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EXERCISE, EXERCISE

Post puts emergency response to the test

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

While Fort Rucker makes sure its first responders and emergency personnel know exactly what to do in an emergency situation, it will put those skills to the test when the installation holds its annual all-hazards exercise Sept. 8.

The exercise, rescheduled from mid-August because of severe weather, will be in the form of an active shooter scenario designed to test Fort Rucker's and the surrounding communities' response to a threat on post, said Willie Worsham, post emergency manager.

"This scenario will involve an active shooter and explosive threat to the installation from a homegrown

violent extremist," Worsham said. "We need to be able to teach first responders and emergency personnel what is required when there is an active shooter on the installation. We will go through the same processes as we would if I got a phone call right now saying there was an actual shooter on post."

People should expect some short delays at the gates and near Andrews Avenue between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., but things will be as normal as possible outside the exercise area, he said. Aside from completely shutting down the installation, the exercise will be as real-world as it gets for law enforcement and emergency personnel.

The need for exercises like the



FILE PHOTO

Soldiers and emergency response personnel evacuate a simulated casualty from a previous active shooter force protection exercise.

active shooter scenario stems from home-grown and foreign terrorist threats, and Worsham said no matter how unlikely a scenario may seem, it's always best to be prepared.

"Terrorists are getting smarter every day and we just want to make sure that we are up on the most up-to-date techniques for

handling situations like this," he said. "It seems like we learn something new every time."

"Every time we do this, we learn more capabilities from the partners of our mutual aide agreements and what they can do to help us," Worsham said. "With us continuing to do exercises together, it makes us a lot more pro-

ficient at what we do."

He added that this is the "perfect time for people to exercise their plans in the event an incident occurs on the installation – remember to make a plan, build a kit and be informed."

For more on preparing for emergencies, visit <http://www.acsim.army.mil/readyarmy/>.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Patrons compete in a game of limbo during the SPLASH! Outdoor Pool and Spray Park Summer Luau Saturday. SPLASH! is open Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. SPLASH! will also be open 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for Labor Day Monday.

HELPING HAND

Campaign seeks to get help to special needs family members

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Challenges abound with taking care of an Army family, and taking care of families with special needs family members requires extra care and dedication, but the Army offers support to make sure families with special needs are well taken care of.

The Exceptional Family Member Program, designed to help active-duty Soldiers and family members with any type of special need, is in the process of identifying families for its child and family find campaign through the month of September as a way to ensure those services are available to those who need them throughout their military career, said Marion Cornish, EFMP program manager.

People can visit the post exchange Sept. 14-30 and the Center Library throughout the month to get additional information on the campaign. There will also be a special Story Time at the Center Library Sept. 16 from 10:15-11 a.m.

The term "special needs" covers a broad spectrum, said the EFMP manager, and includes physical, intellectual, developmental delays,



ARMY GRAPHIC

emotional impairments that require special treatment, therapy, education, training or counseling.

Enrollment is mandatory for Soldiers who are active-duty Army, Army Reserve Soldiers in the Army Active Guard Reserve program and other Soldiers on active duty exceeding 30 days, and Army National Guard personnel serving under authority of Title 10 orders who have exceptional family members, said Cornish, adding that mobilized and deployed Reservists and National Guard members are not eligible.

"Enrollment allows the assignment manager at Army personnel agencies to consider the documented medical and special needs of exceptional family members in the assignment

process," said the EFMP manager. "When possible, Soldiers are assigned to an area where the medical and special education needs of their EFM can be met. This will depend on a valid personnel requirement for the Soldier's grade, specialty and eligibility for the tour, and all Soldiers are still eligible for worldwide assignments."

There are two major components to the EFMP program, said Cornish: the support side, which is Army Community Service that provides client referrals, advocacy, workshops, trainings and respite care; and the medical side, which falls under Lyster Army Health Clinic that oversees health screenings, enrollment and disenrollment, and updates to medical records.

"Lyster's EFMP conducts EFM screenings, enrollments, updates and disenrollment, and Army Regulation 608-75, requires Soldiers to update EFM enrollment every three years or sooner if services for special needs are no longer required," said Cornish. "When disenrollment is involved for whatever reason, the Soldier must make sure to visit the nearest Army medical EFMP office to do so, even

SEE EFMP, PAGE A5

WOCs take staff ride to learn from the past

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

History can be an invaluable tool to learn from when looking toward the future, and for many warrant officer candidates, it also helps remind them why they serve.

Eighty candidates of Class 16-20 of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College got the opportunity to get a firsthand look at history with a trip to the Andersonville National Historic Site in Andersonville, Georgia, which is a memorial to all American prisoners of war throughout the nation's history, as well as the site of the Camp Sumter military prison, which was where more than 45,000 Union Soldiers were kept during the Civil War.

"For me, this was a very humbling experience," said WOC Jonathan Bachtel. "Just getting to walk the grounds and to put it all in perspective was amazing. We knew going in the numbers (of how many and who died) there, and hearing the numbers and actually walking the grounds and seeing the tombstones lined up so close together was a very humbling experience."

The Andersonville prison was the largest of the military prisons of the Civil War and was the deadliest landscape of the war, according to the National Park Service website, www.nps.gov/ande/index.htm. Of the 45,000 Soldiers imprisoned there, nearly 13,000 died.

For many of the candidates, like WOC Charles Martinez IV, it was being able to see the sacrifice of the Soldiers who came before him that answered questions to why he became a Soldier.

"That trip answers the question, 'Why?'" he said. "Why are we serving and what's important about putting on this uniform? All of that gets put together when you study something and you get to see this kind of site."

"History always has to be something that Soldiers are thinking about," continued Martinez. "This brings that concept of service to the forefront and you start really thinking about why you're serving."

Fellow WOC Jennifer McShane agreed and said the visit was a great way to see the way the force and nation has evolved over time.

"This gives us an idea of what our foundation was based off of, and how we've progressed and moved forward throughout the years as a nation," she said.

SEE RIDE, PAGE A5



PHOTO BY E. LEONARD

A fawn rests against the rear of several Civil War prisoner of war graves, located in Section H of the Andersonville National Cemetery.

PERSPECTIVE

NCO DEVELOPMENT TOWN HALL

TRADOC CSM: ‘Where did everyone go?’

Command Sgt. Maj. David S. Davenport Sr.
Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

(Editor’s note: This article originally appeared as an entry in the TRADOC CSM’s Blog. Further entries in the blog are available at <http://tradocnews.org/category/straight-from-the-csm/>.)

Soldiers,
With each major Army event, there should always be an after-action review. And, yes, even TRADOC does these.

Why do we do these, you ask? How do you expect us to improve upon our next event, if we aren’t on the same page as our audience? Here at TRADOC, we are striving to develop and maintain a connection with those who will be influenced and affected most by our day-to-day activities.

On July 27, we conducted an AAR on the most recent State of NCO Development Town Hall. The feedback that was provided was positive and several takeaways have already been considered. The one thing everyone agreed we were missing was – you! What happened? The number of participants in the first town hall in March was drastically larger. Where did everyone go?

Topics for these events are based on feedback that we get throughout the force – what do Soldiers want to know? We then invite subject matter experts on these topics to participate in the town hall – either on the live panel or answering questions in the chat room.

We also engage on our TRADOC Twitter and Facebook



ARMY PHOTO

Command Sgt. Maj. David S. Davenport Sr., command sergeant major of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, visits the 168th Regiment Regional Training Institute, a multi-component RTI of Excellence at Fort Carson, Colorado, responsible for training future leaders, earlier this year.

pages to answer questions posted there as well. The point is to give Soldiers the opportunity to ask the questions they feel will impact them, or their Soldiers, the most. By doing so, Soldiers can get immediate feedback from an expert. I’d say this is a win for most of you, but you have to participate.

In hopes of gaining more participation, TRADOC will adjust the timeline. Based on feedback, we are going to back up the timeline to earlier in the day Eastern Standard Time.

First sergeants: we will need

your help in allotting time during the regular duty day to assist with mass participation.

This is not only beneficial to our Soldiers, but when command teams promote this type of participation, they are able to see the questions and concerns within their organizations. Again, another win.

Something else we are considering for future events is different delivery methods. Maybe we conduct something a little less formal through Facebook Live or Blab. We are also considering taking a town hall overseas. Give

us your feedback to make these events worthwhile.

The next State of NCO Development Town Hall will take place Nov. 3. Again, based on feedback from across the force, the topic for discussion will be talent management. What jobs are available for you? What jobs are you eligible to compete for? What jobs are broadening opportunities?

The panel will include experts from Human Resources Command, Department of the Army G-1, U.S. Army Warrant Officer Recruiting, Cadet Command for

Green to Gold and a few other professionals who can get you straight on the opportunities available to you.

What I’m saying is that I’ve heard you loud and clear. The wheels are already rolling, and I am already in contact with the panelists who will be participating. This is going to be an outstanding event, but as I already stated, in order to get your questions answered, you need to participate.

Hope to see or hear from you Nov. 3.
Victory Starts Here!

Rotor Wash



Trevor Shlam,
civilian

“Make sure to drink lots of water and stay hydrated, and don’t stay out in the sun too long.”



WOC Rodrigo Contreras, Warrant Officer Career College

“If you’re going to be on the water, make sure to keep an eye on children.”



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

“If you’re cooking out, don’t use too much lighter fluid or charcoal.”



Charlie Bowen,
military family member

“People should make sure they or their friends are not drinking and driving.”



W01 Cody Kleiner, B Co, 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt.

“A lot of people tend to spend too much time in the sun. Even though it’s later in the year, the sun can still do some real damage if you’re not careful, so people should limit that.”

“Labor Day is Monday. What are some tips to help families remain safe during a holiday weekend often filled with cookouts, boating, swimming and several hours in the sun?”

COMMAND

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‘AS MUCH ART AS SCIENCE’

Fort Rucker Weather Ops helps ensure Aviator safety

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

A big factor when it comes to training and flying on Fort Rucker is the weather, and one organization on Cairns Army Airfield keeps the installation informed to help ensure the safety of its Aviators.

Fort Rucker Weather Operations provides weather updates, alerts and reports to the installation’s Aviators that help them prepare their flight plans, but also provides valuable information to the post to help when planning events across the installation, according to Cindy Howell, supervisory meteorological technician.

“We do a little bit of everything here, but our main mission is Aviation weather,” said Cindy Howell, supervisory meteorological technician. “We issue our product set three times a day – covering an area approximately 32,000 square miles. The local flying area spans portions of Alabama, Georgia and Florida. Our product set includes the Mission Execution Forecast, which covers VFR flights within 60 nautical miles; a DD 175-1 that covers IFR flights within 100 nautical miles; and a DD 175-1 Continuation Sheet that covers IFR flights within 150 nautical miles.”

These products are all available on the Fort Rucker Weather Operations website. Howell said providing that knowledge to pilots is crucial.

“They can’t legally launch their aircraft without a weather briefing,” she said. “We try to be as thorough as possible, tailoring each briefing to that particular customer. Our goal is to minimize their risk and maximize their training time.”

But briefing pilots about what



PHOTO BY JAY MANN

Cindy Howell, supervisory meteorological technician, tells a pilot what weather conditions he should expect during an upcoming flight at Cairns Army Airfield.

weather they might be flying in is only one part of daily life in weather ops.

Resource protection is another valuable part of the mission at weather ops, which issues 54 different watches, warnings and advisories throughout Fort Rucker, said Howell.

“These watches, warnings, and advisories are issued for forecast and observed hazards, such as cold temperatures, icing, turbulence, severe thunderstorms and tornadoes,” she said.

Weather ops monitors the Doppler radar constantly for severe weather and also serves as the secondary tornado siren on the installation. When hurricanes threaten the post, Howell and her

team spring into action, producing a tailored hurricane briefing and threat assessment every six hours.

“Our hurricane briefing is tailored specifically for Fort Rucker,” she said. “It provides post leadership the information they need to make decisions on safeguarding aircraft and early release of personnel.”

Howell said the Fort Rucker community has great resources available to them via the weather ops website, Facebook page, Twitter feed and mobile app, which are all accessible at www.rucker.army.mil/6weather, where people can find links to local radar and satellite feeds, planning data, tropical products, safety in-

formation and more.

“Weather is unpredictable. Be informed and be prepared,” said Howell.

Although Fort Rucker Weather Operations focuses on forecasting weather, they differ from the typical weather forecaster people might see on the evening news.

“A civilian forecaster might tell you partly cloudy with a 30-percent chance of rain, but we have to be a little more precise than that,” she said. “We have to tell you within 30 minutes what time will the rain start and how high will the clouds be. Depending on the customer, airframe and mission, we have to tell you the difference between a 400-foot and 500-foot cloud ceiling. To

our customers, 100 feet can mean the difference between a go and a no-go.

“To produce our forecasts, we look at the overall picture, local area surface observations, satellite imagery, radar and the upper levels of the atmosphere,” said the meteorological technician. “Then we take all that, along with model data, forecast data and alpha numeric guidance, and we piece it all together into the best product we can. It is really a never-ending process and it is as much art as it is science.”

Weather ops also does planning forecasts for special events like Freedom Fest, Lake Fest, the children’s Easter egg hunt, Children’s Festival, Oktoberfest and any major event that takes place on post, she said, adding that these forecasts will be provided to the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation several days out to help ensure these events can go off without a hitch.

When it comes to weather forecasting on the installation, accuracy is a must, and with weather, that’s often difficult to do, said Howell.

“Three days a week we put together a detailed seven-day forecast so Fort Rucker leadership can plan ahead,” she said. “Sometimes the customer needs to fly on Saturday. Saturday flying is expensive. Support staff, such as instructors, air traffic controllers, base ops, refuelers and weather must be called in on overtime.

“If people get called in on overtime and our forecast is a bust, we have just cost the customer a lot of money,” said Howell. “In these difficult fiscal times, people simply don’t have money to throw around like that. We must get it right.”

