-Foley, the staff supply officer as-

signed to the NFIU, said the NFIU gives a permanent NATO presence in Estonia.

"We've always heard about persistence presence, but this is a full part of NATO that falls under the multi-national core North-East all the way up top to SHAPE," Baird-Foley said. "We are not part of the Estonian Defense Forces, nor are we an official NATO organization so we provide that full-time NATO presence in Estonia."

Baird-Foley said the creation of the NFIUs was agreed to at the Wales Summit in September 2014 as part of NATO's Readiness Action Plan: a comprehensive package of measures designed to respond to the changed security environment on the alliance's borders.

"If NATO troops had to come into any of the countries that have an NFIU, we must facilitate the arrival of the very high readiness task force and follow on forces," he said.

The NATO NFIUs have been active as of Sept. 1. They are expected to be fully operational

ahead of the Warsaw Summit in 2016. The NFIUs are based in Sofia (Bulgaria), Tallinn (Estonia), Riga (Latvia), Vilnius (Lithuania), Bydgoszcz (Poland) and Bucharest (Romania). Estonian Lt. Col. Janno Mark, J-3 NFIU, said the first six NFIUs were activated to respond to the changed security environment on NATO borders.

"Their main role would be to facilitate allied forces deploying to the region and also to contribute to the comprehensive defense planning and act as an interface between NATO and national planning, as well as assist in training and exercises," Mark said.

"Today's ceremony is very important," Mark said. "In addition to receiving the new building within the last year, we've achieved full capability."

The ceremony included comments from the Estonian Commander of the Defense Forces Lt. Gen. Riho Terras and Lt. Gen. Manfred Hofmann, commander of the Multinational Corps Northeast.



An Estonian soldier wears the NATO Force Integration Unit patch during the opening ceremony of the new NFIU headquarters building in Tallinn, Estonia, June 13.



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Park offers free summer admission

Landmark Park Press Release

DOTHAN — Landmark Park continues to be one of 2,000 museums and parks across North America to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer.

This popular program is in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Department of Defense.

Organizations participating in the Blue Star Museums network will offer free admission to active-duty military personnel, including National Guard and Reserve, and their families now through



September 5.

“We are proud to participate in this program, especially since Fort Rucker is so close by and we have a wide variety of family-oriented activities planned this summer” William Holman, Landmark Park executive director, said. “It is a great way to say ‘thanks’ to the men and women who serve our

country.”

The free admission program is available to any active military member or family member who presents a Geneva Convention common access card (CAC), a DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID), or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card.

Free gate admission to the park will be granted to the military

ID holder and up to five family members during the stated time period. For a complete list of Blue Star Museums, visit arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums.

“Special thanks are due locally to the Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union for serving as our corporate partner in this program” Holman said. “Their financial support will help underwrite the cost to the park of offering this program.”

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 Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and on Sundays from noon to 6 p.m. Admission is \$4 adults, \$3 for children and is free for park members and children age 2 and under. The park is located on U.S. Hwy 431 North, three miles north of Dothan’s Ross Clark Circle.

For more info, call 334-794-3452 or visit www.landmarkparkdothan.com.

WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ANDALUSIA

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

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

DALEVILLE

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

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

DOTHAN

JUNE 30 AND JULY 14 — Music By Moonlight, the free annual concert series at Landmark Park, will take place at 7:30 p.m. The Tri State Community Orchestra will perform June 30 and the Troy Dothan Community Band will perform July 14. People are welcome to bring their blankets, lawn chairs and picnic suppers for music under the stars on the Gazebo lawn. The Martin Drugstore and Shelley General Store will also be open selling refreshments. Landmark Park, home of the Alabama Agricultural Museum, is a 135-acre historical and natural science park located on U.S. Highway 431 North. For more information, call 334-794-3452 or visit www.Landmarkparkdothan.com.

ONGOING — Disabled American Veterans Dothan Chapter 87 maintains a service officer at its office at 545 West Main St. (Mixon Business Center) Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The chapter will assist veterans who were injured or disabled while in military service. DAV service officers help veterans and their spouses with disability compensation claims and other veterans benefits. All veteran services provided are free of charge. For more information, call 836-0217, Ext. 123, or send an email to davchapter87@gmail.com.

ONGOING — Disabled American Veterans Chapter 87 will host a dinner and meeting at 6 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the Doug Tew Recreation Center. For more

information, call 836-0217, Ext. 123, or send an email to davchapter87@gmail.com.

ENTERPRISE

ONGOING — Reformers Unanimous, a national Christ-centered addictions program headquartered in Rockford, Illinois, is starting a chapter in Enterprise. Faith Baptist Church, 4481 Rucker Boulevard, will host the program Fridays from 7-9 p.m. The program is open to all adults who struggle with an addiction. For more information, call 790-2058.

ONGOING — Mondays through Thursdays each month, Aqua Zumba and EPRD water aerobics will be held by instructor Natalie Showers from 7-8 p.m. Price is \$5 per class and registration is not required. For more information, call 348-2684.

ONGOING — Beginning classes in the Taoist Tai Chi Society™ Internal Arts and Methods are currently held at the Enterprise YMCA Fitness Center and the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany Parish Hall. At the Y, classes are offered on Thursdays at 1 p.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. At the Episcopal Church, classes are offered Mondays at 8:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 5 p.m. An ongoing health and recovery class is also held at the church on Mondays at 10:15 a.m. People can join a class at any time. For more information, call 334-588-0512 or 334-347-4663. For more information about Taoist Tai Chi, visit <http://www.taoist.org/usa/locations/montgomery/>

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

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 vendors, 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/>.

