#### **GATE CLOSURE**

The Faulkner Gate will be closed Dec. 17-Jan. 2. It will resume normal operating hours Jan. 3.

### **FUN, GAMES**

ACS, AAFES team up to help single parents

Story on Page C1



#### **FUNCTIONAL FITNESS**

Training mirrors, strengthens common movements

Story on Page D1





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## **GATHERING FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

Students, parents, school staff share holiday meal

By Nathan Pfau

Army Flier Staff Writer

As children and parents prepare to take a break from the school year and get ready for a visit from Santa Claus, many were able to get a head start on the true spirit of the season by spending time together at the Fort Rucker Primary School.

The primary school hosted a holiday meal for parents and children Dec. 7, where more than 200 parents attended to share in family time and traditional holiday food, said Dr. Deborah Deas, FRPS principal.

"Both schools always provide a holiday meal for parents because we think it's important that parents have an opportunity to come in and share a meal with their children and to see what goes on here at the school," she said. "This gives them a chance to have a really active hand and to be with their children, and it's great to get to see them sit to-

to see their children's friends and what it is they do here at school," she continued. "We just love to be able to have this many parents coming in to the school to spend time with the children."

A traditional holiday meal of turkey, stuffing, cobbler, green beans, mashed potatoes and cranberry sauce was served, which required extra work by all staff members to be able to pull off the event without a hitch. Each staff member, including faculty and cafeteria workers, had to put in extra hours decorating and preparing the meals for the family members, said Deas.

"This is really a labor of love for everyone involved," said the principal "We had teachers, who decorated in the cafeteria yesterday, and, of course, our wonderful workers in the cafeteria have to put in some extra hours to prepare - they do a great job with that."

All of the extra work was well received, and welcomed by parents and students.

"I think it's great that we get to come "It's also a great chance for the parents here and share a meal with our kids," said



Families enjoy a holiday meal at Fort Rucker Primary School Dec. 7.

Stephanie Thompson, military spouse and FRPS parent. "The more time that I get to spend with my children I'm grateful for, so I think this is a great idea. The meal was great and the staff are great, and I really think our kids love to be able to show

off their school any chance they get.

"They have a wonderful staff here and it's obvious that they care so much about our children, and I just thankful for that," she continued. "I really wouldn't want it any other way."



Shilo Beving, Lyster Army Health Clinic primary care nurse, serves up mocktails to showcase alternatives to alcoholic beverages at Lyster's Lifespace Center Dec. 8. For more information, visit http://icsw.nhtsa.gov/drivesober/.

## **SANTA TRACKER**

NORAD keeps eye on Kris Kringle for 61st straight year

**North American Aerospace Defense Command** Press Release

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — The North American Aerospace Defense Command is celebrating the 61st Anniversary of tracking Santa's yuletide journey.

The NORAD Tracks Santa website, www.noradsanta.org, launched Dec 1. It features Santa's North Pole Village, which includes a holiday countdown, games, activities and more. The website is available in eight languages: English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, and Chinese.

Official NORAD Tracks Santa apps are also available in the Windows, Apple and Google Play stores, so parents and children can countdown the days until Santa's launch on their smart phones and tablets. Tracking opportunities are also offered on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and Google+. Santa followers just need to type "@noradsanta" into each search engine to get started.

Starting at 2:01 a.m. EST Dec. 24, website visitors can watch Santa make preparations for his flight.



NORAD's Santa Cams will stream videos on the website as Santa makes his way over various locations. Then, at 6 a.m. EST, trackers worldwide can speak with a live phone operator to inquire as to Santa's whereabouts by dialing the toll-free number 1-877-Hi-NORAD (1-877-446-6723) or by sending an email to noradtrackssanta@outlook. com. Any time Dec. 24, Windows Phone users can ask Cortana for Santa's location, and OnStar subscribers can press the OnStar button in their vehicles to locate Santa.

NORAD Tracks Santa is truly a global experience, delighting generations of families everywhere. This is due, in large part, to the efforts

and services of numerous program contributors.

This year's contributors include: the 21st Space Wing, Acuity Scheduling, Adobe, Alaska NORAD Region, America Forces Network, Analytical Graphics, Inc., Agingo, Avaya, BeMerry! Santa / Noerr Programs, Bing®, Canadian NORAD Region, Chirpon, The Citadel Mall, Civil Air Patrol, Christmas in the Park, Colorado Springs Business Alliance, Continental NORAD Region, CradlePoint, Defense Video & Imagery Distribution Systems, DoD News, The Elf on the Shelf, Extended Stay America, Getty Images, Globelink Foreign Language Center, Harris, Hewlett Packard, Historic Riverwalk of Pueblo, iLink-Systems, ikaria consulting, Kids.gov, Level 3 Communications, Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, Meshbox, Microsoft®, Office Depot/Office Max, Naden Band of Maritime Forces Pacific, Newsline360, OneRender, OnStar, PCI Broadband, Portable North Pole/Ugroup Media, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Colorado, SiriusXM®,

SEE TRACKER, PAGE A5

## **Reduce stress** during holidays with helpful tips

By Nathan Pfau Army Flier Staff Writer

With everything that goes on during the holidays, like shopping and gift giving, many can forget that the season is less about the amount spent on gifts and more about the time spent with loved ones.

That's why the Fort Rucker Army Substance Abuse Program and Family Life Chaplain want to provide people with the tools and knowledge to get through the holiday season and manage holiday stress, said Rick Kohl, ASAP Employee Assistance Program coordinator.

Managing stress around this time of year can become a daunting task, he said, and one key way to help deal

with some of those stressors is by focusing on the positives.

"Practice optimism," said Kohl. "Take a situation that you know is going to allow for a happy mood or thought, and focus on that and by doing so you internalize the feeling. Think about something that's happened that is a positive experience.

"Normally people tend to start thinking about all



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PFC. WIL-LIAM HATTON

of the stuff that's going to wrong," he said, "so when you're met with a situation that could trigger frustration or a sense of hopelessness, think of the positives in life because it helps to deflect the feelings. It does you no good emotionally to be frustrated or upset."

Chaplain (Maj.) James Pennington, post family life chaplain, advises that people take a different outlook when it comes to the holidays and think of the holiday from a different point of view.

"I like to think in terms of contentment for the holidays," he said. "So, when something positive or good happens, you accent that, you maximize that and you hold onto that. Let that be your anchor and count your bless-

"During the holidays, not everything is going to go to our liking, so if something bad does happen, try to minimize that and don't hold on to it," he continued. "Don't let that one event ruin your whole holiday."

People should focus more on an attitude of giving because it's the act of giving that can bring true happiness, said the chaplain. Expect there to be stress doing the holidays and be mentally prepared to handle those stressors.

One way to handle and deal with a lot of those stressors is to communicate those frustrations through some means, whether talking with someone or simply finding on outlet to relieve the stress, such as exercise, he said.

"There is stress every day, so just accept that," said Pennington. "If there is something inside us and there is something that we can do to get it on the outside, whether that's talking or writing or exercising, then do that. There are ways of getting it out of you because it doesn't just

SEE TIPS, PAGE A5

# **L'ERSPECTIVE**

## GC sends warm wishes for holidays

By Col. Shannon T. Miller Fort Rucker Garrison Commander

As I take a moment to reflect on the past year here at the Home of Army Aviation, I am continually amazed by the accomplishments of our talented men and women who serve at Fort Rucker. I would like to extend warm wishes for a happy, relaxing, festive and safe holiday season and thank you and your families for all that you do to make our community the best the Army has to offer! You all should be extremely proud of what you do for our Army and our nation.

While you are enjoying your holiday traditions this year, I ask that you keep those that are deployed and their loved ones in your thoughts and prayers as

they defend the freedoms that we are truly blessed to have in our great nation. Their service and sacrifice should be honored not only during the holiday season but throughout the year.

The holidays are a very special and magical time of the year for many; however, for some it can be very stressful or lonely. Please take special care of your teammates and look after one another. If you have room at the table, consider inviting someone who may not have family in the area and are not able to visit family to celebrate with you. We are after all, one team, one Army family and the saying "we take care of our own" can be especially important around the holidays.