New Army directive: Officers must be vetted before promotions confirmed

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A change to Army regulations now requires that the Army determine the suitability of each officer considered for promotion before that officer’s name ever crosses the desk of the Army secretary.

While the Army has always investigated officers to ensure they are suitable for promotion, in the past such vetting usually took place at the same time that senior Army, Defense and congressional leadership were considering them, rather than before.

Now, the directive published July 18 requires that officers who are selected for promotion be vetted for mental, physical, moral and professional fitness, and meet the standards for exemplary conduct before their names are forwarded to the secretary of the Army for certification.

The previous concurrent vetting process sometimes resulted in the Army having to remove officers from promotion lists, resulting in embarrassment for the individual and the service.

“Previously, the Army did not systematically screen all officers recommended for promotion or federal recognition for adverse or reportable information prior to nomination or confirmation,” said Albert S. Eggerton, chief of Officer Selection Board Policy. “Consequently, some officers confirmed by the Senate were not discovered to have adverse or reportable information until just prior to appointment.”

According to Army Directive 2016-26, “a post-board screening initiated by the director of Military Personnel Management will be conducted on officers selected for promotion to captain through colonel, and CW3 through CW5 before the results of the promotion selection board are forwarded to the secretary of the Army.”

The post-board screening includes a review of information in official files maintained by the Army Criminal Investigation Command, the Department of the Army inspector general, the restricted portion of the Army Military Human Resource Record, and a query for suspension of favorable personnel actions.

“Adverse information” can include,



ARMY PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

among other things, SHARP-related offenses; domestic assault or child abuse; DUIs/DWIs; possession or involvement with child pornography; positive urinalysis; false swearing; patterns of misconduct; or ongoing investigations or cases under review

with Criminal Investigation Command, the Department of the Army, the inspector general, or their unit.

Similar changes have been made for officers who are being considered for promotion to first lieutenant or chief warrant officer.

News Briefs

Legal office closures

The Fort Rucker Legal Assistance and Claims offices will be closed today for the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate organizational day, and Friday-Monday for the Labor Day weekend. Normal business hours will resume Tuesday.

Chapel’s Wednesday Night Alive

Beginning Wednesday, the Fort Rucker Religious Support Office will host its Wednesday Night Alive service from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Spiritual Life Center, Bldg. 8939, where there’s something for the entire family, according to RSO officials. A nine-week financial management course will also be available Wednesday-Nov. 9. A complimentary dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. and the service will follow immediately thereafter. Child care will be provided for ages up to 36 months.

For more information, call 255-3903 or 255-3946.

Drug and alcohol prevention training

The Fort Rucker Army Substance Abuse Program will host the Addiction Performance Project Sept. 8, with performances from 10 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. at the post theater, as part of its alcohol and drug abuse prevention training. The event features actor Anthony Edwards, actresses Mare Winningham and Marjolaine Goldsmith, and artistic director Bryan Doerries, who will present dramatic readings of Eugene O’Neill’s “Long Day’s Journey into Night.”

Attending one of the sessions will fulfill two hours of the four-hour requirement of annual alcohol

and drug abuse prevention training required of service members, and fully meet the two-hour annual requirement of Department of the Army civilians.

For more information, call 255-7806.

CIF closure

The central issue facility will be closed for inventory Sept. 19-23. Normal operations will resume Sept. 26. For more information, call 255-9573 or 255-1095.

POW/MIA ceremony

Fort Rucker will host its POW/MIA ceremony Sept. 16 at 8:30 a.m. at Veterans Park in front of the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

Thrift shop expo

The Fort Rucker Thrift Shop will host its Hidden Treasures Shopping Showcase and Expo Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in its parking lot. Various home-based vendors will set up shop in the parking lot so people can browse their wares.

For more information, call 255-9595.

Lost and found

People who have lost or misplaced property while on Fort Rucker can call the Directorate of Public Safety’s lost and found point of contact at 255-3239 to inquire if their property has been turned in. To claim their property, people must be able to demonstrate ownership of the property. DPS retains property found or turned in at special events held on the installation, such as Freedom Fest – the most

common items turned-in are keys, cell phones and wallets.

Funded legal education program

The Office of the Judge Advocate General is accepting applications for the Army’s Funded Legal Education Program. Under this program, the Army projects sending up to 25 active duty commissioned officers to law school at government expense. Selected officers will attend law school beginning the fall of 2017 and will remain on active duty while attending law school.

Interested officers should review Army MILPER Message 16-053 and Chapter 14 of Army Regulation 27-1 “The Judge Advocate General’s Funded Legal Education Program” to determine their eligibility. This program is open to commissioned officers in the rank of second lieutenant through captain. Applicants must have at least two, but not more than six, years of total active federal service at the time legal training begins. Eligibility is governed by statute – 10 U.S.C. 2004 – and is non-waivable.

Eligible officers interested in applying should immediately register for the earliest offering of the Law School Admission Test. Applicants must send their request through command channels, to include the officer’s branch manager at AHRC, send the original application to the Office of the Judge Advocate, ATTN: DAJA-PT (Ms. Yvonne Caron-Rm 2B517), 2200 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310, to be received by Nov. 1. Legal officials advise people to submit their applications well in advance of the deadline.

For more information, call 255-3308.

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: Wednesday, 1-3 p.m.; Sept. 14, 4-6 p.m.; Sept. 21, 1-3 p.m.; and Sept. 28, 4-6 p.m.

Clinic closure

Lyster Army Health clinic will close at noon Sept. 21 for training.

Lyster activity classes

Lyster Army Health Clinic offers free yoga classes Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the Lyster Activity Center, Rm. J-100 in the clinic. Lyster officials encourage participants to bring their own mats.

STANDING READY

Army stands ready to defend Korea, USARPAC commander says

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — In North Korea, Kim Jong-un bragged this month about launching a missile from a submarine.

“That’ll make 31 launches in four years,” said Gen. Robert B. Brown, commander of U.S. Army Pacific Command, speaking at an Aug. 24 media roundtable.

He said the former regime had nine launches in 17 years. “That tells you a lot about North Korea’s intentions.”

Brown said the U.S. Army presence on the Korean peninsula is solid and stands ready to defend South Korea from any threat posed by its unpredictable northern neighbor.

“We have a lot of forces postured and ready to go should something happen in Korea,” he said. “That’s my No. 1 priority: readiness and the ability to fight tonight. And nowhere I believe is it more important to be ready to fight tonight, than in Korea.”

A rotational brigade stationed in Korea now, on nine-month rotations, provides a new level of stability and predictability, Brown said. Currently about 4,500 Soldiers from 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, out of Fort Hood, Texas, serve as the rotational brigade in Korea. They arrived there in early 2016.

Brown said that Army training for units that are posted in Korea or are shipping to Korea focuses on potential future conflict. Right now, as many as 25,000 American forces are in Korea to participating in the Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise, along with 50,000 Republic of Korea soldiers.

“The more exercises we can do together, and all the contributing nations, the better



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. KEN SCAR

prepared we will be should North Korea do something stupid and try to attack South Korea,” Brown said. “We are constantly working on our readiness.”

South Korea, Brown said, is worth protecting.

“We have maintained that prosperity for South Korea and (helped allow its) democracy to flourish,” he said. “We’ve been there well over 60 years maintaining that peace. I am very worried, as you look at the trend. You have to be ready.”

Elsewhere in the Pacific, there have been multiple instances of uncertainty, though Brown believes they are unlikely to affect continued U.S. partnerships with Pacific countries.

A 2014 coup in Thailand, for instance, has left the military there largely in charge. In the Philippines, President Rodrigo Du-

terte threatened to withdraw from the United Nations in response to criticism from a U.N. human rights expert of his handling of drug crime (Duterte later backtracked on his threat).

The U.S. Army partners with the militaries of both of those nations as part of its Pacific Pathways operations, Brown noted. Additionally, the U.S. has five mutual defense agreements that are focused in the Pacific and include both the Philippines and Thailand.

Brown expects that, despite these recent developments, the U.S. Army will continue to participate in military-to-military partnerships and training opportunities with the militaries of both countries.

“With the Thai government, we mostly focus in our exercises – Cobra Gold as an example – on humanitarian aid and disas-

ter relief, defense professionalization and some of those areas,” he said. “We are looking to the Thais to get a democratically elected government ... but we continue to exercise in areas where we will build areas of mutual interest. We don’t see it slowing down.”

Regarding the Philippines, he said, “we have maintained very close relations in the Philippines, and continue to do a number of exercises there. The Marines are the lead in the Philippines, and so we work closely with our Marine partners there and work with the Philippine army. But they are a treaty ally.”

As with Thailand, he said the frequency of military-to-military exercises in the Philippines is not decreasing, but increasing.

“(I’m) excited about our relationship with India,” Brown said. “When you look at the finalization of the logistics exchange, a memorandum agreement, for example, those agreements enable us to do even more together, exchange ideas, and cooperate and enhance the U.S.-India partnership.”

The Pacific region is frequently hit by natural disasters that affect large numbers of people, Brown said, which makes it an area where maintain strong working relationships are crucial – relationships with partners like India, for example.

“More people die in the Pacific from disasters than anywhere in the world,” he said. “If you’ve worked together and you know each other and you understand and you can exchange ideas. Then when the crisis happens, you can save a lot of lives.”

An upcoming exercise involving both the U.S. and India, the Yudh Abhyas exercise, should prepare U.S. and Indian forces for just such an occasion.

75,000 U.S., Korean, Canadian forces commence Pacific exercise

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – It’s been five years since the White House first announced an American “pivot to the Pacific,” now characterized as a “rebalance.”

That rebalance came as the United States was drawing down operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and aimed to refocus on partnerships in the Pacific region, including Japan and Korea.

As part of that ongoing rebalance, this week about 400 Soldiers in I Corps, headquartered out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, headed to South Korea to participate in the Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise, a joint and bilateral exercise involving as many as 75,000 military personnel from South Korea, the U.S. and Canada.

“It is the largest exercise we do with Korea all year,” said Lt. Gen. Stephen R. Lanza, I Corps commander, who departed for the Korean peninsula Aug. 23 to take charge of the I Corps operational headquarters during the exercise.

I Corps will have about 300 Soldiers participating in Korea, with an additional 100 from its support element. The rest of the corps will participate in the exercise from back at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. In total, 25,000 U.S. service members, with about 50,000 Republic of Korea service members will participate.

“We’ll be training also with the 1st Canadian Division, the 3rd Infantry Division, the 25th Infantry Division, and we’ll have both our command post forward in the Pacific, and our main command post operating back here at Joint Base Lewis-McChord,” Lanza said.

Soldiers from the 25th ID will participate from their headquarters in Hawaii, and American Soldiers in Japan will also participate from their location. Also participating in Korea will be command posts from 1st Canadian Division and the 3rd Infantry Division.

The goal of Ulchi Freedom Guardian is to enhance training and readiness across the corps, at all levels, and develop relationships between U.S. and its partner forces. With increasing tensions between North Korea, and America’s partner, South Korea, Lanza said the continued training is preparing I Corps to be a dependable partner should conflict arise.

“I’m very confident in the training and readiness of I Corps, whether it be to go to Korea or any place in the world,” he said. “Obviously, there are contingencies for that. But I Corps remains ready, trained and ... able to respond to any contingency, whether it be in the Pacific or globally.”

While the future remains unclear, Lanza said, one thing is certain: the Army will tackle any future conflict as a total force. That means the regular Army will depend on and fight alongside the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve, in the same way that the total force is now training together at Ulchi Freedom Guardian.

Given that the Army will be reduced in size in the coming years, Lanza said, more training in the future will have to be conducted collectively. In October, he said, he

will participate in a senior leader conference at Joint Base Lewis-McChord involving I Corps, Guard and Reserve partners to plan just that kind of training.

I Corps is the only Army Corps currently assigned to a geographic combatant command. It has been aligned for more than four years now to U.S. Pacific Command. Its region alignment, Lanza said, has enhanced trust with

partner militaries and ensured the freedom within the Pacific needed to conduct operations.

“I’ve seen this grow, I’ve seen this progress, and I’ve seen it be very helpful to achieve (the goals of Adm. Harry Binkley Harris Jr., commander, U.S. Pacific Command) ... and his strategic approach to the security environment in the Pacific.”

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TRADOC G-2: Army will augment Navy, Air Force in future conflicts

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Army is considered the world’s premier land force, but it also has the capability to play a greater role in shaping other domains, like sea, air, cyber and space.

“We won’t duplicate capabilities of the other services. We want to enable the other services,” said Tom Greco, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command deputy chief of staff, G-2, in his remarks at a Mad Scientist media roundtable Aug. 23.

Mad Scientist is a series of annual events at which members of academia, industry and interagency partners from around the U.S. and the world gather to discuss the character of warfare through 2050.

During the media roundtable, the G-2 told his audience that he can foresee a time in the near future when Army ground-based systems will be used to create favorable conditions for the Navy and the Air Force, citing several examples.

For instance, he said, Army forces could launch missiles against enemy naval vessels or attack threats in the air. The Army could also create windows of opportunity for the Navy to move through maritime choke points.



MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY PHOTO

The Army could use its capabilities, including its missiles, to help shape the battlefield for the Air Force and Navy.

In addition, Greco predicted, the Army could augment Air Force capabilities to help open air avenues of approach, and the Army’s cyber and space capabilities could provide a layer of protection for the other services operating nearby.

The Army has already used air power during the Gulf War and the 2003 invasion of Iraq “to set the conditions for land operations,” according to Greco. In the future, the Army will need to engage in the other domains to increase the effectiveness of the joint force.

Such a transformation will require a revision of the traditional

Army mindset, he added.

“That gets back to the culture,” he said. “We no longer can think solely ‘land domain.’ We’ve got to take a greater level of synchronization across all of the services within a joint umbrella.”

The U.S. Army isn’t alone in the world in its drive to perfect operations across domains, Greco

explained. Russian separatists in the Ukraine have created a very robust air defense umbrella.