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 flavor, lay a new game or figure out a puzzle. Enrichment is an effort to tap into and stimulate their 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/enrichmentfeb](#).

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.

Beyond Briefs

National horseshoes tournament

The 2016 National Horseshoe Pitchers Association World Tournament will take place July 25-Aug. 6 at Montgomery’s Multiplex at Cramton Bowl featuring top horseshoe pitchers from around the world. Admission for spectators is free.

For more information, call 334-625-2300 or visit horseshoepitching.com/.

Veterans hiring fair workshop

Montgomery will host a free hiring fair workshop for veterans, Guard and Reserve members, transitioning service members and military spouses July 26 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Teague Arena in the Garrett Coliseum Complex. The workshop for job seekers focuses on resume writing, tips for successfully navigating hiring fairs, military skill translation and interviewing.

For registration questions, send an email to elombardi@uschamber.com or call 202-657-2455.

OAT 2sdays

Montgomery’s Old Alabama Town offers its OAT 2sdays special Tuesdays from

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. now through Aug. 30 where people can purchase one child’s admission to Old Alabama Town and another child gets in for free. People can tour the living history museum and experience an authentic 1850s Alabama summer, and also participate in the museum’s new scavenger hunt.

For more Information, visit www.landmarksfoundation.com/visit.

‘Stars on the Riverfront’

The Alabama Dance Theatre will present its annual “Stars on the Riverfront” with two free performances July 31 and Aug. 1 from 7:30-9 p.m. at the Riverwalk Amphitheater. The performances are the culmination of ADT’s two-week summer dance seminar and feature over 50 dancers. Gates open at 6 p.m. for picnicking.

For more information, call 334-241-2590 or visit alabamadancetheatre.com.

Peach Festival

The Chilton County Peach Festival will celebrate Alabama peaches now through June 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,

ICE TEST IN THE DESERT

White Sands Missile Range Test Chambers simulate harsh weather conditions

By Adriana Salas
White Sands Missile Range
Public Affairs

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, N.M. — Icing during cold-weather operations can be detrimental to a mission, so, the U.S. Air Force, Northrop Grumman and Mandall BarrierWorks requested a test, known as the Ice Test, at White Sands recently to help combat icing issues they will most likely face when their equipment is fielded in some of the coldest areas in the U.S.

In order to conduct the test, one-inch thick ice must be formed for the de-icing procedure to be tested. Results were satisfactory in this recent test, according to Matt Volkmer WSMR test engineer.

“The primary function is to simulate cold-weather climates where ice accretion is possible in order to prove a de-icing procedure and operational readiness of the test item, should ice build-up occur,” Volkmer said. “All in all, the test was a great success.”

The test was conducted over every outer surface of a large tractor vehicle and trailer system. It took about 10 days from the initiation of cold temperature conditioning to reach the desired ice thickness, he added. After the ice thickness was achieved, a de-icing procedure provided by the customer, was performed and proved to be satisfactory. The WSMR Applied Environments Group was able to achieve the desired ice thickness for the customers, while the customers were able to determine the suitability of their de-icing procedure.

The WSMR AEG has conducted the ice test numerous times on a variety of systems – everything from large vehicles to medium-sized conditioning systems to small electronic devices have been tested, Volkmer said.

WSMR has test facilities that allow for this kind of test and is one of the few places that can conduct them on extremely large systems, he added. The results of tests like these help verify that the item being tested could withstand the effects of a cold climate, where ice can potentially accrue over time. It also verifies the procedures neces-



ARMY PHOTO

One-inch thick ice formed throughout a large vehicle during an ice test where customers develop a de-icing agent to test on their systems prior to fielding.

sary to access the needed parts of the system and that it will successfully operate in such conditions.

“WSMR is one of the few places in the country and world where conducting a test like this is possible,” Volkmer said. “For extremely large systems, such as this one, our customers know WSMR is one of the only places they can test their products. We operate large chambers and conditioning systems that allow testing like this to be possible.”

Volkmer said tests like these are a combined, team effort through AEG and its contractors.

Mark A. Horst, chief of the test devices branch in the AEG division said this type of test is vital in ensuring the equipment being tested can withstand hazardous weather conditions common to cold-weather climates.

“Ice testing is a normal, run of the mill

test and nearly all systems go through it,” Horst said. “It’s an environment that any system would have to endure in northern latitude and/or high altitude operations. This is part of a whole series of tests.”

He said ice tests are usually performed on an average of two a year at WSMR. The Technical Area Cold Chamber, which was built in the 1950s, was recently resurrected with portable equipment because the Temperature Test Facility chambers were being replaced. The Cold Chamber will continue to remain open as a backup facility.

Horst said WSMR is also able to test equipment in several different types of weather conditions like extreme heat, salt fog and humidity.

He said most of the systems are tested in every condition before they are fielded.

The Temperature Test Facility large chamber, which is unique to the installation and the world, is 105 feet long, 40 feet wide

and 50 feet high. Horst said it is the second largest chamber in the Department of Defense – the first is located in the McKinley Climatic Laboratory at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

The WSMR facility can reach a temperature of 65 degrees below zero or up to 160 degrees. The facility also has the ability to conduct high-temperature testing with solar radiation loading. The group also has a cold chamber, measuring at 25 feet by 70 feet, which can reach 50 degrees below zero. A hot chamber, also measuring 25 feet by 70 feet, has the ability to create rain, humidity, salt fog, high temperature and solar radiation conditions. These are the three largest chambers WSMR houses, according to Horst.