While many of those who work and

live on Fort Rucker will be enjoying leave and celebrating the holidays, I want to assure you that the garrison staff will remain available to help Soldiers, their family members or employees who are struggling physically, mentally, spiritually or financially. Our Fort Rucker and our Garrison South team at Eglin AFB does an amazing job taking care of our community and it is because of what each one of you do day after day that makes this place truly special.

Again, on behalf of Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher Spivey, myself and the entire Fort Rucker Garrison Command Group, have a safe and joyous holiday season, and we wish you all the best in the upcoming New Year!

We are the Army's Home!



Miller

## CID warns against posting holiday travel plans

By Mary Markos

U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — As Soldiers and their families prepare for the holiday season, the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command warns that posting travel plans on social media sites makes people's homes vulnerable to burglary.

While Soldiers should always be vigilant in their postings to avoid releasing sensitive information, revealing personal holiday travel information puts Soldiers, their families and their homes at

"Social media is a powerful and frequently used tool for Soldiers, their families and friends to stay connected, especially during the holiday season," said Daniel Andrews, director of the CID Computer Crime Investigative Unit. "Unfortunately, criminals use the same social media sites to conduct surveillance and identify potential targets."

In fact, Andrews said, posting vacation plans is like announcing

to criminals that your residence will be unoccupied for an extended period.

"We recommend that personnel avoid publicizing the details of holiday plans and travel arrangements, whether upcoming or in progress," Andrews said. "Wait until the vacation is over to comment on it and share photos, but still be cautious about what information you make publicly available."

Additionally, personnel are advised to take basic home security measures before leaving their

The FBI's "2014 Crime in the United States" reported an estimated 1,729,806 burglaries in the United States with burglaries of residential properties accounting for 73.2 percent. The average

dollar loss for each burglary incident was \$2,251.

Basic home security measures, such as locking all doors and windows, not leaving spare keys outside, using variable light timers, keeping valuables out of sight, and having a friend retrieve mail and newspapers are the first line of defense against burglary.

The use of a home security or video system is a further deterrent for criminals.

"Criminals are always on the lookout for opportunities to exploit. Whether driving through neighborhood streets or surfing social media sites, the criminal's goal is to identify soft targets that are lucrative and present the least chance of being caught," Andrews said. "This underscores the very real connection between the physical and virtual worlds."

CID officials encourage Army personnel to take the following steps to reduce their risk of being targeted by crooks in the virtual world.

- Update your privacy setting on social media sites before leaving for vacation.
- Do not check in to airports or your holiday destination on social media sites. Sites, such as Facebook, use the GPS built into a phone to allow users to check in to businesses and locations across the country. This information tells would-be burglars that the home is likely to be vacant until the user announces their arrival at the airport for their return flight.
- Do not post in real-time. Posting information about your location while you are there is equivalent to telling a would-be burglar that you are not home. To minimize the risk of burglary while you are away, post information after you return home for the
- · Remove GPS data from pictures. GPS data, to include location coordinates, is automatically attached to photos taken from both smart phones and many digital cameras. When posted in real-time, the GPS coordinates gives a would-be burglar your exact location, which makes your home vulnerable if you are not there.
- Do not geotag posts or tweets. Much like the Facebook "check in" feature, geotagging or adding your exact GPS coordinates to a Tweet or post tells would-be burglars exactly how close you are to your home.
- Monitor what family members post. A would-be burglar only needs one member of the family to announce that the family has left for vacation to know the house might be empty. Speak to all members of the family, especially teens, about what they are posting online.

For more information, visit http://www.cid.army.mil/.



**Christmas** is coming up and Santa Claus will soon be making his rounds this year. What do you want Santa to bring you for Christmas?



Aodhan Kalgren, military family member

"I don't want much. I just want a happy Christmas."



Caleb Kreitzer, military family member

"I want a remote control tank. I want one that can shoot missiles.'



Ryder Anderson, military family member

"I want an Xbox so I can play



Soraya Negron, military family member

"I want a 'Frozen' doll because I like the music.'



Nevaeh Bloodworth, military family member

"I want a phone so I can call

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# BE VIGILANT

## Caution can help prevent crime, protect personal information

**By Jeremy Henderson** Army Flier Staff Writer

Households can become hectic as families prepare for the holiday season and Fort Rucker officials urge individuals to take simple precautions to protect their home and identity.

"With the holidays ramping up and seasonal shopping in full swing, criminals are also gearing up for a busy season," Peggy Contreras, Fort Rucker Directorate of Public Safety community police supervisor, said. "Cyber criminals don't take the holidays off.

"In fact, they're especially busy trying to steal your money and personal information," she added. "hoppers should be more vigilant than ever for scams designed to steal their money and personal information. Though criminals are often aggressive and creative in their efforts to obtain such money and personal information, there are certain red flags and common schemes holiday shoppers can guard against this holiday season."

According to Contreras, steps can be taken to prevent crime during the holiday season.

• When parking your vehicle to

go shopping, remember where you parked it. Always park in a well-lit and well-traveled area.

- When you return to your vehicle, scan the interior of your car to be sure no one is hiding inside. Check to see if you are being followed.
- Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle. You will be ready to unlock the door and will not be delayed by fumbling and looking for your keys.
- When storing items purchased at the stores, place them out of sight. The best place is in a locked trunk.
- Do not leave your purse, wallet, or cellular telephone in plain view.
- Don't resist if someone tries to take any of your belongings.
   Don't chase someone who robs you, they may have a weapon.
   Instead call 911.
- Lock your vehicle and put up your windows even while you are driving.
- If you go to an automatic teller machine for cash, check for people around and make sure it is well lit and in a safe location.

• Carry only the credit cards you need and avoid carrying large amounts of cash.

- Beware of the "a good deal" scams. Things are not always what they appear to be.
- If you are purchasing toys for small children, be sure that they are safe. You might be surprised at what a small child can swallow or what can injure them.
- Drive defensively. Traffic is heavier during the holidays. Drivers may also have indulged in too many holiday spirits.

"After everyone opens their gifts, try not to pile up the empty boxes outside your home," Contreras said. "Break down the boxes and dispose of them in an inconspicuous manner. Piles of boxes outside your home could make criminals curious about what could be inside your home."

As families shop for gifts to place under their trees, Contreras suggests a few precautions to help protect your financial information and identity.

"If a deal looks too good to be true, it probably is," she said. "Scammers often scheme to defraud consumers by offering too-good-to-be-true deals via phishing e-mails or advertisements. Such schemes may offer brand name merchandise at extremely low discounts or promise gift cards as an incentive to purchase a product. Other sites may offer products at a great price, but the products being sold are not the same as the products advertised.

"Steer clear of un-trusted sites or ads offering items at unrealistic discounts or with special coupons," she added. "You may end up paying for an item, giving away personal information and credit card details, and then receive nothing in return except a compromised identity. In addition, do not open any unsolicited e-mails and do not click on any links provided."

In addition to securing banking and credit accounts with strong and different passwords, Contreras suggests shoppers secure all their other accounts that contain anything of value, such as: rewards accounts, online accounts that save payment information, or accounts containing private, personal information.

What should be done if identity

theft is suspected?

"When your personal identification information - name, Social Security number, driver license number, etc. - has been used fraudulently to open credit accounts, bank accounts, obtain loans, utilities, telephone services, etc., without your knowledge or permission, you are the victim of the crime of identity theft," Contreras said. "If you believe that your identity has been stolen, immediately contact the company or financial institution's fraud department where your information was used and alert them of this fraudulent account. Have the account closed or cancelled.

"File an immediate police report with the law enforcement agency holding jurisdiction where the identity theft occurred and obtain a case number," she added.

If individuals are unsure about anything, Contreras said, or have additional concerns, they are urged to contact local law enforcement.

"Individuals should also be sure to record serial numbers and take pictures of high-value items for record keeping in the event they are lost or stolen," she said.

## CSA: 3 ways to derail sexual assault, harassment

By David Vergun

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — "Sexual assault and sexual harassment rip apart unit trust, discipline and cohesion," said Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley.