“They’re essentially dominating the air from the ground,” he said. “Because of that, it’s very difficult for Ukrainians, or anyone else, to fly over that part of the Ukraine.”

Russians in Syria, he added, are synchronizing ground and air operations at a level we haven’t seen previously.

Another topic Greco discussed at Mad Scientist was the effects of climate change on the future operating environment. In particular, discussion focused on the Arctic region, which has been melting at an increasing rate, particularly over the last several decades.

On the plus side, if the Arctic ice cap were to retreat and open a Northwest Passage, the U.S. and other countries could benefit from greater trade opportunities, he said. But international conflict could arise from the contesting of natural resources.

“We’ve noticed that the Russians have beefed up their capabilities to operate in the Arctic,” he said. “That’s an interesting aspect of the future operating environment. The environment literally could change the way the military has to operate.”

Ride

Continued from Page A1

The staff ride to Andersonville was meant to be a learning experience for the candidates, and leading up to the event, each Soldier was tasked with researching and generating a military brief on the topic they were assigned, according to McShane.

“We covered (different historical figures of the time) who took part in the Civil War or had very important rolls – it helped us to visualize when we went out to the Andersonville area,” she said. “This allowed us to become a bit more linked to the individuals who had gone through those experiences during that period of time.”

Bachtel said each candidate was given a few days of prep time to do research, then they were tasked to give an in-class

brief, as well as an on-site brief, and for others, like WOC Adam Wong, it was a way to make the lessons stick.

“There is always going to be a certain limit to preparedness that you can get from books or watching videos on any given subject, especially with something like history,” said Wong. “In order to truly put it into perspective and experience it you’re going to have to put eyes on it or be there to see it because it adds a whole new depth.”

WOC Chauncey Johnson said the lessons learned integrated perfectly with his warrant officer training.

“This course has taught me to be resourceful, exercise talent management and mission command,” he said. “This is the first course I’ve ever been in where we received a mission order. We had to disseminate information based off intent, and I think it was really critical to this course because

that’s what you’re actually going to do in an operation environment. That will produce the quality officers that we’re going to have in the future of the warrant officer cohort.”

For others, it was the experience that reignited their passion for learning.

“What this whole process did for me was reinvigorate my love of learning,” said Martinez. “This actually instilled a sense of wanting to learn, and in that I think it was the biggest impactful thing about this whole staff ride experience.”

“This was a great way to show that history is not just dates,” added Wong. “This trip definitely put into perspective that these were real events that took place. Dates aren’t what make the event important ... the event is what is important.”

EFMP

Continued from Page A1

if they are stationed at a post of a different armed forces branch.”

Cornish said families who need to enroll in EFMP or want to see if they are eligible for EFMP services should call 255-7431 to make an appointment with Lyster’s EFMP office.

For EFMP advocacy services, respite care, information and referral services, free educational and training opportunities, and resource library and relocation assistance, people can contact Army Community Service EFMP at 255-9277, she said.

“Family members need to touch base with their medical EFMP office because they will be able to take them step-by-step through the whole process,” she said, “and some services will require the health care provider’s signature.”

Once the paperwork is done and filed, family members will be screened by a physician at LAHC to make sure everything is in order, and Cornish reassures that families won’t have to go through the process alone.

The most popular service is respite care, said Cornish, which helps primary caregivers of qualifying families get time away from their daily routine. If a family meets all the requirements, they can receive this service for a maximum of 40 hours a month at no cost to them.

“If you’re in doubt, just call us and talk with us, and we can give you some preliminary information over the phone,” she said. “The program is designed to help and the end result is the Army is concerned for the overall wellbeing of the family.”

For more information, call 255-9277.

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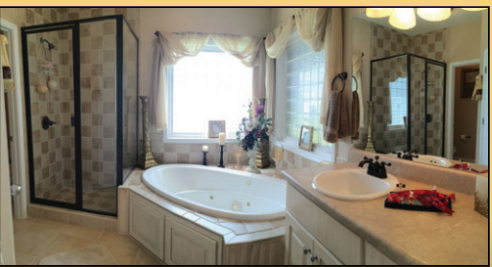


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MADISON, N.J. (Aug. 9, 2016) Century 21 Real Estate LLC, franchisor of the iconic CENTURY 21® brand, today announced that it received all four industry-leading customer satisfaction awards in the annual J.D. Power 2016 Home Buyer/Seller Satisfaction Study®. For the third consecutive year, the CENTURY 21 brand swept the awards by receiving the highest ranking among national real estate firms across four customer satisfaction segments in the study, including: First-Time Home-Buyer Satisfaction, First-Time Home-Seller Satisfaction and Repeat Home-Seller Satisfaction, and tied for the top spot in the Repeat Home-Buyer Satisfaction category.

"The combination of a broker and agent-centric value proposition and a focus on one of the company's core values of delivering the highest standards of quality service throughout the consumer's decision-making journey has helped to keep System members front and center in the hearts and minds of today's home buyers and sellers, and the J.D. Power results demonstrate that our growth strategy is working," said Rick Davidson, president and chief executive officer of Century 21 Real Estate LLC.

The J.D. Power Home Buyer/Seller Satisfaction Study, now in its ninth year, measures customer satisfaction among first-time and repeat home buyers and sellers with the nation's largest real estate companies. For satisfaction in the first-time home buyer experience, the brand achieved the highest score in the agent/salesperson and package of additional services study factors within its segment. For satisfaction in the first time home seller experience, first-time and repeat home-selling segments, factors evaluated included the highest score in the agent/salesperson plus closing process; real estate company marketing; real estate company office; and a package of additional services per each segment.

"The real estate professionals affiliated with the CENTURY 21 brand are by far the System's most valued assets as our market momentum continues and we grow our iconic global brand," added Davidson, who personally interviews every company interested in affiliating with the brand. "It's imperative that we ensure that companies are able to uphold the professionalism, honesty, integrity, and the highest standards of quality service associated with the CENTURY 21 brand."

In 2015, 42 independent real estate companies in the United States, and five international master franchisors in Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Slovenia, and the UAE-Dubai, selected Century 21 Real Estate as the best platform for their affiliated agents, their market, and their growth and long-term success. In total, the brand welcomed 497 new offices globally: 405 internationally and 92 in core and strategic markets in the U.S., including Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, and Washington.

Century 21 Real Estate LLC first revolutionized real estate with the introduction to the industry of the franchisor/franchisee model by real estate brokers Art Bartlett and Marsh Fisher on July 28, 1971. Today, Century 21 Real Estate LLC, the most recognized name in real estate* and the brand that was selected as the leader in brand awareness in 2016 for the 18th year in a row* among consumers presented with a list of real estate agencies, is committed to making a difference in people's lives by delivering to market innovative tools and technologies, marketing support and the use of its iconic brand marks that help its independent brokers and affiliated sales associates provide a seamless experience to real estate consumers around the world.

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INTEGRATION

Army explores using cyber teams to aid maneuver commanders

By David Vergun
Army News Service

FORT IRWIN, Calif. — A pilot program known as Cyber Support to Corps and Below is now providing some maneuver commanders with an improved situational awareness of the information environment and tools to shape that environment.

According to Lt. Col. Jon Burnett Burnett, chief of Army Cyber Command's CSCB, cyber training has evolved during the CSCB experiments to such a degree that it's now possible for a maneuver commander to gain a

great advantage in the warfighting domain of cyberspace.

Expeditionary cyber teams, embedded in the brigade, can help commanders maneuver in the information environment by leveraging defensive cyber operations, offensive cyber operations, electronic warfare and information operations.

During a recent rotation at Fort Irwin's National Training Center in late July and August, the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team became the fifth brigade to integrate cyber effects under the pilot program.

Targeting

Maj. Deonand Singh, operations officer for the 781st Military Intelligence Battalion, said that during this rotation the expeditionary cyber team was deployed to carry out a variety of activities while operating against an opposing force.

The cyber team conducted reconnaissance of the training scenario's operational information environment to gain an understanding of the adversary's activities and then sent the information to an analytical cell,

SEE INTEGRATION, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

A UH-60 Black Hawk swoops over a mock city. Expeditionary cyber is providing offensive and defensive cyber to the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team.



PHOTO BY CAPT. ADAN CAZAREZ

Soldiers from the DeGlopper Air Assault School, XVIII Airborne Corps, successfully attach a sling-load hook onto a UH-60 Black Hawk assigned to the 2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., Aug. 18.

Regionally Allocated Force displays mission readiness at CALFEX

By Sgt. Kathleen Polanco
7th Army Training Command
Public Affairs

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — The mission readiness of the U.S. Army Europe's Regionally Allocated Force was put to the test during Combined Resolve VII's Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise at the Grafenwoehr Training Area Aug. 16-18.

Combined Resolve VII is a U.S. Army Europe-directed exercise that was designed to train the U.S. European Command's RAF with 16 NATO and European partner nations. The goal of the 7th Army Training Command's brigade-level multinational exercise was to promote stability and security in the region.

The RAF is an Army unit that has been tailored to a unified combatant command to be a flexible, responsive and consistently available force for regional missions. The RAF's capabilities are required to support operational missions, training exercises and theater security cooperation activities.

The 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division from Fort Stewart, Georgia, is the brigade combat team designated as part of the RAF for the USEUCOM.

"This has been an excellent opportunity as a brigade commander to generate training readiness as well as leader readiness," said Col. Phil Brooks, the commander of 1/3 ID. "The 7th ATC has provided me with the resources that I need to generate the leader readiness in accordance with the chief of the staff of the Army's guidance."

The RAF concept demonstrates commitment to improving the unit's overall mission readiness by providing resources needed to train as they fight, as well as develop future leaders.

"Units leave here at a higher state



PHOTO BY MARKUS RAUCHENBERGER

Soldiers with 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, look downrange in their M1A2 Sepv2 Abrams Main Battle Tank with AH-64 Apaches, assigned to 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, providing aerial support during exercise Combined Resolve VII at the 7th Army Training Command in Grafenwoehr, Germany, Aug. 18

of training readiness than when they arrived," Brooks said. "The allocation of land, ammunition and all the resources that we're provided here are a direct result of 7ATC's commitment to generate readiness while we're here on these rotations."

This is 1/3 ID's third rotation to the training area as the designated RAF, which has allowed all seven battalions in the brigade to strengthen their training readiness through participating in exercises such as the CALFEX.

The CALFEX is the second phase of the Combined Resolve VII exercise that started Aug. 8 at the Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels training areas. The two-day exercise requires the maneuver assets, artillery, mortars, engineers, helicopters and close air support to simultaneously utilize their mission readiness capabilities to operate together in a scenario-based environment.

The units of the RAF conducted training to meet their certification standards prior to participating in a CALFEX. Upon qualification, those units applied all their training from the past six months in the final exercise of their rotation.

"You learn through repetition or you learn through a significant emotional event," said Brooks. "Those Soldiers are getting the repetition here. They will be prepared to take that to the next level in our training glide path."

In order for the RAF to conduct such training to participate in the exercise, they would need the resources available to do so. The 7ATC directorates provided land and range support, ammunition and personnel to conduct the exercises.

"The 7ATC enables me to provide simultaneous direct and indirect fires in support of the maneuver," said Brooks. "Without the assistance of range control personnel here, I could not bring both direct and indirect artillery, mortars, Apaches and the close air support simultaneously with the tanks and Bradleys."

The training exercises aren't the only things that aided the RAF's readiness — the opportunity to attend schools has, as well.

While on rotation as the RAF, the 1/3 ID Soldiers have been able to

SEE CALFEX, PAGE B4

AIR K9

JTF-Bravo military working dogs take to sky

By Capt. David Liapis
Joint Task Force-Bravo
Public Affairs

SOTO CANO AIR BASE, Honduras — Joint Task Force-Bravo has been a consistent presence in the Central American region since 1984, and is known by many for its helicopter support for humanitarian aid, disaster relief and counter-transnational organized crime operations and its medical readiness exercises; however, the scope of capabilities here go well beyond those primary missions.

One example of this is the Joint Security Forces' military working dogs and handlers.

The MWDs are used by JSF on base for narcotics and explosive detection, as well as patrol, said Staff Sgt. Isaac Trevino, JSF MWD senior handler.

As with many military duties, there are risks involved that in a worst-case-scenario might require rapid medical evacuation, a capability provided here by the 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment's U.S. Air Ambulance Detachment Honduras.

A number of steps are taken by the aircrew and MWD handlers to be prepared to conduct MedEvac operations at a moment's notice. One step is to introduce the MWDs to rotary wing transportation, including loading and unloading both with the helicopter on the ground and in the air.

Aircrews from the 1-228 Avn. Regt. provided hoist training for Kyra, Jaska and Puma, three JSF MWDs, and their handlers, Spcs. Mariah Ridge, Courtney Moreland and Harley Reno, Aug. 15.

SEE K9, PAGE B4



PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. SIUTA B. IKA

Spc. Mariah Ridge, military working dog handler assigned to Joint Task Force-Bravo's Joint Security Forces, laughs at her MWD, Jaska, during training at Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras, Aug. 15.



Ridge and Jaska walk toward a UH-60L Black Hawk.



Spc. Harley Reno, military working dog handler, and his MWD, Kyra, are secured to a hoist.

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Integration

Continued from Page B1

where a team developed insights and actionable intelligence.

Singh stressed that he looks at cyber tools and assets as “effects-based operations.”

All of these operations occur as the brigade moves quickly through the battlespace, he added, so the cyber team is constantly busy and must always be on their toes.

A battalion moving through or near a city could employ a cyber team to disrupt enemy networks located there, said Capt. Samuel Lough, offensive cyber operations planner.

NTC has mock cities and villages sprinkled about the mountains and deserts in an area the size of Rhode Island, so such scenarios are easily simulated for training purposes.

Defensive cyber

Capt. Robert Busby, defensive cyber operations planner, said his role in the brigade’s mission is to defend key systems from enemy cyber attacks. Key systems include anything the brigade commander deems critical to the mission, be it servers, routers, transmitters or targeting systems.