The chambers help ensure the system specifications are met and any issues with extreme temperatures are dealt with prior to fielding, he added.

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FACE OF DEFENSE

Soldier dietitian aids Hawaiians in underserved rural areas

By Sgt. Rachel S. Grothe
305th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

HAWAIIAN OCEAN VIEW, Hawaii — Her enthusiastic explanation of cells swelling with weight gain captivates the crowd. Her mountainside audience contains mostly elderly people awaiting long-delayed medical care.

“We already diagnosed someone as diabetic,” Lt. Col. Patricia Cue said between nutrition classes.

Cue, a registered dietitian nutritionist assigned to 1984th U.S. Army Hospital Pacific, Detachment 1, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, was part of the civilian and military medical team working at the community center here as part of Tropic Care 2016.

Tropic Care 2016 is a joint services readiness training program led by the Army Reserve and the Hawaii Health Department, assisting local efforts in providing quality health care to underserved rural communities in the Kea’au and Puna districts of the island of Hawaii from May 31 to June 11.

Helping others

“We’ve been able to catch a lot of people that might slip through the typical health care system and help them get on the right path,” said Cue, who hails from Homer, Alaska. “The lady diagnosed with diabetes didn’t realize her blood sugars were as high as they were. She came back to my nutrition class and was on board.”

Many of the people who came to the Tropic Care clinics live in remote areas on the sparsely populated, lava-rock encrusted southern side of Hawaii, she said. Many have limited mobility, she added, making long trips to larger cities difficult or too expensive.

“A lot of the people here have chronic diseases,” Cue said. “The people here are older and much more actively involved in their health care than young healthy people. They are very grateful for the clinic we’re doing. They want all the information and the services.”

She said the service providers come from all over the world, but realize local culture must be taken into account to make information relevant to their clients’ lives.

“I work for the Kenaitze Indian tribe as a diabetes nutritionist in my civilian job,” Cue said. “I encourage my clients to eat a traditional diet instead of industrialized prepackaged foods, and move them to a healthier more plant-based diet. It helps prevent chronic diseases and is better for the ecosystem.”

“I actually went to (Cue’s) class the other day,” said Rick Ward, Hawaiian Ocean View community emergency response team volunteer. “She helped me (and) made it easier to understand everything by taking the time, giving me the information in a much better way than my doctor did a few weeks ago.”

Cue said she knows it’s important to take time motivating and encouraging people to do what’s best for them, because humans do best when they feel respected.

“People are different, but the same all over the world,” she said. “We put information out relative to the culture, and alternatives that they might actually want to use instead of a generic government food pyramid.”

Cue added, “It feels good, helping people in a meaningful way. We’re all connected on this one planet.”

Religious Services

WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday.

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

Main Post Chapel, Building 8940
9 a.m. Catholic Mass Sunday
11 a.m. 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)

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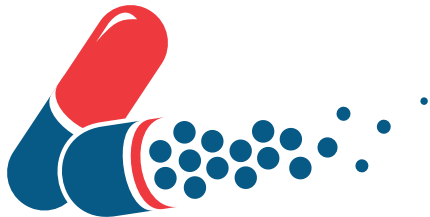
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JUNE 23, 2016

PLAY BALL!

Scratch sinks Bucs, 8-4, to advance in playoffs

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

In the final week of intramural softball on Fort Rucker, teams continue to battle it out for the right to call themselves champions, and one team is a step closer to claiming the title.

The 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment Scratch managed to knock out the 1st Bn., 13th Avn. Regt. Buccaneers during a game that had the Bucs starting off strong and leading for most the game, but proved unable to hold out in the long run.

“We got off to a slow start, but I think we did great, and managed to come back and pull out the ‘W,’” said Cara Blondheim, military spouse and player for Scratch. “I think (our chances of winning the tournament) are pretty good because this game really boosted our morale, so we’re just going to take that and try to win this.”

At the start, the Buccaneers took to the plate first and began on an easy note with a walk to get a player on base right away, but a shot to the opposing shortstop allowed for a double play to hold them back. The 1-13th managed a shot to left for a base hit, followed with a hit to third with an error by Scratch that allowed two runners on base.

The Bucs managed to find a gap in center for their first run to get on the scoreboard, and another error by Scratch, missing a pop up to center, allowed for another run to extend their lead before a pop up to center stopped the 1-13th’s advance.

Scratch started with a hard shot to centerfield, but it wasn’t strong enough to outpace the Buccaneers’ left fielder, who caught the ball for the first out to start their time at the plate.

They followed up with a ground ball to second to get their first player on base, but managed



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Justin Cailler, player for the Buccaneers, slides into home plate to bring in a run for his team during an intramural softball game at the Fort Rucker softball fields Tuesday.

to foul out on their next at bat. Scratch followed up with another base hit to get a second runner, but a pop fly to the opposing shortstop ended their chance to catch up, ending the inning behind, 2-0.

The 1-145th team started the 2nd inning with a triple, followed by a base hit for another RBI to further extend their lead, but Scratch was determined to keep their opponents in check and slowed their advance with a tight defense, not allowing another run throughout the inning.