Throughout military history, it has been demonstrated that units with high degrees of trust, cohesion and esprit de corps can beat units with better equipment and greater numbers, he told the hundreds of senior Army leaders who had gathered Dec. 8 for the Army Professional Forum - SHARP Day in Tysons Corner, Virginia.

A single rape in a unit can "bring that organization to its knees for months," destroying readiness, he said, comparing it directly to a blue-on-blue attack.

In addition to eroding readiness, sexual assault is just plain wrong and has no place in the Army, he said. Everyone has a fundamental right to feel secure in his or her person. "It's the essence of our Constitution which we swore we'd die to protect."

With his own remarks, Army Secretary Eric Fanning opened the conference with much the same message, extolling the value of Sexual Harassment Assault Response and Prevention education and training.

"The culture of prevention must be adopted, understood, and demonstrated by and through all of our Soldiers," he said. "At [Headquarters, Department of the Army] we talk about initiatives, but men and women in the field often lead the way, and headquarters needs to catch policy up with what is already working."

#### **3 SUGGESTIONS**

In his remarks, Milley highlighted three ways the Army could reduce the numbers of sexual assaults and prevent instances of sexual harassment.

"This is Milley talking, it's my own view, but if we can do those three things, we'll knock down the numbers [of sexual offenses] big time and fast," he said.

First, he said, leaders should be held accountable for the actions of their troops, particularly if there's a pattern of misbehavior that's not being corrected.

He cited the large numbers of sexual assaults that occur on post between the hours of 10 p.m. to 3 a.m., particularly in the barracks and on weekends.

Company commanders and NCOs should monitor activity on their post, especially during the time periods when the risk for misbehavior is at its highest.

"You own the barracks and the installation," he said. "If there's some reg preventing you from doing that, give me a call."

Second, rules that regulate the consumption of alcohol should be enforced.

Alcohol is involved in a sizeable percentage of sexual assault cases, Milley noted. The majority of Soldiers are in their late teens and 20s, and some are prone to high-risk behaviors. That's a recipe for disaster.

"If you pump enough alcohol in your veins, you're going to go stupid fast," he advised. Instead, all of that youthful energy should be channeled into productive activities.

Third, the buddy team concept can be effective Army-wide. Buddy teams are already standard at Ranger School and within the Ranger regiment, Milley said.



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS CHUCK BURDEN

## U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley gives opening remarks at the Army Professionl Forum, SHARP conference at Tysons Corner, Va., Dec. 8.

"You're your brother's or sister's keeper," he explained. "It's not just a saying – it's enforced at small-unit levels."

#### OTHER IDEAS

Among the other speakers who offered ideas for reducing the numbers of sexual assaults was Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey, who suggested that NCOs are in the best position to monitor the behavior of the Soldiers they're tasked with leading.

At every installation he visits, he said, he tries to include a call at a SHARP training event. In his opinion, role-playing engages the troops the most. A mock bar training scenario in Korea, he recalled, really got Soldiers dis-

cussing what the bystanders should be doing during an assault as well as the other players directly involved.

While there is no shortage of tragic stories, he said, there are also uplifting stories of things that have gone right, such as that of the two Soldiers outside of Fort Drum, New York, who witnessed a man drugging a woman with intent to sexually assault her. The NCOs, he said, took action, and the perpetrator was apprehended.

Monique Ferrell, the SHARP director, said that hearing actual accounts from sexual assault and sexual harassment survivors can strike a chord with Soldiers in ways that a simple training module might not.

## **News Briefs**

#### Clinic closures

ments);

Lyster Army Health clinic will be closed the following dates in December:

- Monthly training will be Friday, starting at noon;
- Dec. 23, Christmas day of no scheduled activity (no patient appoint-
- Dec. 26, for Christmas Day (observed);
- Dec. 30, New Year's DONSA (no patient appointments); and
  Jan. 2 New Year's Day (observed).

### Military personnel closure

The military personnel division will be closed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday for its annual Christmas party. This includes the ID card section, transition services, personnel services branch, personnel reassignment branch, personnel management branch, in and out processing, casualty office and the retirement services office.

### Military pay office closure

The Defense Military Pay Office will close at noon Friday. All customers are asked to visit the DMPO with pay inquiries or clearance papers prior to the closure. The office will reopen from 3:30-4 p.m. to accommodate Soldiers who do not have the opportunity to clear prior to the noon closure. Normal business hours will resume Monday at 7:30 a.m.

Soldiers with a military pay emergency during this time should call 317-319-7604 for assistance.

#### **Resiliency Resources**

The Lyster and Fort Rucker Resiliency Resources mobile device app is available for free in Android and iPhone mobile app stores. The app can help people find information for Fort Rucker, including addresses, phone numbers and event information, and also information such as where running trails are located, if there is a 5k race coming up, when Bible studies occur and more.

#### 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.

#### Savings at Fort Rucker Exchange

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is ensuring authorized shoppers always find the lowest price this December with a holiday extended price guarantee. Through Dec. 24, all purchases made at the Fort Rucker Exchange are guaranteed to offer the best value in town as shoppers who find an identical item elsewhere for less will receive an exchange gift card for the difference, according to local AAFES officials.

"The Fort Rucker Exchange wants to be military customers' first choice this holiday season," said Ralph Kleemann, general manager. "This price guarantee, combined with our everyday low prices, price matching and tax-free shopping, should help lighten the load on shoppers' wallet."

To receive a gift card, shoppers should bring the original exchange receipt along with a current local competitor's advertisement. The holiday extended price guarantee includes shopmyexchange. com as compared to local retailers.

#### ID card section closure

The Fort Rucker ID Card Section will close from 2:15-4:15 p.m. for training the second Wednesday of every month.

#### Siren test

The Installation Operations Center conducts a test of the emergency mass notification system the first Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. At that time people will hear the siren over the giant voice. No actions are required.

#### Yoga 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, of the clinic. Participants are encouraged to bring their own mat.

#### Weight control

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

o.m. For more information, call 255-7986.

# SECARMY:

## Changing military families require more flexible support

**By C. Todd Lopez** Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Secretary of the Army Eric Fanning believes the Army needs to change how it provides support to Soldiers and their families.

Speaking at the Brookings Institute in Washington Dec. 8 before representatives and members of the Blue Star Families, an organization founded in 2009 that performs one of the largest surveys of military families and directs them to sources of support, Fanning noted the number of military families with stay-at-home spouses is shrinking.

"The Army needs to recognize that more military spouses are working now," Fanning said. "We must adjust to a reality where it's no longer expected that married Soldiers will have a stay-at-home spouse who takes care of the family and homestead and does volunteer work on the side."

The Army must invest more in programs that support families, Fanning said, in recognition that a growing number of military spouses will want to pursue their own career paths, independent of their serving partners. Additionally, in order to remain a competitive career option, the Army must be able to attract men and women who have career-oriented



PHOTO BY JOHN MARTINI

Secretary of the Army Eric Fanning delivers opening remarks to representatives and members of the Blue Star Families at Brookings in Washington, D.C., Dec. 8.

spouses.

Fewer Americans will choose to join the Army if progressing in their careers requires having an "infinitely flexible, stay-at-homespouse"

"We need to work on employment opportunities for spouses that aren't in the military," Fanning said. "And we need to do more to make career paths for dual-military families workable. All too often, it works for a little while, and then one of the two has to make a decision to get out to support the other one. We need to make daycare more available."

Fanning suggested that it might also be time to rethink career paths in the military to offer more support for families. For instance, it might be possible, he said, for

the Army to extend the number of years it takes for Soldiers to chart a successful career.

"We have these pole years, and you have to hit a year every single year," he noted. "In fact, in many of the services to really excel you have to hit that year early. There is no reason we can't, for example, stretch things out a little bit more to give people more time ... for developmental opportunities and to make decisions for their family that doesn't take them off the track to get them to general officer."

Fostering such stability in family life would go a long way toward helping Soldiers cope with deployments and the stress of being separated from family for extended periods, he said.

#### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PARADIGM SHIFT

The Army must also continue to advance its approach to behavioral health, Fanning said. Currently, behavioral health assistance must be initiated by Soldiers, meaning the burden is on the Soldier to proactively seek help after a deployment.

That behavioral health paradigm needs to change, Fanning said.

"We should expect, [and] you should expect you're going to need it," he said. "So you're going to have to go through it when you come back."

Special Operations Command has already implemented successful measures to provide behavioral health services to all its Soldiers immediately upon returning from deployment.

Fanning said these efforts are worth replicating elsewhere. "We need to move it across the force as a whole," he said.

# TECHNICAL EVOLUTION

## 6 decades of DOD support underlies DARPA innovation

By Cheryl Pellerin
Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — For those who think the Defense Department is too big to innovate, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency is a reminder that DOD has nurtured an agency that has sparked revolutions in a range of technologies over the past 60 years, DARPA Director Dr. Arati Prabhakar said Dec. 8.

Prabhakar spoke at the Center for Strategic and International Studies during a panel discussion about what it takes to lead innovative organizations.

DOD support for DARPA's work has "led to stealth, to precision strike, to artificial intelligence, the Internet and the foundations for modern microelectronics," she said

That didn't happen by accident, the director added.

"It happened because of a mission that was the foundation of this organization," she said. "And none of that would have been possible without now six decades of sustained support."

#### IMPLEMENTING THE MISSION

Those at DARPA recognize that how they implement the mission it is critically important, Prabhakar said.

"I think the roots of our ability to innovate lie in a model that says we've constantly focused on the same mission over all these decades, we constantly reinforce our culture," she added. "But in everything other than mission and culture we are relentless, we are ruthless, about walking away from it and moving on to the next thing ... and that is built into the fact that we are a projects agency."

A project is something that starts and ends, she said, adding that it's built into the way DARPA brings people in from different parts of the technical community: technical leaders in their fields; people who come with backgrounds in the commercial or defense industry; entrepreneurs or people who have worked in big companies; people from universities; people from every part of the not-for-profit community and from universities.

"They come to DARPA with all of that expertise; all of that drive and brilliance that they bring. But they come for short periods of time – this idea that you want to be constantly able to refresh and renew," the director said.

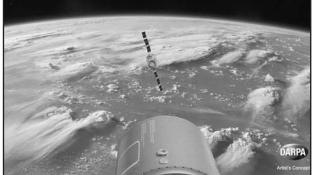
DARPA puts a critical mass of resources onto projects with big ambitious goals and the agency works hard to first build into its business processes the ability to take the risks needed to reach for big impact, Prabhakar said. Then, they do the work it takes to drive the risk down because ultimately they hand the technologies off to people and companies who take them and make them operational, she added.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE

Prabhakar worked at DARPA as a program manager from 1986 to 1993, and when she came back in 2012 as director she said the agency was executing a mission in a different world with a variety of national security challenges.

"The biggest shift that has happened in technology itself is not about any one technology," she said, "it's about the technology ecosystem that we're in."

By every measure except DARPA's own mission the world is better, Prabhakar noted.



DOD ILLUSTRATIO

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency's Airborne Launch Assist Space Access program is developing a much-less expensive way to routinely launch small satellites.

Technology is lifting people out of poverty around the world, economies are growing, and the private sector is growing research and development in the United States much faster than gross domestic product as the innovation economy intensifies, the director said.

"We've been very successful, but it is now a fact of life that many dimensions of technology ... are being very aggressively driven by the private sector ... and globally and not just in the United States," she added.

#### TECHNOLOGICAL EVOLUTION

Underlying all that is a pace of technological evolution that DOD is not structured to handle, she said.

"Thinking about the elements of the second offset strategy – at that time precision strike, stealth – I think it was very clear to the people who were driving those technologies that they gave us the opportunity for an extended period of military technological dominance," Prabhakar said.

"But it is now 40 years later, so I think we shouldn't be surprised that it's time to start thinking about new ways to deal with the future," she said.

For the third offset taking place now, she added, the technologies the department is dealing with move at a pace that means it won't get 20 or 40 years of technological advantage with the next leap ahead.

"That drives you away from thinking in silver-bullet terms to thinking in deeper architectural terms about what those solutions can look like. It's no longer going to be a successful strategy to simply come up with a major advance in capability," Prabhakar said.

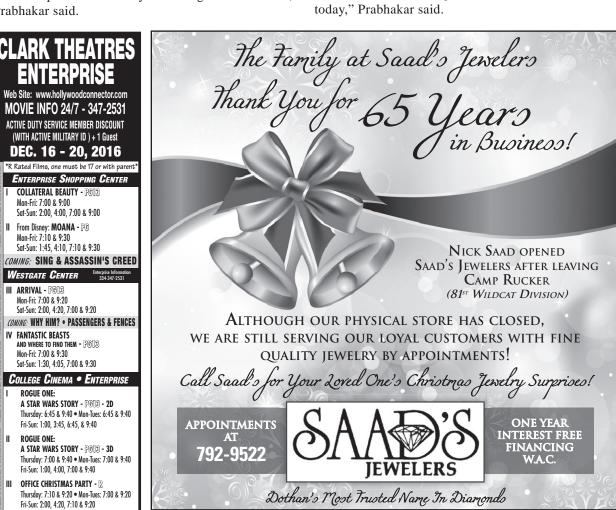
#### PACE OF TECHNOLOGY

"We have to design systems that are inherently able to keep progressing at the pace of the underlying technology, which is, by the way, the opposite of what our military systems look like today. They are essentially hostile to all advances in underlying technology. That's why it takes half a billion dollars to upgrade an obsolete semiconductor component and an F-35 that hasn't even reached initial operational capability. This is the world that we've been living in," the director said.

DARPA is always asking the question about the next big military system or weapon that's going to be a big deal, she said, but today they ask it through the lens of new architectures that would allow not just a leap in capability but composable systems that could grab new technology and continue to advance.

A composable system, she said, is one whose components can be assembled in various combinations and added to

"I think that's the only way we're going to get ahead in the kind of technological environment that we're in today." Prabhakar said.



# SecDef thanks U.S., coalition troops for counter-ISIL work in Iraq

**By Cheryl Pellerin**Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Ash Carter presented awards for valor to Iraqi soldiers and thanked U.S. and coalition troops engaged in the campaign to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant during his visit to Qayyarah Airfield West, Iraq, Sunday.

"I had the opportunity today, along with [Chief of Staff of the Iraqi Joint Forces Gen. Othman al-Ghanimi] to award and recognize a number of Iraqi security forces for their bravery, for their gallantry in carrying forward this fight," Carter told reporters during a joint news conference with Army Lt. Gen. Stephen J. Townsend, commander of Combined Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve. "This hasn't been an easy fight, won't be an easy fight, but today I discussed it with [Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi], ... and we agreed it's playing out pretty much according to the plan that he and I have been discussing together for these many

The defense secretary said taking back Mosul is key to the fight against ISIL, because it's where the group began. "ISIL needs to be destroyed because it's a group that, in addition to having torn through Iraq



PHOTO BY AIR FORCE TECH. SGT. BRIGITTE N. BRANTLEY

Defense Secretary Ash Carter presents the Joint Service Commendation Medal to Iraqi troops Sunday for valor they displayed during the Mosul campaign, at Qayyarah Airfield West, Iraq.

with great savagery, also threatens directly the American people, the American homeland and our friends and allies around the world, as well as civilization and common decency in terms of the ideology that they espouse," Carter said. "So ISIL must be destroyed. And because this was the place from which it began

and from which it sprang, it must be destroyed here, as I said a moment ago, in both fact and idea."

He said the goal is to destroy ISIL and restore sovereignty to the Iraqi government.

The defense secretary said that as the battle for Mosul will kick off in Iraq, U.S. and coalition forces in Syria will enter a new phase in the campaign to expel ISIL from Raqqa, the so-called capital of its caliphate in Syria. President Barack Obama approved Carter's request for 200 additional special operations forces for the Syria mission.