Busby consults with the brigade commander and staff regarding the unit’s key enablers



PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

An unscripted part of the exercise is the flora and fauna of the National Training Center. Here, a burro waits patiently for a Humvee to pass before crossing the highway Aug. 10.

that must be protected and his team then prioritizes those in their defensive tactics. To anticipate potential threats, cyber defenders must think like the enemy, Busby said.

“We definitely rely upon these defenders to harden our networks,” Busby said.

Pfc. Jomar Rodriguez, one of Busby’s cyber defenders, realizes the importance of his role. As a network analyst, he uses special-

ized software to discover adversary activity on the brigades’ network.

While is relatively new to the Army and cyber, he said the team’s seasoned noncommissioned officers and warrant officers have welcomed him and have been eager to show him the ropes.

“I feel at home using this technology,” he added. “It’s a good feeling knowing you have a real

impact.”

Affecting outcomes

Although the rotation last just two weeks, cyber personnel were involved in the 180 days of planning and exercises leading up to this NTC event. In that time, cyber operators participated in training exercises with 24 of the 25 companies that make up the 4,000-person brigade.

That time spent with them gave the cyber team cohesion with ev-

ery element of the brigade, Singh said.

One of the most important lessons he has taken from these exercises is the crucial role credibility plays within the brigade, from the lowest to the highest echelons.

Credibility comes not just from showing what cyber can do; but also from speaking the same language as those in the combat arms branches. That means translating the technical speak that cyber operators use to the tactical speak they can understand, he said.

It helps matters that most of the cyber operators here have a combat arms background and are already fluent in that lexicon, he said. Singh was a cavalry scout and Lough was an infantryman, for example.

With this pilot program and previous pilots like it, the Army is gather an extraordinary amount of information about where cyber fits and what it can do for the maneuver commander, Singh said.

The experiments are helping the Army determine the right size and mixture of talents needed for an expeditionary cyber team, depending on what types of missions they’re tasked with.

During the next rotation here, according to Singh, the Army will have collected enough data to answer those questions.

K9

Continued from Page B1

The training, accomplished using a UH-60L Black Hawk, was conducted in phases in order to allow the MWDs to become familiar with the noise and rotor wash, sitting in the aircraft, the feeling of being wrapped in the harness and, finally, being lifted 30-feet

into the hovering aircraft.

Though K9 hoist training is routine, it presents a unique opportunity for MWD handlers who are deployed to Soto Cano.

“It really benefits the younger handlers, as they don’t get a lot of training like this in the U.S.,” explained Trevino. “It was the first time for the three handlers

who received the hoist training this week.”

JSF conducts law enforcement and security operations for JTF-Bravo personnel and equipment anywhere within the CENTAM AOR. JSF is composed of joint personnel who patrol the base and provide expeditionary force protection in support of JTF-Bravo operations, such as MEDRETEs and humanitarian aid events.

CALFEX

Continued from Page B1

attend schools such as the basic leaders course at the 7th Army NCO Academy. Over 200 Soldiers will have attended the

BLC by the end of the six-month rotation.

“It’s not just about training readiness. It’s about leader readiness and building the future noncommissioned officer corps in the Army,” said Brooks. “We are gen-

erating leader readiness and future senior leaders here.”


As the end of 1/3ID’s RAF rotation is approaching, the Soldiers and leaders will be returning to Fort Stewart with a vast

amount of readiness.

“They’re going to leave with their chins held high knowing that they have received training in an environment they could never repeat,” said Brooks.

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SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

GETTING A LIFT

Auto skills center improves services

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

Enhancements to Fort Rucker's Automotive Skills Center aim to make the facility more useful and efficient for both staff and patrons.

Tina Barber, ASC program manager, said the installation of seven new lifts allows the facility to better meet the needs of the community.

"The new lifts replaced older equipment that was still functional, but did not have the lifting capacity to meet the needs of the community," she said. "We went from two-post lifts with a 9,000-pound lifting capacity to two-post lifts with a 12,000-pound lifting capacity. We also have three four-post lifts with a 14,000-pound capacity. This upgrade has really enabled us to support more Soldiers and authorized personnel."

The center's floor was also resurfaced, which Barber said improved the aesthetics of the facility and made the cleaning up of petroleum spills less labor intensive.

"We have also purchased upgraded tire mounting and balancing equipment," she said. "Just as the heavier duty vehicles required increased lifting capacity in the lifts, we needed to upgrade our equipment to handle the mounting and balancing of the heavier, larger tires of those vehicles."

"Also, the upgraded equipment makes the dismounting and mounting of low profile tires a one-person operation, whereas before, it could take two or three individuals to dismount and mount a low-profile tire," she added. "The self-help community and our Mechanic for Hire

personnel are thrilled with the upgrade. We were turning business away and referring them to other repair facilities, prior to obtaining the upgraded equipment."

ASC offers a variety of services for authorized personnel.

- **A self-help program** — patrons can sign into the facility and conduct repairs on their own vehicles. ASC has the tools and equipment needed to complete the repairs.
- **Instructional classes** — oil change, transmission service, front brake repair, rear brake repair, ignition system tune-up and how to use scan tools.
- **Mechanic-For-Hire program** — patrons can have their vehicles worked on by a trained professional.
- **Car wash facilities** — two manual and one automatic car wash bay. Two vacuum cleaners, one combination vacuum and shampooer, three vending machines and a fragrance machine. The automated carwash is now also a 24-hour operation, as are the manual wash bays. There is also a free standing dryer system that has been installed at the end of the automatic wash bay. It is activated when either the \$8 or \$10 selections are chosen.
- **Auto detail program** — ASC offers various packages to patrons, from partial to full detailing
- **Propane resale operation** — ASC fills propane tanks of various sizes, including recreation vehicles.
- **Paint booth and areas for restoring vehicles** — The center does not offer instruction in this area. Patrons



FILE PHOTOS

Retired Army Sgt. 1st Class John Neeland tops off the oil in his vehicle at Fort Rucker's Auto Skills Center.

must have all the working knowledge necessary to restore and paint a vehicle.

According to Barber, ASC is an invaluable resource for Soldiers and families living on a tight budget.

"In most people's lives, the two biggest expenses are homes first and secondly vehicles," she said. "The biggest advantage to Soldiers and authorized personnel is monetary savings. Patrons can literally save hundreds of dollars through the self-help program because they are doing the work themselves instead of hiring a repair shop."

"Patrons can also save hundreds of dollars through the Mechanic-for-Hire program," she added. "Our labor rate is presently \$45 per hour. Our patrons express their appreciation time and

time again over the savings."

Barber said many patrons are intimidated by the growing complexity of today's vehicles, but ASC offers several weekly instructional classes to bridge the knowledge gap.

"ASC offers instructional classes on a weekly basis, but instruction is available on a daily basis through the employees on duty," she said. "We insist to our patrons that many repairs are well within their ability to learn and we encourage them to do so. Safety is always the first concern and we stress this to our patrons on a daily basis."

"It is awesome to witness the sense of accomplishment in our patrons after they have repaired their own vehicles," she added. "It is knowledge that they can take wherever they go."



Randy Varner works on a vehicle for a customer at Fort Rucker's Auto Skills Center. Maintenance personnel can assist with simple projects, such as changing oil, to more complicated tasks.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 255-9725.

Game night supports single parents

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

Time can be in short supply during the holiday season, and the Fort Rucker Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation seeks to help single parents make the most of it during Single Parent Family Game Night Sept. 15.

The free event, which takes place from 5-7 p.m. at the Fort Rucker Post Exchange food court, is open to single parents — who are military or Department of Defense civilians — and their children.

"The new parent support program, in partnership with Adam Shaw, food court manager with Army and Air Force Exchange Service, (plan to) provide parents with a fun night out with their children, with no cost to them," Pam Williams, Fort Rucker Army Community Service director, said. "AAFES will supply sub sandwiches and drinks and the venue for this event. All who pre-register will receive a voucher for a free movie at the post theater at a later date."

Registration is open to the first 20 families, and parents are encouraged to sign up early to secure their spot and their free board game to take home after the event. Deadline to register is Sept. 9, Williams said.

"Each registered child will be able to pick out a game to take home with them," Williams said. "Family advocacy program will set up the event, decorate the setting and supply the games. Parents will be able to play the available games with their children in a stress-free environment. Food and drink will be available to the families participating. Bring your family to enjoy some quality family time!"

According to Williams, the event is a perfect opportunity to spend quality time with their families and strengthen familial bonds.

"It enhances the parent-child attachment, provides a positive role model, and also fosters skills development and information-



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Thia, Emma and Mari Ramirez, and Tyson Armstrong, Army family members, play a game during a past Fort Rucker Family Advocacy Program Family Game Night.

sharing opportunities that enhance the parent's ability to interact more effectively with their children, and to create and maintain a safe home environment in which self-esteem and learning are encouraged," she said.

Aside from attending single parent family events on post, Williams said single parents can take other small steps to make the most of their time with family.

She offered the following tips.

1. Set priorities — dedicate your time and energy to those areas that are most important.
2. Set a good example — be the kind of person you want your child to be — they learn by watching you!
3. Help your child build positive self-esteem — show your child affection every day and love without conditions. Praise and encourage your child's efforts.
4. Be honest with your child, but don't involve them in unnecessary adult matters.
5. Be involved in your child's education — attend open houses (if possible), meet your child's teachers and assist with homework.
6. Set aside time to spend with your child every day — dedicate at least a few minutes every day to give them your complete attention and really listen carefully to them. Don't rush or interrupt.
7. Plan outings and activities to do together — they don't have to cost money. Go for a walk, visit a park or play a game.
8. Encourage personal responsibility in your child — make a list of chores for your child that is appropriate for their age.
9. Discipline with love — set firm, fair rules and be consistent. Discuss the consequences for breaking the rules and make sure they understand what is expected.

For more information on the family advocacy program, call 255-3898. For more event information, call 255-3817 or 255-3815.

ON POST

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

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.

Small business counseling

Army Community Service will offer its small business counseling service Sept. 8. Appointments last for about an hour, with the first available appointment at 9:15 a.m. With several areas of counseling available, people need to call to make an appointment.

For information and to schedule an appointment, call 255-2594.

Dog swim

SPLASH! Water Park will host a Dog Days of Summer dog swim Sept. 10 from noon to 4 p.m. No patron swimming will be permitted while dogs are in the water for health and safety considerations. People are welcome to bring their dogs with their favorite toy and let them get their swim on before summer ends. Fee is \$5 per dog. People need to complete a registration form at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center front desk at Bldg. 4605 on Andrews Avenue. At the time of registration and payment, all dog owners will be required to attach a copy of their dog’s vaccination records for health and safety considerations.

For more information, including event rules, visit <http://rucker.armymwr.com/us/rucker/ft-rucker-events/dog-days-summer-dog-swim>. People can also call 255-2296.

White-water rafting trip

MWR Central will offer a white water rafting trip down the Chattahoochee River Sept. 10. This is a beginner-level trip, so people don’t need to worry if they have never done it before, according to MWR Central officials. Price is \$59 per person, and that 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, who must be 7 years or older.

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

Family resilience training

Army Community Service will host family member resilience training Sept. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.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.

Tropical craft

The Center Library will host a tropical-themed craft session Sept. 13 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages 3-11. The event is open to authorized patrons and is Exceptional Family Member Program friendly. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited to the first 65 children registered.

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

Single parent family game night

Army Community Service and the Army and Air Force Exchange Service will host single parent family game night Sept. 15 from 5-7 p.m. at the post exchange food court. Free giveaways will be included and the event will be exceptional family member friendly. The game night is an initiative of Fort Rucker Community Health Promotions Council Family Resiliency Work Group. Registration deadline is Sept. 9 and the event is limited to the first 20 families to register. The game night is open to single parents who are active-duty or retired military, DOD employees and their families.

To pre-register or get more information, call 255-3359 or 255-9647.

EFMP Child and Family Campaign

The Fort Rucker Exceptional Family Member Program will conduct its process of identifying active-duty military families with special needs during its Child and Family Campaign now through Sept. 30. Special needs can include physical, intellectual, developmental delays, emotional impairments that require special treatment, therapy, education, training or counseling, according to EFMP officials.



FILE PHOTO

Fall Fitness Boot Camp

A scene from a previous Fitness Boot Camp. The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host its six-week Fall Fitness Boot Camp beginning with an orientation Sept. 19 at 8:30 a.m. The camp features outdoor activities designed to deliver a significant increase in people’s fitness levels and leave them feeling energized, recharged and motivated to maintain their newly transformed fitness style, according to trainers at the PFC. All sessions take into account people’s varying fitness levels and abilities. The PFC staff’s seeks to help people reach their goals, whether they are meeting new people, learning workout techniques, getting nutritional advice, challenging themselves or others. The camp will be held five days a week from 8:30-9:45 a.m. – ending Oct. 28. The camp includes: Training with certified personal trainers and group exercise leaders, access to all group fitness classes during the camp, a camp T-shirt, and weekly nutritional tips and information. During the orientation, each packet will be reviewed for high-risk participants and people will be contacted if a doctor’s release is needed before orientation. For more information and to register, call 255-3794.

Enrollment is mandatory for Soldiers with EFMs. Mobilized and deployed Soldiers are not eligible. When possible, Soldiers are assigned to an area where the medical and special education needs of their EFM can be met. Soldiers with a family member with a special need or disability or have knowledge of someone who is disabled or with a special need, should contact EFMP at Lyster Army Health Clinic, 255-7431.

Lyster’s EFMP conducts EFM screenings, enrollments, updates and disenrollments. Army Regulation 608-75, EFMP, requires Soldiers to update EFM enrollment every three years, or sooner if services for special needs are no longer required.

For EFMP advocacy services, respite care, information and referral services, free education and training opportunities, resource library and relocation assistance, call Army Community Service EFMP at 255-9277 or 255-3643.

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 Sept. 15. 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.

Book clubs

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.