Scratch started their second time at the plate strong with a ground ball to left field for a single

to start, and a double by a follow up batter allowed for a man on second and third for their chance to get on the scoreboard.

Score they did with a base hit that brought in their first run, but their advance would be slowed with a pop up to center for the third out, ending the inning, 3-1.

The Bucs went into the 3rd unable to keep the ball out of the air as they quickly racked up three outs with no advance, giving their opponents the chance to catch up.

The 1-13th team got off to a strong start in the inning with a double off the bat followed by a walk to get two players in base.

A ground ball to center allowed them to load the bases, but that was as far as their advance would take them as the Buccaneers’ defense tightened up, halting any more progress for the inning.

Both teams seemed to hold a tight defense to keep either side from advancing, but it was Scratch that would ultimately break the stagnation with a double to bring in a run to tie the game and creep up on their opponents, eventually tying the game in the bottom of the 4th.

The Buccaneers seemed to lose momentum as the 1-13th managed to find the gaps in the de-

fense, and another well-placed ground ball allowed for Scratch’s second run of the inning to take the lead for the first time before their time at the plate ended, leading 4-3.

The pressure was high for the Buccaneers, and they went into the 5th strong with a base hit, but Scratch kept their defense strong, despite the Bucs’ multiple base hits, by snagging off runners before their advance to home plate.

The 1-13th’s tight defense managed to keep their opponents at bay, not allowing any runs to slip through their hands during their time at bat.

As strong as their defense was, their offense seemed to match as Scratch was able to keep the ball on the ground and get runners on base, and a sacrifice allowed them to extend their lead even further with only one out in the bottom of the 5th.

The 1-13th had plenty of opportunity to advance further throughout the inning, and they took advantage of every opportunity, managing to bring in another RBI before heading into the outfield, leading 6-3.

The Buccaneers had work to do if they wanted to catch up, and they started on the right foot with a double, followed by an error from the opposing shortstop to allow for a run to close in on their opponents, but despite keeping the ball on the ground, it wasn’t enough to beat Scratch’s defense who managed to throw out runners at the plate.

Scratch kept their stride strong, starting off their final time at the plate with a triple, allowing for another run, followed by a sacrifice to extend their lead to 8-4 before heading to the outfield to give their opponent’s one final chance to get back into the game.

Try as they might, though, luck wasn’t on the Bucs’ side as Scratch managed to hold them off to win, 8-4.

WARRIOR GAMES

Torch lighting, honoring of Vietnam vets kicks off competition

By Shannon Collins
Defense Media Activity

WEST POINT, N.Y. — The Department of Defense Warrior Games began with Capt. Kelly Elmlinger lighting the official torch, with help from comedian Jon Stewart, during opening ceremonies for the games at the United States Military Academy.

“Being selected to light the torch is as much an honor and privilege as competing for Team Army,” Elmlinger said. “Finishing my Warrior Games career as Team Army Captain and lighting the torch at the opening ceremony is by far the most amazing experience. It’s humbling to see the support from the Warrior Transition Command throughout my time on Team Army, and I graciously thank them for allowing me to participate as torch bearer in this event.”

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 United Kingdom Armed Forces competed for gold in shooting, archery, cycling, track and field, swimming, sitting volleyball and wheelchair basketball June 15 through Wednesday.

Torch bearers

The Golden Knights began the torch handoff to a representative of each service branch. The United Kingdom’s army Maj. Brian Seggie handed the torch off to U.S. Special Operations Command’s Navy Lt. Ramesh Haytasingh and his son, Tobias, who carried the torch to medically retired Air Force Capt. Chris Cochrane. Navy Chief Petty Officer Ron Condrey delivered it to Marine Gunnery Sgt. Andrew Cordova who then handed it off to medically retired Spc. Terry Cartwright.

“I was very honored to hand it off to Kelly Elmlinger,” Cartwright said. “She’s a great athlete, friend and mentor.”

Cochrane said he was honored, as well. “Since my strokes, I consider myself lucky – I feel like I have a golden ticket and a second chance at life. This feels like I’m cashing in that ticket for the honor to lead my brothers and sisters on the team.”



PHOTO BY E.J. HERSOM

Television and movie personality Jon Stewart, most notably of “The Daily Show,” poses for a photo with the Special Operations Command team for the 2016 Department of Defense Warrior Games June 15.

Tenacity

During the ceremony, Stewart said he doesn’t come to support the wounded, ill and injured athletes, but to get support.

“(Considering) Orlando, this has been a difficult week for what I like to call team civilization. The horrors we witnessed can make you feel as though you’ve lost faith in our ability to persevere through those times,” he said.

“When I say I’m in need of your support, there’s almost nothing in this world that gives me more support than witnessing the tenacity, the resilience and the perseverance of our wounded warriors in their endeavors,” Stewart said. “They’re the ones that make me feel like we’re going to be OK.”

Stewart brought his 11-year-old son, Nate, so he could meet the wounded warriors firsthand.

“People ask me, ‘How do you talk to your kids about violence that occurs in this world?’ and I realized it’s time to stop telling him about the rare individuals who do harm and tell him more about the people whose names we don’t know, and whose resilience and tenacity we can witness – that’s why I’m here today. I’m here to show him that the depth and strength of those whose names you may never know is the depth and

SEE GAMES, PAGE D3



DOD GRAPHIC

JOES: Patient feedback survey name changes

By Jenny Stripling
Lyster Public Affairs Office

The Military Health System began mailing its patients Joint Outpatient Experience Surveys Monday.