"They play a vital role in helping to identify, build and then enable the force that will expel ISIL from Raqqa and be a critical part of destroying ISIL here in Iraq and Syria, which we must do and which we will do," he said.

Carter said U.S. and coalition forces are having a substantial impact on ISIL's combat effectiveness. "So a significant part of their leadership has been killed," he said. "And the rest of it, knowing that they're being hunted, are therefore forced to behave like hunted men. And that by itself also adds a benefit in the sense that their freedom to communicate, their freedom to move, their freedom to instill confidence in their forces is also reduced as we wipe out some of them, because the rest of them have to lie lower."

"So it's an important part of what we're doing out here to attack leadership," the defense secretary said. "And we do it. And thanks to General Townsend and the entire team out here, they're having an enormous amount of success."

Carter is in the midst of an around-the-world trip to thank deployed U.S. troops for their service over the holidays, meet with important regional partners, and advance U.S. priorities, including the rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region and the lasting defeat of ISIL. The trip has included visits to Japan, India, Afghanistan, Bahrain and Israel.

## **Tips**

Continued from Page A1

need to sit inside you."

When those stresses become overwhelming, many times people tend to not communicate their frustrations, but bottling up those frustrations can lead to outburst and lashing out, which is something people should try to avoid, said Kohl. By mentally preparing themselves, people will be able to better communicate their frustrations should they arise.

"Practice those thoughts and ways that they would experience that conflict, so that there's competency when it comes to dealing with it," he said. "It's really hard to go into a situation untrained ... and that usually leads to conflict failure, which can lead to overreactions.

"It's important to find somebody to talk to in order to help process (those emotions) in a healthy, competent way," he continued. "You have to have some strategy to deal with situations. Sometimes, you have to talk through that with someone and know that you have the ability to manage that internally and that you're not going to react to something that someone else triggers in you. We have the ability to effect change in ourselves, but we can't change

other people."

Another way to deal with a stressful situation is to remove oneself from the situation, as well, said Janet Strickland, Lyster Army Health Clinic behavioral health counselor. People should come up with an exit strategy, so as to not allow a situation to escalate into something that might not be manageable.

"Have a plan when family interaction gets to be too much," she said. "Take a walk, take the children to a movie or just something to get you out of that.

"Also, don't create unrealistic expectations," she continued, adding that people

should be flexible to situations. "When you build up things in your mind and think, 'This is how it's going to be when I get home,' then you're setting up for failure."

If stress does become too much, there are plenty of resources on post for people to take advantage of if they need someone to talk to, including chaplain services, family advocacy programs and counselors.

For more information on chaplain services, call 255-3100 or 255-9777.

For more information on ASAP, call 255-7509.

For more information on LAHC behavioral health, call 255-7028.

## Tracker ==

Continued from Page A1

Space Foundation, Spil Games, Strategic Air & Space Museum, U.S. Air Force Academy Band, U.S. Department of State Family Liaison Office, Verizon, Windows Azure, and Zillow.

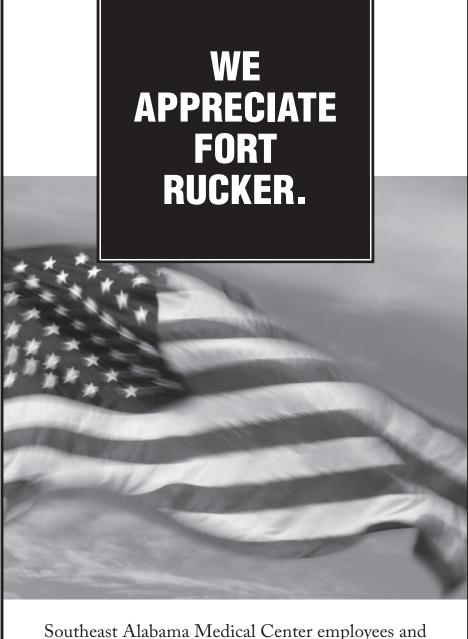
It all started in 1955 when a local media advertisement directed children to call Santa direct – only the number was misprinted. Instead of reaching Santa, the phone rang through to the crew commander on duty at the Continental Air Defense Command Operations Center. Thus began the tradition, which NO-RAD carried on since it was created in 1958.





- Have a Family disaster plan and supply kit.
- Build or identify a safe room in your home.
- Purchase and use a NOAA weather radio with a tone alert feature. This will alert you to warnings issued by your local National Weather Service office.





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**541 AVERETT:** This beautiful 3BR/2BA brick home with an open floor plan sits on a level lot & features granite counterlops in the kitchen & stainless steel appliances. The Jacuzzi tub & stand-alone shower create an inviting master both. The spacious backyard with a peach tree & a covered patio make for a great place to entertain or run & play. SOMMER RAKES 406-1286



111 BLACKHAWK: Brand new paint & flooring throughout. This cute home is in a great location & is move-in ready. Stove & dishwasher have recently been replaced. Nice floor plan with a large grand room that is open to the dining area. Lots of natural light in this home. Screened back porch is a wonderful outdoor space that is large enough for overflow & outdoor entertaining. The detached shed/work shop has electricity. The yard has beautiful shade trees. ROBIN FOY 389-4410





101 HALL HILL: Beautiful garden home with open floor plan located in Cotton Creek Subdivision. Over-sized master bedroom, master bath has garden bath & separate shower with large walk-in closet. Nice fenced in backyard with patio. JACKIE THOMPSON 406-1231





townhouse priced to sell 2BR/2.5BA, very nice complex. PAT LEGGETT 406-7653





115 TUMBLEWEED DRIVE: \$243,500: This Home has Hand scraped Hardwood floors throughout and tile in Kitchen and Bath. A big in-ground oasis Salt Water Pool with cool decking. Big Back Porch with tiles for great entertaining, big yard with plenty of space for an RV and separate plug in. A Breakfast Nook and Formal Dining Room with extra Molding. Master bath with Jacuzzi tub and his and hers closets. Tiled back splash in kitchen. Gutters on outside. One of the owners is a licensed REALTOR in the State of AL. BOB KUYKENDALL 334-369-8534

DIRECTIONS: Rucker Blvd to left into Legacy Farms Subdivision, left on Tumbleweed Drive, House on left, watch for sign.



**509 PRIVATE ROAD 1106: \$505,000:** Absolutely AWESOME custom built one owner home that spared nothing in the planning. The main house features four or five bedrooms with three full and two half baths, along with grandroom, kitchen/breakfast, master suite on the main level, and so much more. The guest house consisting of 960 square feet of heated and cooled area features a full suite with bedroom, bath, kitchen, living room and laundry. There is an exercise room with its own entrance and half bath. Not to mention pool, screened porch and deck. **EVELYN HITCH 406-3436** 

DIRECTIONS: Highway 167N and turn right on County Road 157 before Hunter Ridge S/D, then left on Private 1106. Property is on the left.

**DECEMBER 15, 2016** 

# SECARMY:

## Equality, inclusivity not experiments, but American values



Secretary of the Army Eric Fanning provided keynote remarks for the National Forum for Asian American and Pacific Islander Military Members and Veterans Dec. 5 at the Women's in Military Service to America memorial in Arlington National Cemetery, Va.

By C. Todd Lopez Army News Service

WASHINGTON — For more than 150 years, almost as soon as men and women from Asia began arriving in the United States, they began defending the United States, said Army Secretary Eric Fanning.

"Asian Americans and Pacific islanders have contributed to the power of our example and the example of our power. It's a tradition that dates back to the Civil War," Fanning told his audience during keynote remarks for the National Forum for Asian American and Pacific Islander Military Members and Veterans Dec. 5.

The event, which was held at the Women's in Military Service to America memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, was sponsored by the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, a commission that was restored in 2009 by President

Obama.

"This initiative by the president is to support military members and veterans in all of our diverse groups, particularly in the Asian-American and Pacific Islander demographic," explained Ravi Chaudhary, a member of the commission.

According to Chaudhary, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are the largest and fastest growing demographic in the nation.

"As this demographic grows, so too are the men and women who are raising their right hand to serve," he said. "This forum is about serving them, giving them a voice, and ensuring that both the Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs hear their voice and take a look at policies going forward."