The Center Library hosts a book club for teens the third Saturday of each month from 4-5 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call 255-3885.

Family emergency preparedness training

The mobilization, deployment and stability support operations manager and the installation emergency manager wants to help Fort Rucker families be prepared for emergencies with training Sept. 22 from 9-11 a.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371A. When it comes to emergencies and disasters, it’s not a question of if, but when, according to training organizers. The additional requirements placed upon families are constantly increasing.

For more information and to register for the event, call 255-9578 or 255-3161. Pre-registration is required by Sept. 16. Free childcare will be available, but people need to call 255-3564 in advance.

DFMWR SPOTLIGHT



SPLASH! Is Open Labor Day Weekend for Swimming!

September 3–5 from 11:00 am–5:30 pm.
For more information call (334)255-2096.

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At time of registration/payment, all dog owners will be REQUIRED to attach a copy of their dogs VACCINATION RECORD(S) for health and safety considerations. For a complete list of program and event rules, please visit rucker.armymwr.com/us/rucker/ft-rucker-events/dog-days-summer-dog-swim

**Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center, (334)255-2296.
rucker.armymwr.com**



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Newcomers welcome

Army Community Service will host a newcomers welcome Sept. 16 from 8:30-11 a.m. at The Landing. Active duty, spouses, foreign students, Army civilians and family members are encouraged to attend. A free light breakfast and Starbucks

coffee will be served. For free childcare, register children at the child development center by calling 255-3564. Reservations must be made 24 hours prior to the newcomers welcome.

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

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 1-4

Thursday, September 1

Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates
(R)7 p.m.

Friday, September 2

The Purge: Election Year (R).....7 p.m.

Saturday, September 3

Ice Age: Collision Course (PG)4 p.m.
Lights Out (PG-13)7 p.m.

Sunday, September 4

Ice Age: Collision Course (PG)1 p.m.
Star Trek Beyond (PG-13)4 p.m.

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

Lithuanian, U.S. forces work together to help orphans

By Sgt. 1st Class
Matthew Chlosta
For Army News Service

SIAULIAI, Lithuania — Lithuanian and American service members worked together to make an orphanage in the area safer for its children.

Army Reserve Soldiers from the 7th Mission Support Command helped coordinate the construction of a new fence, gate and sign for the ‘infant’ or ‘baby’ orphanage with Army Reserve Soldiers from the 412th Theater Engineer Command, Lithuanian soldiers and airmen, and contractors from Aug. 8-25.

The four Soldiers from the 7th MSC’s 457th Civil Affairs Battalion, out of Longare, Italy, and 10 Soldiers from the 375th Engineer Company, out of Huntsville, Alabama, worked side-by-side with six Lithuanian Airmen and Soldiers and contractors each day to construct the new fence.

“The old fence was built almost 50 years ago,” said Audrone Kardasiene, the orphanage director. “It had broken pieces and it was heavy,



PHOTO BY PFC. EMILY HOUDERSHIELDT
Spc. Raven Henderson, assigned to the 375th Engineer Company, 467th Engineer Battalion, 926th Engineer Brigade, 412th Theater Engineer Command, holds a child from Kudikiu Namai during a humanitarian civil assistance project in Sauliai, Lithuania, Aug. 18.

and the new one is beautiful. I am amazed with the work they did and how (well) they communicated with the Lithuanian soldiers.”

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new fence took place Aug. 25 and was attended by more than 40 people, including the mayor of

Sauliai and Christopher Volciak, the acting deputy chief of mission for the U.S. Embassy in Lithuania.

The baby orphanage, or infants home, facility runs on donations only, relying on the community to support children who range from infants up to 6 years old, including children with special needs, according to Sgt. Elizabeth Prairie, with A Co., 457th Civil Affairs Battalion.

The facility has a 50-percent adoption rate, she said. It is currently home to 55 children.

“One of our accomplishments was we were able to bring out an interpreter for the engineers to better interact with the local national contractors,” said Spc. Stephanie Lish, civil affairs specialist, 457th Civil Affairs Battalion.

The civil affairs team also coordinated with the Lithuanians to obtain a commemorative plaque designed and donated by a local sign company.

“It was fantastic to see how excited the kids were to see the Soldiers and to play with them and receive their attention,” she said.

A Lithuanian air force public affairs officer called the project an “example of military and civilian cooperation at its best.”

Alumnus works to preserve unit’s history

By Patrick Bray
Defense Language Institute Foreign
Language Center Public Affairs

MONTEREY, Calif. — Andrew Rodriguez, a December 1990 graduate of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, found his calling restoring a signal intelligence aircraft to memorialize the unit he served in as a Spanish linguist.

Rodriguez entered the U.S. Army Reserves in 1984 and was assigned to the 138th Aviation Company, tasked with airborne signal intelligence missions. In 1990 he attended DLIFLC.

“When I was at DLI, I think there were a lot of questions why Spc. Rodriguez was taking Spanish,” he jokes, referring to his Spanish last name. “But it was clear I didn’t speak a word. I think the professors were harder on me as a result, which of course made me better.”

After language training, Rodriguez returned to the 138th Aviation Company. Because he was at DLIFLC at the time, he did not deploy to the Persian Gulf with the unit during the 1990-1991 conflict. Instead, he used his linguistic skills on counter narcotic and other missions until he left the Army in 1997.

“I’m most proud of the fact I got to work and say goodbye to the Soviet Brigade in Cuba,” said Rodriguez of his time in service, recalling the ex-Soviet military unit that left Cuba in 1993.

Now, Rodriguez is the president of the 138th Aviation Company Memorial, a non-profit organization formed by the unit’s veterans from Vietnam to Desert Storm, which looks to memorialize the signal intelligence unit’s 33-year mission. The



A retired RU-21A aircraft awaits restoration by the 138th Aviation Company Memorial, a non-profit organization formed by the 138th’s veterans.

138th was activated in Da Nang, Vietnam, in 1966 and inactivated in 1999 in Florida.

“We are restoring one of the aircraft that flew many DLI-graduate linguists in West Germany, Central America, the Caribbean, Egypt and Desert Storm,” said Rodriguez.

In early 2000, veterans of the 138th first learned the fate of some of the RU-21A aircraft they had flown. They were sitting in an aircraft salvage yard in Denver, Colorado.

It would be another 15 years until one of the aircraft would be saved from the scrapyards. Their plan is to restore it for display outside of Orlando International Airport in Florida, paying homage to their old unit’s history. Orlando International Airport is the former McCoy Air Force Base.

A similar aircraft, a JU-21A also assigned to the 138th, was shot down in Vietnam in March 1971 killing Vietnamese linguist Spc. Richard Jay Hentz along with the rest of the crew. The memorial will encompass all who served in the unit.

DLIFLC provides resident instruction in 23 languages at the Presidio of Monterey, California, with the capacity to instruct an-



Andrew Rodriguez, a 1990 Spanish graduate of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, stands beside a RU-21A aircraft used for signal intelligence by the 138th Aviation Company.

other 65 languages in Washington, D.C., graduating more than 200,000 linguists since 1941.

In addition, multiple language training

detachments exists at sites in the U.S., Europe, Hawaii and Korea spanning all the U.S. geographic combatant commands, to support the total force.



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1 Corinthians 11:1

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Coffee County CERT hosts preparedness fair

Coffee County Emergency Management Agency
Press Release

The Coffee County Emergency Management Agency and Coffee County Community Emergency Response Team is hosting the 5th Emergency Preparedness Fair and Safety Saturday Sept. 10 at the Enterprise Civic Center, located at 2401 Neil Metcalf Road in Enterprise from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event is part of National Preparedness Month in September that is a “whole community” approach to disaster response. The fun-filled, family day event is designed to raise awareness about home safety and individual emergency preparedness.

The preparedness and safety event features several awareness displays and demonstrations to help citizens see how a few simple steps now can increase safety and emergency preparedness in homes, businesses and communities throughout the county. Emergency response vehicles and resources, such as the Arrive Alive Tour by Unite (“texting

and driving virtual vehicle simulator), mobile command post, bomb squad, hazardous materials vehicles, Sheriff Posse, Search and Rescue Helicopters, Bloodmobile, Red Cross, United Way, electrical safety, pet preparedness, “Fire Safety House” and many other outstanding preparedness and safety organizations will be on site.

Free safety preparedness “how to” literature such as how to build an emergency supply kit and develop a family emergency communications plan will be distributed. Information regarding fire safety and prevention as well as information on preparing for natural disasters such as floods and tornadoes will be available. Upcoming training opportunities which promote community preparedness such as first aid, CPR and storm spotting classes will be announced. We hope the residents of Coffee County will make the time to stop by with their families and take advantage of this fun learning opportunity.

For more information: call 894-5415, 894-5375 or 806-1994; or email coffeecocertcoord@hotmail.com.



WIREFLASS 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

SEPT. 8 — Spiritual Enrichment Center and the Unity Church of Dothan will join Silent Unity—an international, trans-denominational 24/7 prayer ministry—for a world peace meditation and prayer at 6p.m. at its facility at 942 South Oates Street. People of all faiths are encouraged to participate either by attending the meditation event or by submitting prayers online at worlddayofprayer.org. Details about Unity World Day of Prayer events at Unity Village and in other communities are online at worlddayofprayer.org.

OCT. 1 — The Alzheimer Resource Center will host its 24th annual Alzheimer’s A Walk to Remember at Westgate Park in front of the recreation center. Registration and team pictures will take place at 7:30 a.m., opening ceremonies at 8:30 a.m. and the walk will begin at 8:45 a.m. For information or to pre-register, visit www.wesharethecare.org, or call 334-702-2273.

ENTERPRISE

SEPT. 8 — Veterans who were wounded in combat are invited to become an active member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. The organization’s major objective is to work in veterans’ interest toward the care

and assistance of combat wounded and their families. A group will meet at 5:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 73, 701 Lee Street, to form a chapter of MOPH in Enterprise. For more information, call 706-718-3353 or send an email to jgraulau99@gmail.com.

SEPT. 10 — The Coffee County Emergency Management Agency and Coffee County Community Emergency Response Team will host their fifth annual Emergency Preparedness Fair and Safety Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Enterprise Civic Center, 2401 Neil Metcalf Road. The event is part of National Preparedness Month, which is a whole-community approach to disaster response. The event will feature several awareness displays and demonstrations to help citizens see how a few simple steps now can increase safety and emergency preparedness in homes, businesses and communities throughout the county. For more information, call 334-894-5415 or 334-806-1994, or send an email to coffeecocertcoord@hotmail.com.

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

SEPT. 22 — Disabled American Veterans Chapter #99 will meet at 6 p.m. in the New Brockton Senior Center, located one block behind the police station. Food and drinks will be served, followed by regular chapter business. The chapter also extends an invitation to veterans throughout the Wiregrass to join new members as both DAV and DAV Auxiliary. For more information, call 334-718-5707.

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

OZARK

SEPT. 16 — St. Michael’s Episcopal Church will host Duo 220 classical guitarists in concert at 7 p.m. Adam Larison and Andrew Stroud are the two classical guitarists in Duo 220. Following this free classical guitar concert will be a meet the artists reception in the parish hall. St. Michael’s Episcopal Church is located at 427 Camilla Avenue.

ONGOING — Every Wednesday, the Ozark-Dale County Public Library hosts free Wii Zumba from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Teens and adults are invited. For more information, call 774-5480.

ONGOING — Every Monday through Friday, aerobic classes are open to the public at the Autrey Recreation Center from 8-10 a.m. Call 774-2042 for more information.

PINCKARD

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

SAMSON

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

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

TROY

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

WIREFLASS AREA

SEPT. 25 — New Hope Freewill Baptist Church, 3819 County Road 31, Abbeville, will host its family and friend day at 11:15 a.m., featuring guest speaker Pastor Randy Sewell, Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Florida.

ONGOING — A German coffee takes place the last Thursday of every month except November at 10 a.m. at The Landing on Fort Rucker. The group has been meeting for more than 40 years.

Beyond Briefs

International coastal cleanup

Panama City Beach, Florida, will host its international coastal cleanup Sept. 17 from 9-11 a.m. at 1610 Front Beach Road. People are welcome to help out at the event to help keep area beaches clean and safe for all wildlife, according to organizers.

All equipment will be supplied to volunteers and a free day pass to Russell-Fields Pier will be given to those who participate. For more information, call 850-233-5045.

Hank Williams birthday bash

The Hank Williams Museum in Montgomery will host a birthday bash in honor of the late singer Sept. 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit <http://www.thehankwilliamsmuseum.net/>.

Creative Con

The Panama City Creative Con is scheduled for Sept. 17, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sept. 18, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Marina Civic Center, 8 Harrison Avenue, Pan-

ama City, Florida. Creative Con is entering its seventh year as a community event, with each year seeing significant growth, according to organizers. Creative Con is designed to foster career development for aspiring artists and creative people, and encourage young people to pursue their passions and develop the tools they already have in their love for the creative realms.

For more information, including ticket prices, visit <http://www.pccreativecon.com/>.

Theatre in the Mind

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival will host its free Theatre in the Mind series on various Saturdays between Sept. 17 and May 6 from noon to 1 p.m. The series is designed to help people gain new insights into ASF productions through the acclaimed Theatre in the Mind and Bard Talk lecture discussions. Designed around the plays ASF presents each season, people can participate in free pre-show discussions with authors, cast members, designers and directors. The discussions are hosted by Dr. Susan Willis, ASF’s resident dramaturg. Schedule: Sept. 17 – Charlotte’s Web;

Oct. 1 – The Mousetrap; Oct. 15 –Special Theatre in the Mind event for Shakespeare Celebration; Nov. 26 –A Christmas Carol; Feb. 4 – Because of Winn-Dixie; Feb. 18 –The Two Gentlemen of Verona; March 11 –Sherlock Holmes; March 25 –Dauphin Island; and April 22 –The Tempest; and May 6 – Rep Actor’s Discussion (after matinee) and Narrated Changeover.