JOES, which replaces the Army Provider Level Satisfaction Survey, is a single survey for all military treatment facilities across the services. It will combine and standardize methods used to learn about beneficiary healthcare experiences with the goal of making them better.

Soldiers, retirees and their families receiving medical care at Fort Rucker continued to receive APLSS until Friday.

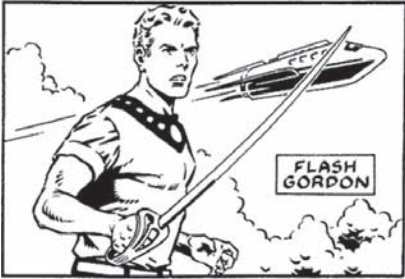
According to the Defense Health Agency, the new survey will have considerable impact on how the MHS delivers health care. Whichever health care system service members, retirees and their families go to, they will receive the same questionnaire and will be able to relate their experience.

“With the Army, Navy, Air Force and DHA each having different surveys, it was difficult to accurately measure the quality of service we were providing to beneficiaries,” said Richard Bannick, branch chief of DHA’s Decision Support Division. “But now that we have a standardized survey instrument, are using standardized sampling and a universal means of delivery (such as mail and email), we will have better comparisons across the services. And these new elements will give us information to improve the level of service we provide.”

People who receive a JOES survey should fill it out and let Lyster Army Health Clinic know about their recent experience there. The feedback helps the clinic know what improvements can be made and what the clinic is doing well.

The surveys also assist LAHC financially, with money received from positive feedback on the surveys going back into patients’ healthcare.

DOWN TIME



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

T R I V I A

1. ANATOMY: Where are the carpal bones found in the human body?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the deepest lake in the United States?
3. LANGUAGE: What is another name for a sommelier?
4. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the chief characteristic of a palmiped's feet?
5. MUSIC: A piece of music in the "adagio" style would be played in what manner?
6. HISTORY: What was the name of the first fully functional Space Shuttle orbiter?
7. MOVIES: What was the acronym name of the artificial intelligence in the "Iron Man" and "The Avengers" movies?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the study of the movement of bullets?
9. U.S. GOVERNMENT: Who was the first secretary of the Treasury?
10. LITERATURE: What was the...

See Page D4 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword

CELEBRITIES OF THE PAST

- ACROSS**
- 1 Young lady
 - 5 Assist illicitly
 - 9 Major work
 - 13 With 107-Across, discontinued gradually
 - 19 Radio host Don
 - 20 Storied Ali
 - 21 Singer Coolidge
 - 22 Sharp cheese
 - 23 Gave a shot to a James Bond actor?
 - 26 Versace competitor
 - 27 Additionally
 - 28 Skiff mover
 - 29 Teased a classical/pop singer?
 - 31 Took the "Alphabet Series" novelist to court?
 - 35 Yes, to Fifi
 - 36 Steel city of Germany
 - 37 Masters
 - 38 Stole from a "West Wing" co-star?
 - 45 Aromatic oily resin
 - 47 Conger hunter
 - 48 Man — (old racehorse)
 - 49 Growl at, e.g.
 - 52 Sent an invoice to a Fox News Channel host?
 - 56 Love, in León
 - 57 Is no longer
 - 60 Sunbeams
 - 61 Delivery docs
 - 62 Tattooed Tom
 - 65 "— see it my way"
 - 68 Prefix with fire or print
 - 71 Wee
 - 72 "Mighty" trees
 - 73 Dwarf planet beyond Pluto
 - 74 Certain lyric poet
 - 76 Bullring holler
 - 77 "— know it!"
 - 79 Honored the wife of Rainier III with one's presence?
 - 81 Garage fluid
 - 82 Flag down
 - 84 Meyers of "Dutch"
 - 85 Blood group?
 - 86 Devoured a CNN reporter?
 - 92 Lounge chair
 - 94 Baby buggy
 - 95 Ton of, informally
 - 96 Keynote giver, e.g.
 - 99 Prepared a boxing champion for an on-air interview?
 - 102 "Quit that!"
 - 103 Fun party
 - 107 See 13-Across
 - 108 Slightly cut the star of "Affliction"?
 - 110 Gently moved a "Pillow Talk" co-star back and forth?
 - 117 Lav, in Britain
 - 118 Real-estate unit
 - 119 Melodic, to a composer
 - 120 Hurried a radio talk show host?
 - 124 Altering ace
 - 125 Opponent
 - 126 Actor
 - 127 Soft white cheese
 - 128 Sneaks
 - 129 For fear that
 - 130 Went quickly
 - 131 Fortuneteller
 - 43 — -Mart
 - 44 Suffix with green or fish
 - 46 Salacious
 - 47 Flair
 - 49 Rumba's kin
 - 50 PC notes
 - 51 One of four direcciones
 - 53 Eye piece?
 - 54 Spoil
 - 55 Download for a Nook
 - 58 Zillions
 - 59 Whack
 - 63 Singer Gormé
 - 64 Japan's emperor
 - 66 Costa —
 - 67 Belgian river
 - 68 Metric "thousandth"
 - 69 Dots in the sea, to Juan
 - 70 Songwriter Jule
 - 73 Novelist — Stanley Gardner
 - 75 Yvonne who played Lily Munster
 - 78 Ancient
 - 79 Home of the Great Sphinx
 - 80 Wds. are defined in it
 - 81 "... for the life —"
 - 83 Env. notation
 - 86 Typing speed: Abbr.
 - 87 "Either you do it — will!"
 - 88 "Mighty — a Rose" (old song)
 - 89 1945 Oscar nominee Ann
 - 90 — Angeles
 - 91 Campus mil. gp.
 - 93 Mingle
 - 97 Soldier of Seoul
 - 98 Descriptor for Bigfoot
 - 100 Performs suitably
 - 101 Mary I and Henry VIII
 - 102 Math ratio
 - 104 Appeal
 - 105 Smelly cigar
 - 106 Leash
 - 108 Like seven Nolan Ryan games
 - 109 Like the Capitol's top
 - 110 "Phooey!"
 - 111 Verbalized
 - 112 Cato's 103
 - 113 German city
 - 114 Russian river
 - 115 — buggy
 - 116 Jets that first flew in '68
 - 121 Rave VIPs
 - 122 Pool unit
 - 123 Six-pack —