The day-long event included panels on the future of diversity and inclusion in the DOD. Speakers discussed the successes

SEE VALUES, PAGE B4

## 82nd CAB seeks to raise safety awareness

Sgt. Steven Galimore 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs

Fort Bragg, N.C. — The 2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade hosted a safety awareness training event at York Theater on Fort Bragg Nov. 18.

The event brought together leadership and civilian Aviation professionals as part of a discussion panel to

Among those guests was retired Master Sgt. Cheryl Stearns, an Aviator who is considered to be the most successful skydiver in the world.

Stearns is no stranger to Fort Bragg. She entered the Army in 1977 and became the first female member of the elite parachuting team, the Golden Knights.

The discussion

panel presented

helpful information

to Soldiers about

communicating with

our leadership and

to include safety

awareness in our

daily activities."

SPC. LAWONDA MARTIN,

TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST

To many, airborne and Aviation operations are inherently considered high-risk military professions. "I've been jumping for 44 years and I nearly died one year ago getting struck by a car while riding my bicycle," said Stearns.

As with any military operation, there is no room for complacency, she said.

"My head was

in the clouds and I wasn't paying attention to the traffic on the road," said Stearns. "I almost lost my life being complacent."

As a UH-60 Black Hawk air crew, communication is essential among crew chiefs and pilots, she said.

"Usually one bad apple on a team creates tension amongst other members," said Stearns. "Communicate with your leadership about individuals that may have a problem to turn around the bad to good, and build team cohesion."

Among those in attendance was Spc. Lawonda Martin, an information technology specialist with 2nd

"The discussion panel presented helpful information to Soldiers about communicating with our leadership and to include safety awareness in our daily activities," said Martin.

Other members of the discussion panel included

SEE SAFETY, PAGE B4



Lt. Col. Travis McIntosh, commander, 2nd AHB, 82nd CAB presents a 'Finest Assault Battalion' plaque to distinguished guests at the safety stand down Nov 18.



Soldiers with 127th Engineer Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team prepare to connect a high-density load to the belly of an UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter assigned to 82nd Combat Aviation, 82nd Airborne Division during a sling load training event at Latham pick-up zone on

## CHALLENGING MISSION

25th CAB assists Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency operation

By Staff Sgt. Roy Woo Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

ISLAND OF OAHU, Hawaii -In the early morning hours of June 23, 1945, three Navy pilots left Naval Air Station Barbers Point as part of an F6F-3 night familiarization flight.

The three aircraft were in formation as they followed the coastline until the group inadvertently separated as the pilots attempted to avoid a light overcast. Only two out of the three pilots returned to the air sta-

Fast forward just over 71 years, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency conducted a recovery mission for the third aircraft that never returned. This particular crash site, located in the Ko'olau Mountain range on the northeast side of Oahu, is considered one of the most challenging missions to date for the agency.

Due to strict environmental policy concerns and the elevation of the crash site, the decision was made to have two teams with nine personnel each to support the recovery. One team would operate in the Ko'olau Mountain as the dig team and the other would operate the screening stations located near Wheeler Army Airfield. With the operational support of the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, DPAA was able to conduct the sling-load operation.

The excavation team, called the mountain team, was inserted into the crash site by a jungle-penetrator - a piece of equipment used in rescue operations to hoist personnel to safety - that was mounted on a UH-60 Black Hawk. After insertion, they



A 25th Combat Aviation Brigade UH-60 Black Hawk conducts jungle penetration operations for a Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency operation recently in the Kualua Mountains of Oahu, Hawaii.

through rain storms and harsh conditions such as dense vegetation, steep inclines, extremely wet terrain and thick mud.

The progress of the team was best explained by DPAA archaeologist and mountain team recovery leader, Kimberly Maeyama.

"From an excavation perspective, we averaged approximately one, 2x2-meter excavation unit every other day, four days a week, for eight weeks," said Maeyama.

The mountain team was challenged with moving buckets of dirt over a distance more than 100 meters with environmental obstacles along the way. With safety and efficiency in mind, the excavation team set up pulleys and climbing ropes to transfer buckets from the dig site to the landing zone for packaging and pick up. The team was successful in creating a bucket line that was able to

worked four days each week on site transfer three buckets at a time using a sliding system and personnel in-between transfer points to move buckets from one pulley system to another.

> Once the buckets of dirt arrived at the landing zone, personnel poured the buckets into bundles and prepared them for sling-load operations.

> "We estimated daily (the amount of dirt coming in)," said Capt. David Lochart, excavation team leader. "If we got two sling loads out in the morning and in the afternoon, we could move 12,000 to 14,000 pounds of dirt.'

> Upon arriving to the mountain site, the 25th CAB would hover over the landing zone while personnel of the mountain team would hook the slingload to the long lines that were attached to the Black Hawk. The slingload was carried 20 minutes to the

> > SEE CHALLENGING, PAGE B4

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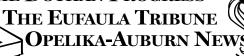
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## **Values**

Continued from Page B1

of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander service members and the challenges they face. Panels also touched on challenges faced by veterans, including posttraumatic stress disorder and the risk of suicide.

Secretary Fanning opened the forum by highlighting the importance of diversity in the armed forces and went on to point out how recent policy changes have increased the opportunity for all Americans to serve and, as a result, strengthened the military by bringing aboard an array of diverse viewpoints.

leadership in furthering diversity both the desegregation of the armed forces a full 16 years before the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the military providing equal pay to women 40 years ago, at a time when women were not widely represented in the private-sector workforce.

"When critics said our military was too set in its ways, too big, or too afraid to move forward with change, our men and women in uniform proved them wrong," Fanning said. "In the process, they've proved what's right about our country. Today, when critics say the military is not a place for social experimentation, they may be right. But equality and in-He cited as examples of the military's clusivity are not experiments, they are

American values."

Today, while the U.S. military is growing smaller, it is still challenged with deterring Russian aggression alongside European allies, providing stability in the Pacific, and serving as the backbone for the nation's counter-terrorism mission, Fanning said.

"Our Soldiers alone are serving in more than 140 countries worldwide," he said. "For our Army and military to accomplish this diverse set of missions, we need our men and women in uniform to harness the power of diverse teams. We need experience, critical thinking, and creativity in our force, but most importantly, we need teams of people who think

differently from one another and yet are joined together in common cause."

Fanning said the strongest Army, and the strongest military, will represent the entire U.S. population, regardless of faith, race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

"When the people of the world see the ability of the American people to join together, reflecting every party of this country, and every thread of our American fabric, within our military, they see the power of our example," he said. "And it is both the power of our example and the example of our power, which makes our military the most powerful fighting force in history."

## Safety

Continued from Page B1

Army veteran, J. David Johnson, currently an American Airlines pilot, and Mike Lloyd, an aviation technician at Tri-Cities Regional Airport.

Like Stearns, Johnson and Lloyd's wealth of experience helped to reiterate the importance of incorporating safety into everyday activities, on and off duty.

The safety stand down concluded with an award presentation for the distinguished guests, presented by Lt. Col. Travis McIntosh, commander of the 2nd AHB.

"This safety stand down day is one way to help our unit, but also assist the individual Soldiers in translating this knowledge to their families to practice safety," said McIntosh.



PHOTO BY SGT. STEVEN GALIMORE

Students from the DeGlopper Air Assault School, VXIII Airborne Corps, safely extend ropes for classmates to rappel from an UH-60 Black Hawk assigned to 2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade at Fort Bragg, N.C., Nov. 17.

## Challenging =

Continued from Page B1

screening site where the screen team prepared to receive the bundled dirt. Each sling-load of eight to 14 bundles, weighing at approximately three to 4,500 pounds, was transferred to the drying stations to be screened.

The hardest condition for the screen team was the unpredictable weather and the efforts to dry the excavated

dirt as the amount of incoming dirt was greater than the dirt screened. However, the team's effort to work as quickly as possible did not mean going through the dirt at the screens without keeping a keen eye for possible evidence including pieces of bone.