Theatre in the Mind is free and open to the public. Reservations are not required -- people may pick up their tickets at the box office counter just before each lecture. People do not need to be a ticket holder to that day’s performance to attend the lecture.

For more information, call 334-271-5353, or visit www.asf.net/Education/Theatre-in-the-Mind.aspx.

Chasin’ the Sun Music Festival

Panama City Beach, Florida, will host the Chasin’ the Sun Music Festival Sept. 23-24 at Aaron Bessant Park, 600 Pier Park Drive. Admission is free, but VIP tickets are available for \$30 per day or \$50 for the weekend. According to organizers, the concert celebrates artists who created and continue

playing classic beach sounds. Tickets must be purchased before the festival by Sept. 21. For more information, visit <http://www.visitpanamacitybeach.com/chasinthefestival/>.

Peanut Boil Festival

Luverne will host its Peanut Boil Festival Sept. 24 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Turner Park downtown, 1300 Forest Avenue. Admission is \$2, but children ages 8 and younger are admitted for free. This festival includes arts and crafts vendors, a beauty pageant, a car show, a 5K fun-run and walk, entertainment and a variety of food vendors.

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

Ballet and the Beasts

The Montgomery Ballet will put on a free performance under the stars at “Ballet and the Beasts” at the Montgomery Zoo Sept. 23. People are welcome to bring picnic blankets and chairs. Gates will open at 6 p.m. and the performance will begin at dusk.

For more information, call 334-240-4900 or visit montgomeryzoo.com/announcements/ballet-and-the-beasts.

'EXPENDABLE'

WWII Merrill's Marauders survive into their 100s

By Jonnie Melillo Clasen
Fort Benning Public Affairs

FORT BENNING, Ga. — Three Merrill's Marauders, 1944 survivors of the secret mission of almost 3,000 presidential volunteers who fought through the disease-ridden "forgotten theater" of World War II, the China-Burma-India Theater, have lived to the age of 101. Another made it to 100.

Living to be a centenarian is remarkable. What is even more remarkable is that those infantry jungle fighters, who have been called everything from "misfits" to "magnificent," weren't even expected to survive.

"We were expendable," said Merrill's Marauder Sam V. Wilson, who turns 93 next month.

The retired Army lieutenant general, who helped start Delta Force and still contributes to military publications, explained, "A plan existed on paper to get us into Burma, but no plan existed to get us out."

Yet those extraordinary volunteers achieved their final objective May 17, 1944 — capturing north Burma's only all-weather Myitkya airstrip by defeating the much larger elite 18th Japanese Imperial Guards Division in five major battles and 30 minor engagements. Wilson said that when the remaining elements of the unit were disbanded Aug. 10, 1944, in Burma, slightly more than 100 of the original Marauders remained.

Winston Churchill, British prime minister at the time, described Burma as "the most forbidding fighting country imaginable." Gen. George C. Marshall, then Army chief of staff, said the Burma mission "was one of the most difficult of the war." Marshall also said that mission against "large numbers of the enemy with few resources was unmatched in any theater."

"It was hard to keep going as we wore down, became debilitated and our numbers began to decrease," said Wilson recently from his home in Rice, Virginia. "These Soldiers, (who did) not even expected to survive, did survive by forcing themselves to take the next step. They were infantrymen. They leaned forward and took one more step and then another. Taking that next step is what kept the outfit together to the bitter end."

Those steps turned into an almost 1,000-mile, history-making march through the enemy-held Himalayan foothills into the jungles of Burma. With only what they could carry on their backs or pack on mules, the Marauders walked farther than any other WW II fighting force. They were the first American ground troops to fight the Japanese in Asia.

That three elderly Marauders from that "impossible mission" have reached 101 years old and a fourth lived to 100 is a testament to the Army's 1943 stipulation that all the Marauders "will be of a high



COURTESY PHOTO

Men and animals from the 2nd Battalion cross the Tanai River on a bamboo bridge built by Kachin tribesmen, working with the Office of Strategic Services, near the village of Ning Awng, Burma, March 18, 1944.

state of physical ruggedness."

It was a Fort Benning "Bayonet and Saber" story a few weeks ago about the funeral of 101-year-old Marauder John M. Jones of Greenville, Tennessee, that prompted a reader, Brian Yamamoto, to share that another 101-year-old original Marauder, Thomas Tsubota, lives in Hawaii.

Tsubota, born in Honolulu in 1915, is now the oldest Merrill's Marauder and is also the only one of the Marauders' Japanese-American interpreters — or Nisei — who is still living.

When Japan bombed Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941, Tsubota was on maneuvers with G Company of the Hawaii National Guard's 298th Infantry Regiment. Initially, Tsubota and the other men thought the firing was part of the maneuvers, but quickly learned it wasn't. Tsubota participated in the Dec. 8, 1941, capture of the first prisoner of war, Lt. Kazuo Sakamaki.

Later assigned to the 100th Infantry Battalion, Tsubota was selected for the Military Intelligence Service because his background included degrees from Japanese universities, and he had qualified for the 1932 Olympic Trials.

In 1943, Tsubota volunteered for a secret "dangerous and hazardous" mission and became one of 14 Nisei interpreters with Merrill's Marauders, nicknamed after their commander, Brig. Gen. Frank D. Merrill. The unit's official designation was the 5307th Composite Unit Provisional.

A third 101-year-old Marauder, who was about three months away

from his 102nd birthday when he died Aug. 12, 2015, was Everett W. Stanke of Edgerton, Wisconsin. He joined the National Guard in 1931.

After transitioning to active duty in 1940, Stanke served with the 128th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Division, in Australia and New Guinea before volunteering for President Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1943 call for a secret "dangerous and hazardous" mission.

That those three "expendable" Marauders — Jones, Tsubota and Stanke — survived that 1944 mission, went on to live productive civilian lives and reached their 101st year is almost miraculous.

Merrill's Marauder and Nisei warrior Roy Matsumoto was only weeks away from turning 101 in 2014 when he died on the 70th Easter Sunday anniversary of the 2nd Battalion being rescued by the 1st and 3rd Battalions. They had been surrounded almost two weeks by the Japanese at the battle of Nhpum Ga.

Matsumoto, who played a pivotal role in that rescue, and his 2nd Battalion buddy, Vincent Melillo, had a long phone conversation about the fried chicken and bread airdropped to them following their rescue 70 years earlier at Nhpum Ga. Matsumoto died later that night. Melillo, Georgia's last original Merrill's Marauder, died at age 97 Christmas Eve 2015.

China-Burma-India veteran Ernest "Ernie" Hubacker, who turns 101 in October, is quick to point out that he is not a Marauder, even though he faithfully attended their

reunions for years. He was part of Mars Task Force, which succeeded the Marauders in Burma.

Hubacker still takes part in military activities and went on a WW II Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., this year. A photo of him astride his horse as a young Cavalry soldier at Fort Reno, Oklahoma, hangs at Fort Benning's Fiddler's Green Bar.

"The Marauders weren't ordinary men," said Wilson. "They were a tough, hard-nosed group of men with a sensitive chip on their shoulders. They had an almost disdain for danger."

"Their secret was learning to take the next step," he emphasized. "That's all you have to do, except wipe your hands off from time to time so they won't be too slippery to hold your gun. Today's motivated and well-trained infantryman knows how to take that next step, which is a universal truth that has a timeless application to the infantry doughboy. "Knowing we could always take one more step became a mantra — a theme — that has the same application to today's Marauders. The tiny handful of aging Marauders is still making it one step at a time. Some have reached, and others are still reaching, for that magic number of 100 years old," he said.

The legacy of this tough group of volunteers is being carried forward by members of the 75th Ranger Regiment, whose crest is the Merrill's Marauder patch, which has never officially been authorized.

Records indicate that approxi-

mately 26 Merrill's Marauders are still living out of almost 3,000 who volunteered in 1943 from the jungles of Panama and Trinidad, Guadalcanal, New Guinea, New Georgia, Vella Lavella and the United States. Approximately 15 ethnic groups, including a Native American code talker, served in the unit.

The oldest volunteer in 1943, who had about 20 years on the younger Marauders, was Joseph Doyer, a World War I veteran of the Canadian Black Watch Highlanders. One of the youngest was Bob Eatman, who enlisted in the Army at age 14, and was still too young to be served a celebratory drink after returning to the United States.

Wilson was one of the Army's youngest lieutenants. At 16, he added two years to his age and walked seven miles through a nighttime thunderstorm to Farmville, Virginia, where he enlisted in the National Guard.

There was at least one reluctant volunteer. Quentin Waite, 95, had no intention of volunteering after surviving some of the South Pacific's brutal battles. But a buddy he looked after, who was always getting into trouble, told Waite he was going to volunteer. Waite then volunteered. His buddy didn't.

For the last several years, Waite has traveled from Michigan to support Ranger events at Fort Benning. He and Marauder James Richardson, 95, were at Fort Benning in July to see Marauder Bob Passanisi, 92, inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame.



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DOD studies ‘Terminator’ weapons conundrum

By Jim Garamone
Department of Defense News

WASHINGTON — Maybe the idea behind the “Terminator” movie franchise isn’t so far-fetched.

In the “Terminator” films and TV shows, a worldwide computer defense network becomes self-aware, and sees humans as the enemy and attacks.

Scientists around the world are currently working on artificial intelligence, autonomous vehicles, uses for big data, and other innovations and technologies that pose ethical questions.

The Department of Defense is examining those questions, said Air Force Gen. Paul J. Selva, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He spoke about some of these ideas Aug. 25 with Kathleen Hicks, the senior vice president of the Center for Strategic and International Studies.



PHOTO BY AIR FORCE STAFF
SGT. ERIC SUMMERS JR.

A mobile detection assessment response system patrols the perimeter of an airfield in Djibouti, July 9.

The idea of computers driving cars, landing airplanes, delivering packages or exploring planets is already here. Singapore is testing driverless taxis. Google is looking to do the same in Pittsburgh shortly.

There are a number of autonomous vehicles on Mars.

The U.S. military has a fleet of remotely piloted vehicles that operate worldwide and oceanographers have been using remotely piloted submersibles for years.

But the idea of autonomous

weapons systems poses some real ethical challenges, Selva said. DOD is working with experts on ethics – both from inside and outside the department – on the issues posed, he said. They are looking at the pitfalls of what happens when technology is brought into the execution of warfare.

“I am not bashful about what we do,” Selva said. “My job as a military leader is to witness unspeakable violence on an enemy. In the end, when you send me or any Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Marine from the United States ... out to defend the interests of our nation, our job is to defeat the enemy.”

How service members accomplish the mission is governed by laws and conventions, he said. “One of the places where we spend a great deal of time is determining whether or not the tools we are developing absolve humans of the decision to inflict violence on the

enemy. That is a fairly bright line that we are not willing to cross.”

A true autonomous weapon system would be programmed to perform a mission and the decision to use deadly force would be left up to the on-board computer within the program parameters. That is unacceptable to the United States military, Selva said.

“We have insisted that, as we look at innovations over the next couple of decades, that one of the benchmarks in that process is that we not build a system that absolves our human leaders of the decision to execute a military operation, and that we not create weapons that are wholly and utterly autonomous of human interaction,” he said.

But the U.S. decision does not mean an enemy would follow suit.

In the world of autonomy, a completely robotic system that can make a decision on causing

harm is already possible, he said. “It’s not terribly refined, it’s not terribly good, but it is here. As we develop systems that include things like artificial intelligence and autonomy, we have to be very careful that we don’t design them in a way where those systems actually absolve humans of that decision.”

The discussion needs to occur, the general said, and the United States must be prepared for nations or nonstate actors to violate any convention that the world draws up with respect to autonomous weapons.

“Until we understand what we want the limits to be,” Selva said, “we don’t have a baseline to use to determine if someone is moving down the path of violating a convention that could create something like a Terminator that adds an incredible amount of complexity and with no conscience to what happens on the battlefield.”

Religious Services

WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday.

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

Main Post Chapel, Bldg. 8940

8:30 a.m. Catholic Confessions

9 a.m. Catholic Mass

11 a.m. Collective Protestant

12:05 p.m. Catholic Mass

(Tuesday-Friday)

4 p.m. Catholic Confessions

(Saturday)

5 p.m. Catholic Mass (Saturday)

Wings Chapel, Bldg. 6036

9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Latter-Day Saints

10:45 a.m. Wings Crossroads

(Contemporary Worship Protestant Service)

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

Spiritual Life Center, Bldg. 8939

10:15 a.m. CCD

(except during summer months)

BIBLE STUDIES

TUESDAYS

Crossroads Discipleship Study

(Meal/Bible Study)

Wings Chapel, 6:30 p.m.

Protestant Women of the Chapel

Wings Chape, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.d

Adult Bible Study

Spiritual Life Center, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Catholic Women of the Chapel

Spiritual Life Center, 9 a.m.

Above the Best Bible Study

Yano Hall, 11 a.m.

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SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

START SMART

Program involves parents, gets children early start in sports

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Playing a sport is often a great way for children to learn to work as a team and interact with other individuals, but getting started can be tough for some.

That's why Fort Rucker Youth Sports is making the Start Smart Sports Development program available to parents who are interested in getting their children involved in sports, according to Sani Williams, assistant youth sports director.

The program, which comes from the National Alliance for Youth Sports, has been around for more than 10 years and was previously available only to children at the child development center because it was geared toward younger children, but Williams said it was time to make the program available to more children.

"We decided that we'd like to bring this program seasonally for the children who don't attend the CDC," said the assistant director. "It's a great program because it's something that the parents can get involved with and do with their children."

Smart Start, which will run Sept. 12-29, will have parents and children work with instructors to teach the child basic motor skills when it comes to sports, said Williams, so children will learn to kick, dribble, throw, run and more through different activities provided by the instructors.

"When children are just thrust into sports, it's not always the best way to get them to develop those skills," she said. "This al-

lows parents to work with their own child and give them a chance to spend a little more time with them while teaching them."

This session of the program will be available for two sports – soccer and football. The soccer session will be for children ages 3-4 and the football session will be for children aged 6-8.