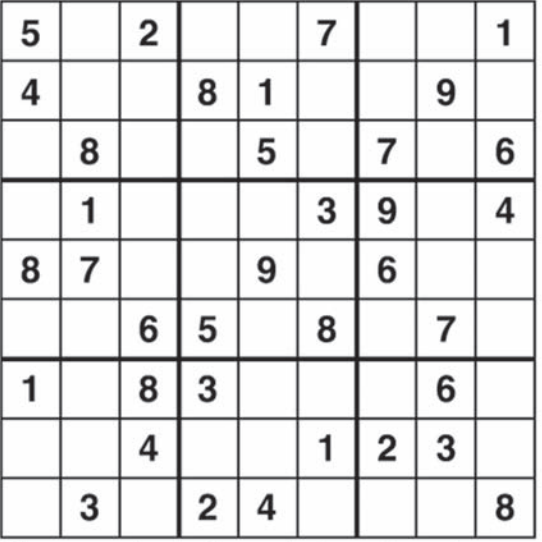


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See Page D4 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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See Page D4 for this week's answers.

KID's CORNER

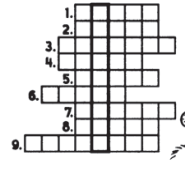


THE LONGER THE ANDERSONS STAY AWAY, the worse Timmy's throw becomes. Count the newspapers in this picture and see if you get the same total we got.

Junior Whirl

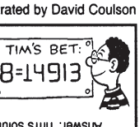
by Charles Barry Townsend

A NINE-WORD COURSE!



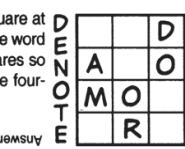
Are you ready for a round of "Word Golf"? There is room in our grid for nine words pertaining to golf. The following hints should help.

1. A no-distance tee shot.
2. A golfer's favorite form of wildlife.
3. An out-of-bounds reward.
4. Golf's beast of burden.
5. Was part of the fairway.
6. A pizza tee shot.
7. Another term for sand trap.
8. Found around a green.
9. Idle golfing group.



THAT'S RIGHT, YOU'RE WRONG! Timmy has an equation that he claims is right, but it certainly looks wrong to us. However, he'll bet you anything that he can prove it's right. Any takers?

FIND THE SEVEN WORDS PUZZLE! In the word square at the right, we've removed six of the letters to spell out the word "DENOTE." Can you replace these letters in the squares so that you have four three-letter words across and three four-letter words down. The time limit is 60 seconds.



Wishing Well®

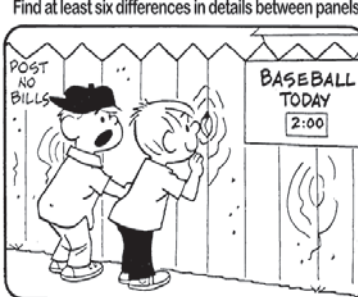
2	6	2	7	6	3	6	4	5	8	7	5	6
L	F	I	S	A	A	I	B	A	S	E	N	T
5	2	3	6	5	7	6	4	2	3	7	6	5
E	F	S	H	W	E	F	E	E	O	K	U	L
2	8	7	6	2	5	7	2	4	6	3	6	8
I	P	A	L	N	I	D	B	C	I	C	N	E
4	8	5	4	3	4	2	7	3	7	5	8	4
O	C	F	N	I	S	A	V	A	E	E	I	I
6	8	5	3	6	7	5	4	6	2	4	3	7
L	A	B	L	O	N	E	D	V	L	E	E	T
8	7	6	8	7	3	5	2	5	8	3	7	8
L	U	E	E	R	V	G	A	I	V	E	E	E
3	5	4	5	4	8	2	8	2	4	3	4	2
N	N	R	S	A	N	N	T	C	T	T	E	E

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

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GOLD RUSH

Soldiers make their marks in Warrior Games field competition

By Amaan Lyle
Department of Defense News

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Intermittent drizzle along the Hudson Valley was no match for determined athletes who gathered to test their mettle and earn medals during the 2016 Department of Defense Warrior Games field competition at the U.S. Military Academy June 16.

The Army made its mark with its veteran athletes — Sgt. Ryan Major, Staff Sgt. Matthew Mihacsi, Staff Sgt. Gregory Quarles and Spc. Dustin Barr — earning gold medals in the men’s seated shot put in their categories.

Royal Navy veteran Alastair Pingram — seated shot put gold medalist in his category, who also earned gold in his men’s seated discus throw category — said he was thrilled to participate in this year’s competition.