"The bundles we received were mud," said Megan Ingvoldstad, DPAA archaeologist and screen team recovery leader. "We needed to dry it out as quickly as possible so that we could visualize its contents. We didn't want to mistake any sort of small bone as fragment and rock."

"We processed about 250,000 pounds of excavated dirt," said Capt. Joseph Lewandowski, screen team leader. "It's a lot of dirt we have to go through looking for the most miniscule, tiny items we can find in order to complete the identification as well as completing the process of returning whatever we can find to the family."





**DECEMBER 15, 2016** 

# IT'S ALL FUN, GAMES

ACS, AAFES team up to help single parents

By Nathan Pfau

Army Flier Staff Writer

Being a single parent can become overwhelming at times, especially when combined with the challenges associated with Army life, but Army Community Service does what it can to help make things a little easier for single parents.

Through a Fort Rucker Community Health Promotions Council Social Resiliency Work Group initiative, ACS hosted its Single Parent Family Game Night Dec. 8 at the post exchange food court where singleparent families were invited to enjoy a night of board games, food and fun, according to Joy McCormick, ACS new parent support program social worker.

"We wanted to do more for the families of our single parents, so we thought of several different options of what to do. The game night seemed to be a big hit every year, so we decided to do this for them," she said. "We invited them to come out, sit down, and enjoy each other's company and play board games with each other. This is great because it promotes family interaction and the socialization is really good for the families."

For one of the parents, Misty Smith, the night was a welcome event that she was able to bring her children to for some good, old-fashioned family fun.

"This gives my children a chance to mingle with other children," she said. "When they're at the house, they act like they don't like each other, but when they're here there are extra things they can do, and they get the chance to interact with other students and children.

"I appreciate this and I love the programs that they provide, especially the ones we're able to be a part of," she continued. "I



Family members enjoy a game of Hungry Hungry Hippos during Single Parent Family Game Night at the post exchange Dec. 8.

really enjoy it, plus they feed us, so I give them two thumbs up."

Staff Sgt. John Payne, B Company, 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment, is also a single parent who attended the event, but did so as a volunteer. Payne's son lives with his mother in Washington State, so he knows firsthand the difficulties of being a single parent and decided to offer up his time to help other families.

"I just want to be able to help out other single parents because my boy isn't here right now and I know what it's like," he said.

Food and beverages were provided by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, and family members were also provided with a free board game to take home, as well as movie vouchers for a free movie at the post theater, said McCormick.

Although the free gifts are a nice way to show family members that they're appreciated, it's the services and time spent that is the real gift they're able to provide, added the social worker.

"I think a lot of times, especially during this time of year, a lot of things are family oriented, and sometimes with the military you can get so busy that there aren't a lot of activities for single parents, so we want to make sure to be able to do something special with them and allow them this fun time together," she said.



Myquell Smith, family member, enjoys a game of Battleship against Staff Sgt. John Payne, B Company, 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment, during Single Parent Family Game Night.





### Local children get early visit with Ole St. Nick

By Nathan Pfau

Army Flier Staff Writer

As Christmas gets closer and Santa gets ready to fill his sleigh for his trip around the world, Fort Rucker children and families visited with the man in red to personally fill him in on their wishes for the holiday season.

The Landing hosted its annual Breakfast with Santa Saturday where families enjoyed a meal and spent some one-onone time with Old Saint Nick, according to Kaylee Mikuteit, Fort Rucker Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation marketing and promotions coordinator.

People were treated to a buffet-style breakfast, which included eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, grits, hash browns, fruit, pastries, juice and coffee.

W01 Joseph Martin, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment, came out with his family to enjoy the opportunity to create memories with his children.

"Santa is a big deal to kids," he said. "I remember growing up how much he meant to me and what it felt like to be able to see him, so I want my children to have those same, happy memories.

"It's great that we get to come out here, have some breakfast and let them talk to Santa because it really does start to make the holidays feel like the holidays," he continued. "I feel like I'm going to try and hold on to these traditions as long as I can because before you know it, my kids will be grown and I'll be able to look back on things like this."

Mikuteit said the day is an opportunity to bring families together and spend quality time with one another, which is exactly the atmosphere organizers hoped to create.

"Oftentimes, it is hard for families to take time out of their busy schedules to come together and focus on what's most important – each other," she said. "Events like (this) allow families to step back from their busy lives and relax as a whole.

"The holiday season is about sharing laughter, spreading positivity and taking care of one another," she continued. "The simplest way to do this is by enjoying quality time together. It is a chance for family and friends to come together, create memories and celebrate all of the components that the holiday season encompasses."

For Judica Preston, military spouse, those memories and opportunities are what make the holiday season.

"Christmas isn't Christmas without a visit to Santa – it's that simple," she said. "I don't care how old I get or how old my children get, I'm going to keep this tradition going as long as I can because even though there might come a point where they stop believing in him, it's more about the way it makes us feel to be around each other this time of year, and seeing Santa always just a makes me feel good and happy."

For Santa, who was brought to life by Jesse Hixson, retired military, it's the chance to make memories for the children and families that has him traveling all over to do what he does.

"(These children) are why I enjoy doing this," he said. "This is my fourth year doing this and the kids are just happy when they see me. I just enjoy working with them and making them happy."

Kerrigan Ross, military family member, visits with Santa during Breakfast with Santa at The Landing Saturday.

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

#### Right Arm Night

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

#### Photography contest

The Army is holding its digital photography contest now through Jan. 31. There are two divisions: active-duty military and authorized patrons. Within each division, there are seven categories: animals, design elements, digital darkroom, military life, nature and landscapes, people and still life. All categories include monochrome and color photographs. First-place winners will receive \$300, second-place winners will receive \$200 and third-place winners will receive \$100. Categories will also have an honorable mention award. Participants must complete the online profile and submit photos of the artwork between now and 11:50 p.m. CST Jan. 31 at the contest website: https://cloud. mwr.army.mil/apptrac. For contest rules, visit: https://rucker.armymwr.com/us/rucker/ ft-rucker-events/united-states-army-photography-contest?eID=607750.

For more information, call 255-9020.

#### **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 Jan. 5. People who attend will meet in Rm. 350 at 8:45 a.m. to fill out paperwork before going to the multipurpose room. The class will end at about noon. 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.

#### **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.

#### Monster Jam day trip

MWR Central will host a day trip to the Monster Jam Triple Series in Birmingham Jan. 7. The trip features pre-race pit passes and seats at the event. Trucks expected to be at the event include Grave Digger, Zombie, Scooby Doo, El Toro Loco, N.E.A. and Monster Mutt Rottweiler. Cost of the trip is \$57 per person. This includes transportation, pre-race pit pass and ticket to the show. The buses will depart from the Bldg. 5700 parking lot at 6:30 a.m. and return around 6 p.m.

For more information or to make a reservation, call 255-2997. For people who would rather go to the event on their own, MWR Central will also sell tickets for just the show for \$40. All tickets are for Jan. 7 at 1 p.m. Pre-race pit pass is included in the price of the ticket and is from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Hearing protection is highly recommended for this show, according to organizers.

#### Bahamas cruise

MWR Central is offering people spots on a cruise to The Bahamas during spring break, March 25-20. People need to sign up for the cruise by Jan. 23. People will set sail on Carnival Elation for a five-night cruise and MWR Central will provide transportation to and from Jacksonville, Florida. Cruise itinerary: Saturday, depart from Jacksonville; Sunday, Freeport, Bahamas; Monday, Nassau, Bahamas; Tuesday, Half Moon Cay, Bahamas; Wednesday, fun day at sea; Thursday, arrive back at Jacksonville. Prices range from \$520-660, and a \$150 deposit is required to hold a reservation. People can make payments through the MWR Central office. Final payments will be due on or before Jan. 23.

For more information, including exact costs and room options, call 255-2997.