"All the equipment that we will be using for the program is specifically made for children of that age group, so it helps them," said Williams. "The soccer balls that we have are very soft, so they can't get hurt through the program."

Other sports will also be offered throughout the year to coincide with the season of the sport, she said. Start Smart for basketball signups will begin in October, and signups for T-ball and baseball will begin in the spring, and additional options may become available in the future.

"For now we're just starting with our regular season sports, but there is potential to add other sports to the program, such as tennis, depending on how the program is received," said the assistant director.

Williams said the program is beneficial to children because it provides them with the groundwork for the sport that they're interested in, and having the parents involved gives the program the added benefit of interaction between family members.

"Usually with organized sports, it's a coach who interacts with the children, but with this program the parents get to be actively involved, and I think that's a fun thing for both," she said.



PHOTOS BY TORI EVANS

Children take part in a youth football game last year as part of the Fort Rucker Youth Sports program.

"With these skills, it will help the children to transition into the organized sport, which they will be able to do when they become of age."

Parents interested in signing up children for the program must visit parent central services and make sure to register their child with child, youth and school services. Registration for the program is \$20 and all children must have a current sports physical.

"We just want parents to sign up, and to come out and have a good time with their children," said Williams.

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



Survival rates improving for Soldiers wounded in combat

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — About 92 percent of Soldiers wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan have made it home alive, according to the surgeon general of the Army.

That's the highest percentage in the history of warfare, despite the rising severity of battle injuries from increasingly lethal weapons, said Lt. Gen. Nadja Y. West while to the Defense Writers Group Aug. 18.

The survival rate in Vietnam was around 75 percent, she told her audience.

There are a number of reasons for improved survival rates, West said.

Soldiers, not just medics, are receiving much better training in life-saving techniques and Army medicine has continued to advance, she said. Another reason is that casualties are transported swiftly back to hospitals and receive excellent care en route.

Other contributing factors are less obvious, she said, like improved communication from the point of injury.

For example, a video teleconference line has been established between forces deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq back to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, which is usually the first stop for casualties, she pointed out.

Communications channels have also been established with follow-on treatment centers, including Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Maryland; Naval Medical Center San Diego; and the Army's burn center at Joint Base San Antonio.

During a recent video teleconference, West recalled, physicians in the U.S. were able to see that a Soldier's head wound was causing inter-cranial pressure and advise medical staff to address while still in theater.

Open communications channels also mean that medical staff stateside can better prepare for an incoming casualty, West added.

While battlefield survival rates continue to improve, Soldiers in future conflicts may not be so fortunate, West said.

In the conflicts in Iraq and Afghan-

istan, the U.S. forces had the luxury of air superiority and could evacuate casualties almost at will, she said.

A Soldier with a head wound in Afghanistan could arrive from the point of injury to Bethesda Naval Medical Center where the medical specialist was standing by within 24 hours of being wounded, she said.

"That's unprecedented," she said.

But in a conflict with a near-peer enemy U.S. forces cannot count on that level of air superiority, West said. So Army medicine is looking for alternative ways of treatment.

For one, the Army will be asking a lot more of its medics in the future. That could mean teaching them sophisticated techniques and procedures that they currently don't perform. First responders, those non-medics in the fight, will also be asked to do more, she said.

Advances in telehealth will also play a vital role, she said. Telehealth, employing telecommunications technologies to deliver virtual medical services, has already come a long way.



DOD GRAPHIC

JOES

Patient feedback survey name changes, streamlines across all services

By Jenny Stripling
Lyster Public Affairs Office

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

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.

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 Decision Support Division within DHA, in a recent interview with the MHS. "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."

Beneficiaries who receive a JOES are asked to fill it out and let Lyster Army Health Clinic know about their recent experience at the clinic. Responses help the clinic know what improvements can be made and what the clinic is doing well. The surveys also assist LAHC financially – money received from positive feedback on the surveys goes back into patients' healthcare.



PHOTO BY MARLEAH MILLER

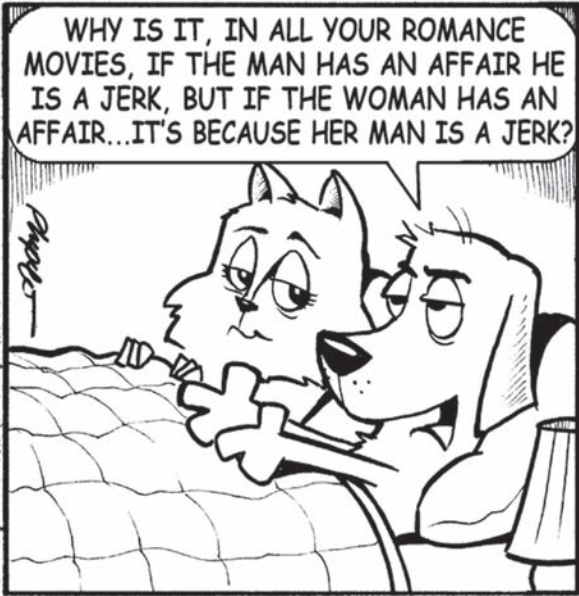
Soldiers in a tactical critical care evacuation team prepare for a patient transfer mission at Forward Operating Base Orgun East, Afghanistan.

DOWN TIME



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

TRIVIA

1. THEATER: The song "You'll Never Walk Alone" comes from which musical?
2. ANATOMY: What is the most abundant mineral in the body?
3. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president said, "The ballot is stronger than the bullet"?
4. LITERATURE: What was the name of Sherlock Holmes' housekeeper?
5. TELEVISION: What was Beaver Cleaver's real first name in the show "Leave It to Beaver"?
6. COMICS: What is the name of the pet duck in the "Hagar the Horrible" comic strip?
7. ASTRONOMY: What is the nearest star to Earth, aside from our Sun?
8. GEOGRAPHY: Which one of the five Great Lakes lies entirely within the United States?
9. GAMES: What game's coin-operated version debuted in 1931?
10. MEASUREMENTS: How many bits are in a byte?

See Page D4 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword

TIME FOR A FRESH START

ACROSS

- 1 Keys that get "ticked"
8 Mysteries
15 Longtime Volkswagen model
20 Port near Naples
21 Allay
22 Brand of deodorant
23 SkyDome national anthem
24 Harley-Davidson product
26 TV's Sajak
27 Meditation sounds
29 With 64-Across, Japan's place
30 A teacher prepares it
31 Also called Nero's 111
39 Political analyst Myers
40 Devilish look
41 Black-and-white bird
44 Optical storage format for burning data
46 Put — (pranks)
47 Ranch jaunt
49 "Socrate" composer Erik

- 52 Black-and-white bird
54 With 112-Down, backbeat instruments
56 Billionaire Bill
57 Marking the start of, as a 133-Across
60 Homer epic
62 Mani offerer
63 Hydroxyl-containing compound
64 See 29-Across
66 Less jagged
70 Cuts down
72 Film set at Faber College
76 Life-or-death
77 Shoe part
79 County south of Niagara
80 — Pet
82 Org. backing guns
83 Like films, restaurants and bonds
86 Key of Chopin's "Raindrop" prelude
89 Less abundant
92 Suspicious
94 Bump hard
95 Choir song
96 #1 Beatles hit of 1964

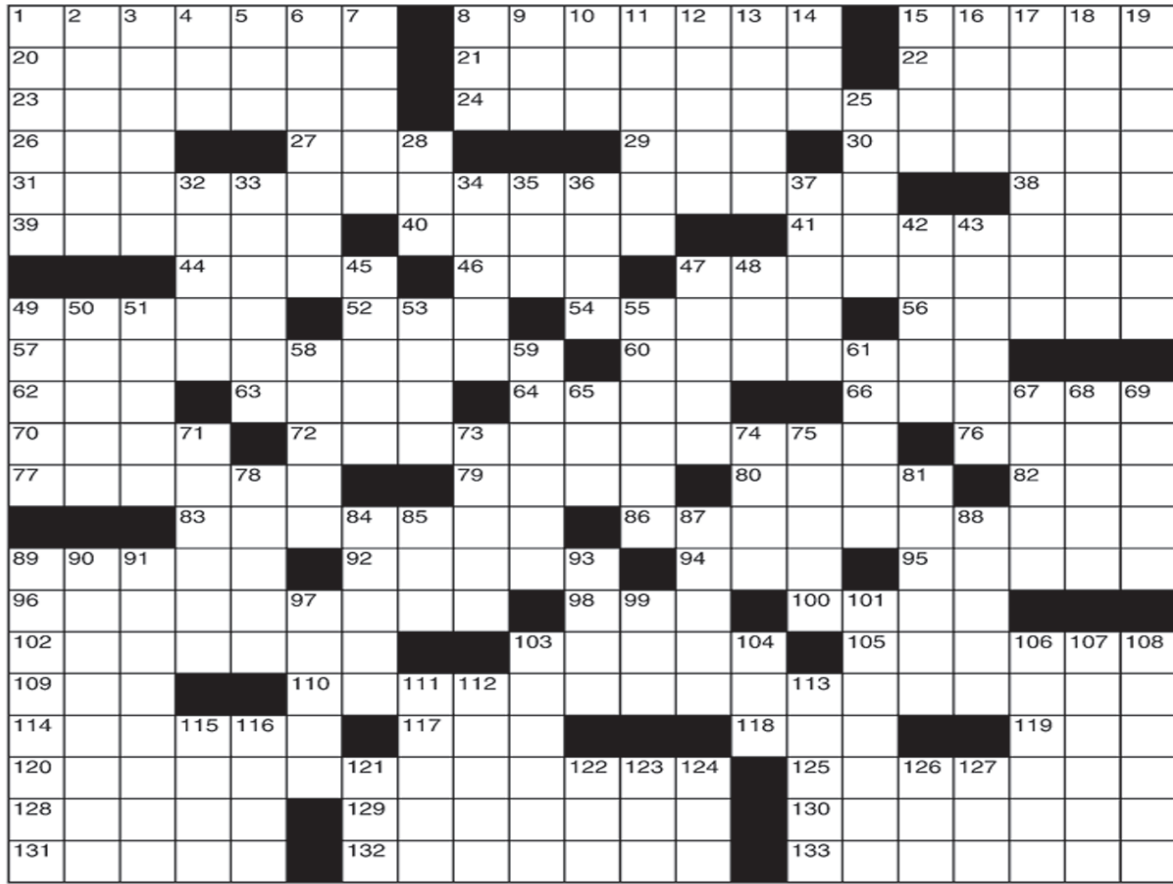
- 98 Unbroken
100 Whaler, e.g.
102 Non-rush-hour, say
103 Pilot
105 Some Japanese cartoons
109 Uncle, in Rio
110 Pampering treatment
114 Carport's kin
117 Meal crumb
118 Sked guess
119 Dernier — (very latest fashion)
120 Bed for eggs Benedict
125 49ers' home, for short
128 Fast Amtrak train
129 Creator of Tigger and Eeyore
130 Chemical salt in spinach and parsley
131 Epoxy, e.g.
132 How some things are chiseled
133 An apt one is spelled out by combining the first two letters of nine Across answers in this puzzle

DOWN

- 1 14-legged crustacean
2 Move out of
3 Kansas city
4 Stimp's pal
5 Gershwin the lyricist
6 Granted
7 "Me too"
8 Bolt down
9 Sydney's state: Abbr.
10 Patricia T. O'Conner's "Woe —"
11 Really go after
12 Showy parrot
13 Corporal on "F Troop"
14 Sch. term
15 Actress Fonda
16 Bits of work
17 Alternative to Wheat Thins
18 Compound in pottery glazes
19 Compounds paired with thymines in DNA
25 Nobody — (mine alone)
28 Sizzling bacon sound
32 Munsters' boy
33 Worship
34 Japanese mushroom

- 35 Author Kesey
36 Fed Eliot
37 After, to Gigi
42 Israeli desert region
43 Got silver, as hair
45 Was too long, as a sentence
47 Was given no choice
48 Suffix with direct
49 Fish-on-rice dish
50 Trembly tree
51 Meadows out
53 — fruit (tangelo kin)
55 Munched
58 Not fitting
59 Less distant
61 "The way I — ..."
65 Frazier fighter
67 Black-clad mercenary
68 Actor Flynn
69 Update the arsenal of
71 Hollywood's Meryl
73 Dogfight
74 "Mighty Bruins" sch.
75 Frauds
78 Old Yankee Combs
81 Stepping (up)
84 Analogous
85 Hollywood's Stiller

- 87 Middle Corleone brother
88 Meat jelly
89 Wear for mob quellers
90 Promise to marry
91 Beats into shape again
93 Part of BYO
97 Lots in life
99 Nothing at all
101 Paleolithic tool
103 Trim up, say
104 Adam and —
106 Gordon of "Oklahoma!"
107 Typo list
108 One fishing with a net
111 — is an island ...
112 See 54-Across
113 "Challenge accepted!"
115 "— Ask of You"
116 Composer — Carlo Menotti
121 "Bali —"
122 Mel's Diner waitress
123 Orbitz listing
124 Born, to Gigi
126 Rural denial
127 Go by jet

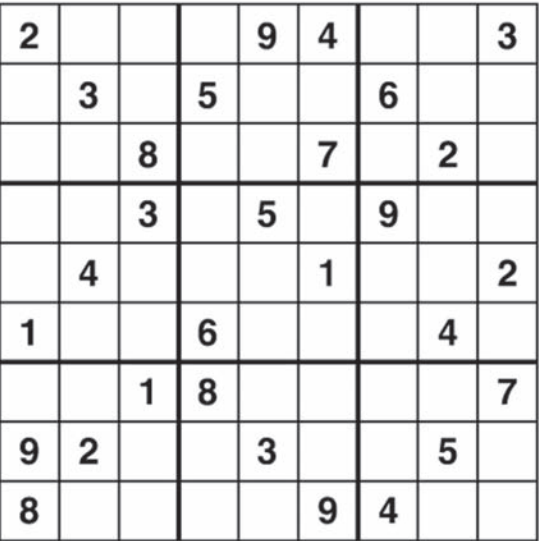


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See Page D4 for this week's answers.