“I’ve been training hard, so I’m very pleased that I have won,” he said. “But it’s all about the camaraderie and the team ethics — it’s been great.”

Snagging gold medals in his men’s standing shot put and standing discus throw standing categories, Army veteran Spc. Heywood Range III said he worked hard for the victories, but noted an injury during the 800-meter dash in track slightly hampered his performance in field.

Advice for future hopefuls

“We trained to come out here and compete and win,” Range said, adding a word of advice



PHOTOS BY E.J. HERSON

First Lt. Christopher Parks throws a discus during the 2016 Department of Defense Warrior Games at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., June 16.

to future competition hopefuls. “Don’t let anybody tell you that you can’t do something because of injury or illness. Hold yourself to a higher standard.”

Female Army veteran athletes also represented well, with Spc. Sidney Davis and Sgt. Monica Southall earning gold in their women’s standing shot put categories.

Marine Corps veteran Lance

Cpl. Sarah Rudder earned gold in her women’s standing discus throw category. Though she trains year-round, she said, she seldom knows how she’ll perform before a competition.

“For me,” she explained, “it’s really not about the medals. It’s about just being inspired by others and me inspiring others, as well.”

Field events included seated shot put, standing shot put, seated

discus and standing discus, with varying weights of each for men and women, in addition to seated and standing variations. Athletes compete in different classification categories based on functional abilities, including impaired muscle power or range of movement, limb deficiency and visual impairment.

The adaptive sports competition for wounded, ill and injured

service members and veterans features some 250 athletes representing Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard, U.S. Special Operations Command and the United Kingdom armed forces, highlighting the resilience and warrior spirit of service members, veterans and their families and caregivers. About 160 athletes participated in one or more track and field events.

Games

Continued from Page D1

strength of this country and is the depth and strength that will allow us to overcome.”

Stewart, who has done several USO tours overseas in combat zones, has also visited many times with wounded warriors at Walter Reed and Bethesda.

“I’ve seen what these individuals have to go through. They have faced the worst that humanity has to throw at them, and they decided not to allow themselves to be defined by that act, but to be defined by their actions following that act, their actions of getting up off that floor. I’ve seen the blood, sweat and tears they’ve gone through to get here, and the profanity. If you go to the physical therapy room at Walter Reed, there’s a lot of profanity,” he said with a smile.

“They do it with pride, and when they fall, their colleagues and their loves ones pick them up and don’t let them give up, so I applaud the families and the caregivers here today,” he added.

Resilience

Lt. Gen. Robert L. Caslen Jr., superintendent of the United States Military Academy, said he was honored USMA is hosting the DOD Warrior Games and quoted the Wounded Warrior Memorial in Washington, D.C.

“It says, ‘It’s not what you lost that counts. It’s what you do with what’s left.’ That’s what these games are all about. We’re here to celebrate ability, to celebrate resilience and to celebrate the drive to overcome adversity,” he said. “These games showcase the resilient spirit of these warrior athletes. They symbolize that all wounded, ill and injured service members and veterans can recover from serious injuries or illnesses and lead fulfilling, productive and inspiring lives.

“As these warrior athletes take the fields of friendly strife, they will show the world their indomitable spirit, their sportsmanship, their desire to excel, their tenacity and most importantly, their strength of character,” Caslen said. “These incredible men and women willingly answered their nation’s call to service. They exemplify the very best of America. They embody the resilience, discipline, the mental and physical toughness to overcome adversity to achieve their goals.”

Caslen had a special message for the athletes, families and caregivers.

“Athletes, you are a testament of strength, professionalism and dedication not only for the other survivors around the world, but also for all of us. You are our role models. You are our inspiration. You are our heroes. And to the family members and caregivers, your support of

these athletes has been essential throughout their recovery and rehabilitation. You’ve been a vital source of encouragement and motivation to them and that will be just as important as they compete in these games over the next few days,” he said.

Honoring Vietnam vets

As a special surprise, the Golden Knights flew in a plaque and had medically retired Sgt. 1st Class Howard Sanborn, a former Golden Knights member and current SOCOM athlete, present it to retired Gen. Fred Franks, a Vietnam and Desert Storm veteran.

“On behalf of myself and all of my fellow wounded warriors, we would like to thank you for your service and the service of all Vietnam veterans,” Sanborn said. “Your fight to remain on active duty after being wounded helped make it possible for current wounded warriors to continue to serve. It also helped develop adaptive sports programs to help aide in the rehabilitation. We deeply appreciate your efforts, and it’s my honor to present to you the heart of the team medals. These medals represent the spirit of the Warrior Games.”

Franks, who is a below-the-knee left-leg amputee, said he was very touched.

“I was very moved and am deeply appreciative and inspired to be here to receive something like this on behalf of all my fellow wounded warriors and in the company of such great Americans,” he said.

During Desert Storm, Franks commanded the 7th Corps, leading 146,000 U.S. and British soldiers in an 89-hour, 250-kilometer attack as part of the coalition that liberated Kuwait.

“I felt honored and privileged to be able to do that as an amputee, but I wasn’t thinking about being an amputee while that was going on and that’s the whole idea. You don’t focus on that. It’s not what you don’t have, it’s what you have that counts. It’s getting back up and going on that counts,” he said.

Stewart talked about encouraging disabled service members and veterans to give adaptive sports a try.

“What I’ve found in talking to men and women who got involved with the military is that they are goal oriented,” he said. “They thrive on the idea of an end result. What are the things you miss when you’re not in the Army? You miss the camaraderie? You miss the action? You miss the goals? These are the things the games provide, and they help give people a sense of purpose again — make them feel like they belong somewhere. I’m still me — I can still compete. I think that part of it is really important.”

The Warrior Games were created in 2010 as an introduction to adaptive sports, and reconditioning activities for service members and veterans.

Adaptive sports and reconditioning are linked to a variety of benefits for wounded, ill and injured service members across

all branches of the military. Benefits include less stress, reduced dependency on pain and depression medication, fewer secondary medical conditions, higher achievement in education and employment, and increased independence, self-confidence and mobility.

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PUSHING PAST THE PAIN

Retiree represents Army at DOD Warrior Games



PHOTO BY BENNY ONTIVEROS
Army veteran Matthew Mihacsi, Warrior Transition Unit, Fort Bragg, N.C., prepares to throw a shot put at the 2016 U.S. Army Trials field competition at Stout track, Fort Bliss, Texas, March 8.

By Sameria Zavala
Army News Service

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Retired Staff Sgt. Matthew Mihacsi, a native of Sterling, Virginia, was proud to represent the Army and the Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Warrior Transition Battalion during the 2016 Department of Defense Warrior Games.

This year, the games were held at the United States Military Academy June 15 through Tuesday.

“I’m really digging this sports thing,” said Mihacsi.

Mihacsi has had multiple encounters with improvised explosive devices while on deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“Rockets make a very distinct sound when they are flying over your head and blowing up right next to you Mihacsi, said.” I have had many traumatic brain injuries and a lot of memories that I am dealing with.”

Mihacsi has learned how to persevere in

his life through adaptive sports and by volunteering to help with Fort Bragg’s WTB cycling program that meets up three days per week.

“There is this term that you may have heard of ‘embrace the suck.’ Well, with cycling you are pushing yourself into pain – you’ve got to embrace that pain. If you don’t push into the pain and then push through the pain, you are not going to go anywhere,” he said. “You are not going to be competitive whatsoever. I’ve learned how to manage my pain better at high levels through cycling.”

The key to harnessing the pain for Mihacsi is to acknowledge that the pain is there, which enables him to perform successfully.

“I’ve learned how to harness the pain through archery and air rifle because if you don’t harness it, grab a hold of it and control it, you are going to be everywhere in your shot group. So, you really have to pay attention to what is going on with you and

then understand it,” he said.

This was Mihacsi’s first time at the DOD Warrior Games. He participated in archery, cycling, field, shooting and track. His results were not available at press time.

He is no stranger to competitive adaptive sports, as he earned a gold medal in cycling at the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Valor Games earlier this year.

When asked which sport is his top pick, Mihacsi replied, “I love them all.”

“Everybody has their issues – everybody here. He (pointing to an athlete nearby) is in a wheel chair – you can see some of his issues. She (pointing to a different athlete) is standing upright – you can’t really see her issues,” said Mihacsi.

“Now, you can exacerbate them and turn them into big issues or you can manage them and say ‘you know what, I am going to own these.’ These people out here (at the Warrior Games) are here to say, these are my little issues, and I am going to show you how big of a wave I can make,” he said.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

TRIVIA

Answers

1. Wrist
2. Crater Lake in Oregon
3. Wine steward
4. Webbed, like a water fowl
5. Slowly
6. Columbia
7. J.A.R.V.I.S.
8. Ballistics
9. Alexander Hamilton
10. “Casino Royale”

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

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

SPORTS BRIEFS

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 now through 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.

Junior golf camp

Silver Wings Golf Course will host a junior golf camp for ages 5-8 Tuesday through June 30

from 9-11 a.m. The camp includes private and group instruction with Starting New at Golf, driving range and short game activities, and snacks. Clubs will be provided. This camp is geared towards beginners and younger juniors. Cost is \$89 per child. Registration is due the day before the camp begins. To sign up or for more details, call 598-2449.

Youth kickball registration

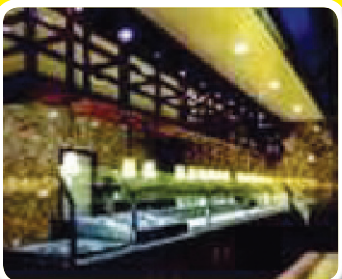
Fort Rucker Child, Youth and Schools Services Youth Sports kickball registration runs now through June 30. Coed age groups are 6-8, 9-11, 12-14 and 15-18. Cost is \$25 per child. Season will be July 11-28. A current sports physical and a valid CYSS registration are required to participate.

For more information and to register, call 255-2257 or 255-9638.

Youth football, cheerleading registration

Fort Rucker Child, Youth and Schools Services Youth Sports football and cheerleading registration runs now through July 27. Age groups for football are 9-10 and 11-12. Cost for football is \$65 per child. Age groups for cheerleading are 8-9 and 10-11. Cost for cheerleading is \$40 per child. Age groups for mascots are ages 4-5 (for 8-9 year old cheerleading) and 6-7 (for 10-11 cheerleading.) Cost for mascots is \$20 per child and limited to the first two youth to sign up for each age group. Practice will begin Aug. 1. A current sports physical and a valid CYSS registration are required to participate.

A parents meeting will be held July 28 at 6 p.m. at the youth center gym. Coaches are needed. For more information, to register or to volunteer to be a coach, call 255-2257 or 255-2254.



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