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: ♦♦

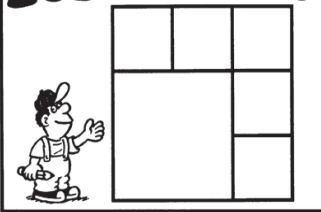
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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See Page D4 for this week's answers.

KID'S CORNER

PUZZLECARD



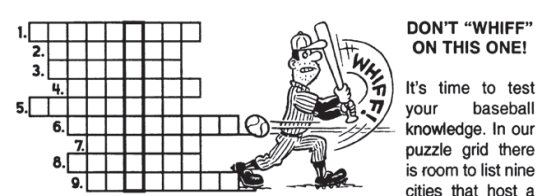
DIVIDE AND CONQUER! Draw a square on a sheet of paper and challenge your friends to divide it into six smaller squares using four straight lines. When they give up, finish the puzzle as shown above.

A TRICKY TEST! See if you can arrange the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 into a math expression where, by multiplying two of these digits by one of the other digits, you will get a product that is equal to the remaining two digits.

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

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

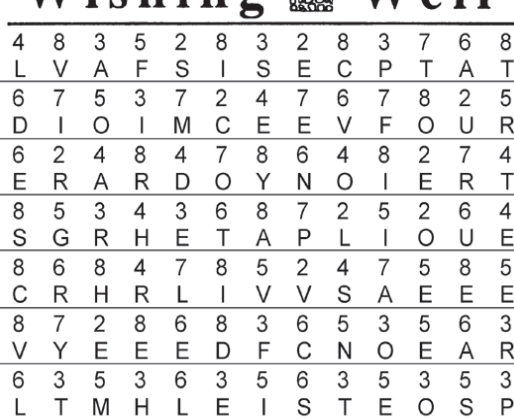


baseball team. Below you'll find a list of team nicknames. See if you can identify the cities that each team plays for.

1. Orioles
2. Cubs
3. Astros
4. Angels
5. Expos
6. Brewers
7. Red Sox
8. Blue Jays
9. Padres

There is a dark frame around one of the columns in the grid. If you correctly name the nine cities asked for, the letters in this frame, top to bottom, will spell out the name of a great, old-time baseball pitcher.

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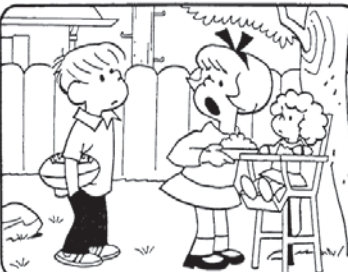


HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the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

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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SURGEON GENERAL:

Upgraded e-Profile increasing readiness

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Combat readiness is the Army chief of staff's No.1 concern and medical readiness contributes a great deal to that, said the Army surgeon general.

On June 1, the Army added a software tool that will contribute to boosting medical readiness, said Lt. Gen. Nadja Y. West, who also serves as the commander of U.S. Army Medical Command, while speaking to the Defense Writers Group Aug. 18.

Specifically, the Army upgraded its e-Profile system by adding a Commander Portal, she pointed out. That gives commanders eyes on medical readiness at the unit level, as well as all the way down to the level of the individual Soldier.

What it does

The portal gives commanders a real-time view of each Soldier's medical and dental readiness, West said, and that in turn provides the commander with unit readiness.

As well, the portal consolidates all of a Soldier's profiles in one location, she said, adding that those are all huge improvements over the previous profiling system. Now, even temporary profiles and profiles given by different providers are all in one place.

West explained that Soldiers can have multiple profiles; for example, one for an injured knee, another for a missed dental appointment and another for a no-shave condition.

In the past, some profiles made it online and some were



PHOTO BY JEFF CRAWLEY

Ashley Larue, registered dental hygienist, works on a patient at the Weeks Dental Clinic, Fort Sill, Okla.

merely hand-written and not entered, she said. "It was really not a closed system where you knew that the commander received the profile or was actually even reading it. Data showed just a third of commanders actually went in and looked at profiles of their Soldiers. So it was hard to know the readiness status."

Now, the Army is also aware of which commanders are reviewing their Soldiers' profiles, she said.

Another benefit of the portal, she said, is that since everything is typed in, the problem of poor physician handwriting has been eliminated.

One of the main benefits of the portal is that it now allows the commander to interact with the Soldier's health care provider

one-on-one, West said.

That dialogue is particularly useful for a unit readying to deploy, she said.

Previously, profiles often had language that was imprecise when it came to understanding exactly which physical activities a Soldier could or could not engage in, she said.

Now, if the language isn't clear, commanders can ask the health care provider, via the portal, which activities the Soldier can engage in such as running, pullups, rucksack marches and so on, she said. "So the onus is now on the provider to make more specific requirements than in the past."

An additional benefit to that two-way communications, she said, is that the commander no

longer has to physically hunt for the Soldier's health care provider, since it's all done via the portal.

The portal also facilitates communications between the commanders and their Soldiers, she said.

Commanders can go into the system to see which Soldiers need medical or dental attention and direct the Soldiers to get it. For example, she said if four Soldiers missed their dental exams, the commanders can see they are overdue, or even when they are nearing the overdue dates, and then they can be directed to get their exams.

Or, a profile might indicate that a Soldier needs to visit the doctor for definitive care, West said. The commander can track

the progress of that and everything else.

Concerns alleviated

Commanders say they like the portal and new profiling system, West said.

But one of their concerns was that a unit's readiness rate would drop because the system has so much information on profiles, and that could lead to Soldiers being categorized in a non-deployable status, since all profiles are in one place and none can slip undetected.

So some discretion was given to the commanders, she said.

For example, if a commander sees that a Soldier has a twisted ankle, he or she could subjectively upgrade that person to a ready status, she said, explaining that a profile lasting longer than two weeks makes a person non-deployable and it might take somewhat longer for an ankle to heal.

Once that Soldier's status has changed to "deployable," the Soldier could be placed on light duty before the deployment, with his or her ankle stabilized until it heals, she said.

Of course there are certain things that cannot be subjectively upgraded, she said. For instance, if a Soldier's leg is broken and in a cast, the system actually greys out the upgrade button so the commander cannot physically press it.

The other concern is that it might take a while for everyone to get training on how to log in and use the system. That training is still underway, she said, adding that commanders, including top Army leadership, are really excited about the portal.

Soldier finishes 11th in men's pentathlon

By Tim Hipps
U.S. Army Installation Management
Command
Public Affairs

RIO DE JANEIRO — Sgt. Nathan Schrimsher was the first athlete named to the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team and one of the last to compete in the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.

Schrimsher competes in the Modern Pentathlon, which includes five different events: fencing, a 200-meter freestyle swimming race, show jumping, and a combined 3,200-meter cross-country race and pistol-shooting event. Because of the amount of time it takes to complete the different stages of competition, it tends to be one of the last medal events of any summer Olympics.

Schrimsher placed 11th, which is a great show for Team USA in this European-dominated sport. Robert Beck was the last U.S. Modern Pentathlon medalist with a bronze at the 1960 Rome Olympic Games.

"I have absolutely no regrets," Schrimsher said. "I will go for the rest of my life and never look back at what I could have done better here."

Schrimsher surprised himself by finishing strong in the final event—combined pistol shooting and a 3,200 meter cross-country run.

"Everyone out here is a fantastic runner and it's my weaker event, but I just ran my heart out," he said. "I knew at one point I was in third place in the event and my shooting was on point – it was really, really good – but everyone's so fast," Schrimsher continued.

He met his goal in fencing with 20 victories, and completed the 200-meter freestyle swim in 2:00.87, seventh fastest among the 36 competitors.

"I jumped in the pool and I was like, 'It's the Olympics, you've got to give it everything,'" Schrimsher said. "I was right on point with my time. It wasn't my best time, but it was really close."

He placed 18th in equestrian show. The equestrian portion is often the most challenging; the athletes receive horses via a lottery, and have as little as 20 minutes to become familiar with their equestrian partner before they compete.

Schrimsher's teammate, three-time Olympian Margaus Isaksen, said in an interview with NBC that she resorts to bribery.

"I'll bring small apples or cookies, and try



Schrimsher competes in fencing Aug. 20 at the Olympic Games.



Schrimsher salutes his leadership group after finishing 11th in the men's Modern Pentathlon.



Schrimsher swims the 200-meter freestyle in 2:00.87 to earn 338 points during the swimming portion of the men's Modern Pentathlon Aug. 20.

to be really friendly and speak to them like they're people," she said. "It's really crazy."

Schrimsher believes the unusual and little-known sport is perfectly suited for military athletes, as it contains skills – running and shooting – and requires traits – endurance, perseverance and resilience – which are very familiar to most Soldiers.

While swimming and fencing may have fallen off most Soldiers' lists of competencies, horses are still very much a part of Army life on many installations.

Schrimsher credits the Army with his success at reaching the Olympic venue, and added that the support he received from his brothers-in-arms inspired him to do as well as he did in Rio.

"I've had an incredible amount of support over the past weeks – messages from all over the world. I'm just so thankful for all my battle buddies around the world that have really been rooting me on.

"I feel eternally grateful for all of this," he



PHOTO BY TIM HIPPS

Sgt. Nathan Schrimsher, World Class Athlete Program, rides Catarina to 18th place in the equestrian portion of the men's Modern Pentathlon at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

said.

Schrimsher singled out his WCAP teammates Sgt. Dennis Bowsher, a 2012 Olympian who served as his training partner on the long road to Rio, and Spc. Logan Storie, who helped him improve his swimming skills.

He also gave credit to his younger brother, Lucas, who just missed earning his own spot

on the Modern Pentathlon team in the Rio Games.

"My little brother always pushes me to be better," Schrimsher said, "but without the Army supporting me, this dream would have never happened. I am so proud to be a Soldier and represent the Army at the Olympic Games here in Rio. I couldn't have done it without you – my brothers."

FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRIEFS

Fort Rucker Hog Hunt

Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation will host a hog hunt now through Sept. 22. Team categories include: two-man trapping and two-man weapon. Entry fee is \$70 per team. Cash prizes for first-third places and for the biggest hog. Cash prizes are based on total entry fees: 40 percent for first place, 30 percent for second place and 10 percent for third place for each category. A cash prize will also be awarded to the team that harvests the biggest pig.

For more information, call 255-4305 or visit rucker.armymwr.com.

Golf championship

Silver Wings Golf Course will host its club championship Saturday-Monday. The tournament is for members only and costs \$75. Tee times are from 7-9 a.m. and the format is stroke play. A U.S. Golf Association handicap or Saturday Dog Fight Points are required – whichever is higher. USGA and local rules apply. There is an open division, as well as a senior division for those ages 60 and older. Lunch is included. The deadline to register is today.

For more information, call 255-2997.

Pro-am golf tournament

The Silver Wings Golf Course Pro-Am Golf Tournament is scheduled for Sept. 9-11. Sept. 9, the practice round is all day and the pairings party starts at 5 p.m. Shotgun start at 9 a.m. Sept. 10 and 11. Entry fee is \$145 for members and \$175 for non-members. Entry fee includes tournament course fees, range balls, tee gifts, tournament meals and prizes. Entries must be received by 5 p.m. Friday. Amateur eligibility: current verifiable U.S. Golf Association Handicap Index. Format: 36-hole event. Teams will be comprised of one professional and three amateurs. The teams will play team Stableford. Professionals will also simultaneously participate in an individual competition.

For more information, call 598-2449.

Youth Start Smart Soccer

The National Alliance for Youth Sports and Fort Rucker Youth Sports present the Start Smart Soccer program Sept. 12-28. Start Smart is a six-session instructional program that helps children learn the basics of soccer: kicking, dribbling, trapping, throw-ins and running. The program helps

prepare children for organized soccer using safe equipment to teach them basic skills. Start Smart Soccer is open to children ages 3-4 and requires 100-percent parent participation. The program will meet Mondays and Wednesdays for three weeks starting Sept. 12 from 5-5:45 p.m. at Baseball Field 2 on Division Road. Cost is \$20 per participant and includes a T-shirt. Parents' meeting is Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the youth center gym, Bldg. 2800. To register, visit parent central services or use Webtrac.

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

Youth Start Smart Football

The National Alliance for Youth Sports and Fort Rucker Youth Sports present the Start Smart Football program Sept. 13-29. Start Smart is a six-session instructional program that helps children learn the basics of football: kicking, punting, throwing, catching, running and agility. The program helps prepare children for organized football using safe equipment to teach them basic skills. Start Smart Football is open to children ages 6-8 and requires 100-percent parent participation. The program will meet

Tuesdays and Thursdays for three weeks starting Sept. 13 from 5-5:45 p.m. at Baseball Field 3 on Division Road. Cost is \$20 per participant and includes a T-shirt. Parents' meeting is Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the youth center gym, Bldg. 2800. To register, visit parent central services or use Webtrac.

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

Deep sea fishing trip

MWR Central will host a deep sea fishing trip Sept. 17 aboard the Vera Marie in Destin, Florida. All participants need to do is sit back, relax and enjoy a day of fishing – everything else is taken care of, according to organizers. The bus will depart at 4 a.m. from Bldg. 5700 and return at 8 p.m. Organizers advise bringing a small cooler with drinks and snacks – no glass. The cost is \$75 per person, plus tip. The price includes transportation to and from Destin, bait, rod, reel, fishing license, six-hour fishing trip, and people's fish cut and cleaned at the end of the trip. The trip is limited to 42 participants.

People can sign up at outdoor recreation, 255-4305; or MWR Central, 255-2997.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

TRIVIA

Answers

1. "Carousel"
2. Calcium
3. Abraham Lincoln
4. Mrs. Hudson
5. Theodore
6. Kvack
7. Proxima Centauri
8. Michigan
9. Pinball
10. 8



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