#### Winter craft

The Center Library will host a winter craft session Jan. 10 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for chil-



## **Girls Night Out**

The Landing will host Girls Night Out Jan. 20 at The Landing from 6-9 p.m. for an evening full of fashion, fun and prizes, according to organizers. Prize drawings will be held throughout the evening, with a grand prize drawing at 9 p.m. - people must be present to win all prizes. The event will be open to the public for women ages 18 and older. Tickets are on sale for \$10 at MWR Central, The Landing Zone, The Landing Catering Office, and the Coffee Zones at Lyster Army Health Clinic and The Landing Zone. For more information, call 255-0769. Pictured is a scene from the March event.

dren ages 3-11. Light refreshments will be served. Space will be limited to the first 40 children to register. The event will be Exceptional Family Member Program friendly and open to authorized patrons.

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

#### Opening of new library rooms

The Center Library will host its grand opening of the new children's and teens' rooms Jan. 11 from 4-5 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call 255-3885.

#### **Thrift Savings Plan 101**

The Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program will present a Thrift Savings Plan 101 Seminar Jan. 11 from 6-7 p.m. in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, in Rm. 282. The seminar will include a discussion of the significant aspects of the TSP, including: why invest with the TSP, how to start contributing, risk tolerance, traditional and Roth accounts, TSP funds and diversification. The discussion will be facilitated by accredited financial counselors. Pre-registration is required by Jan. 10. Free child care will be available with registration.

For more information and to register, call 255-3949 or 255-9631. Registration can also be completed by going to http://rucker. armymwr.com/us/rucker/programs/armycommunity-service.

#### **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 Thursday of each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Both clubs are open to authorized patrons. For more information, call 255-3885.

#### Family emergency preparedness

Army Community Service will host family emergency preparedness training Jan. 12 from 8 a.m. to noon in Bldg. 8950, The Commons. When it comes to emergencies and disasters, it's not a question of if, but when, according to emergency preparedness officials. This class is designed to help families be as prepared as they can be for emergencies that could impact them for a lifetime.

For more information and to register, call 255-9578 or 255-3161. Pre-registration is required three days in advance. Free childcare will be available by calling 255-3564 in advance.

#### **Girls Night Out**

The Landing will host Girls Night Out Jan. 20 at The Landing from 6-9 p.m. for an evening full of fashion, fun and prizes, according to organizers. Prize drawings will be held throughout the evening, with a grand prize drawing at 9 p.m. – people must be present to





#### Saturday, January 7

Join MWR Central for a day trip to the Monster Jam Triple Series in Birmingham. Alabama. Cost of this trip is \$57 per person and includes transportation, pre-race pit pass, and ticket to the show. MWR Central will also sell tickets for just the show in the office for \$40.

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win all prizes. The event will be open to the public for women ages 18 and older. Tickets are on sale for \$10 at MWR Central, The Landing Zone, The Landing Catering Office, and the Coffee Zones at Lyster Army Health

Clinic and The Landing Zone. For more information, call 255-0769.

#### Newcomers welcome

A newcomers welcome is scheduled for Jan. 20 from 8:30-11 a.m. at The Landing. Active-duty military, spouses, foreign students, Army civilians and family members are encouraged by post officials to attend the newcomers orientation. A free light breakfast and Starbucks coffee will be served. For free childcare, people can register their 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

#### RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 1 FORT

**Thursday, December 15** 

Friday, December 16 

**Rogue One: A Star Wars Story** (PG-13) ......4 & 7 p.m.

Saturday, December 17

**Rogue One: A Star Wars Story** (*PG-13*) ......4 & 7 p.m.

**Sunday, December 18** Rogue One: A Star Wars Story (PG-13) ......1 & 4 p.m.

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

## Lieutenant making sure inaugural parade is 'dress-right-dress'

By C. Todd Lopez Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A native of Tecumseh, Michigan, 1st Lt. Tyler J. Lopez joined the Army for the discipline he craved and the direction he knew it would bring to his

Today, he finds himself in the nation's capital, assigned on a temporary duty to Joint Task Force-National Capital Region in support of the 58th presidential inauguration, which will take place Jan. 20. The task force is charged with coordinating the military ceremonial support for the inaugural period.

Lopez is working as part of the joint planning team for the inaugural parade. He's in charge of the route control portion of the parade and what he calls the parade's "merge point."

"If you think of a parade, there's going to be different elements," he explained. "We'll have anything from military marchers, bands and all that good stuff, to horses and floats. The merge point is where everything comes together in the parade to actually get in file order."

On inauguration day, or "I-Day," he said, he will be responsible for making sure that, at the merge point, everything looks "dress-right-dress."

Right now, Lopez said, not all of the task force's service members are on board. The full contingent will arrive later. For now, they're still in the planning stages of meetings, slides and briefings.

Over the next few weeks, however, task force participants will pick up the pace with more hands-on tasks, like a windshield tour of the parade route and a map exercise that will run task force participants through scenarios on working with the civilians who will attend the parade.

Jan. 15, just five days before I-Day, there will be a "full-blown Department of Defense rehearsal" to get ready for the main event.

For Lopez, mission success on the day of the inauguration will mean ensuring that "everything that happens between the start point of the parade and the release point of the parade looks dress-right-dress [and] ... that the president, [who will be] watching in the reviewing stand, is proud of what he sees."

#### **TECUMSEH, MICHIGAN**

Lopez calls the city of Tecumseh, near Ann Arbor, where he grew up with his brother and sister, "a small city, a beautiful city." His dad was one of 18 children, so Lopez has a good number of aunts and

"They all live generally in that same area," he said. "So Christmas and Thanksgiving are kind of big events – everybody comes back to town."

Several of Lopez's uncles also served in the military, including one who was killed in Vietnam. Lopez has visited the Vietnam Wall in Washington to see his uncle's name there. Back in Michigan, though, he said, there wasn't much of a military influence. None of his family enlisted voluntarily, he

many military-age Americans to enlist, Lopez was in the fifth grade at the time, too young to fully grasp what had happened. So unlike many who joined the



First Lt. Tyler J. Lopez, right, poses for a photograph with fellow officer 1st Lt. Tanner Pearce.

Army since that day, the event had little cut short at four months. While there, he impact on his decision to join.

Even when he was in high school, he said, it didn't occur to him to enlist. But when his two best friends went off to join the Marine Corps after graduation, that did have an impact on him.

"I think I envied that a little bit," he

It wasn't until 2009, during his freshman year in college, that he finally became interested in the Army. At the University of Michigan, a friend exposed him to the Reserve Officer Training Corps. Lopez said during a career day at the school, he stopped by the ROTC table to talk with Army representatives about opportunities.

"I was kind of searching for something to grab onto and drive my life a little bit," he remembered. "I liked the idea that ROTC is all about building leadership, building decision-making, building how you handle people and Soldiers. I like discipline, discipline in life and in decisions. That kind of background for me tied in well with the Army."

Lopez also liked the idea of being a

"I like having responsibility, making decisions, and that feeling when people take your decisions and then act upon them," he said. "The Army kind of gave me a path to have that ... and I never looked back."

In 2013, just weeks after graduating from college, he was off to the Basic Officer Leaders Course. He is now assigned permanently to Fort Eustis, Virginia, where he serves as a training officer with the 53rd Transportation Battalion Movement Control.

He handles ammunition, land and range thing they need.

was in charge of an entry control point for a month in Kandahar and later volunteered for another position in Bagram as a contracting officer.

In Afghanistan, Lopez briefly experienced only the tail end of a conflict that he had watched unfold on television during most of his youth.

Lopez's time in uniform, he believes, will be defined not by the conflicts in Iraq or Afghanistan, but instead by the Army's preparations for the next conflict, one that will likely be very different. The next conflict could be with a nation that can match the United States -- a near-peer competitor

"What's going to define my career in the Army is how we take Soldiers who have fought the counterinsurgency their entire career and transition them back to focusing on standard armies ... countries that have air power, land power and sea power," Lopez said.

#### MAKING A MARK AS A LEADER

Right now, Lopez is defining mission success according to his current responsibilities. He wants his part of the inaugural parade to go off without a hitch.

The judges of his performance at the inaugural parade in January will be the hundreds of thousands of spectators who line the streets of the nation's capital. But for his Army career, success will involve

Bringing People Together Thru Faith

Career success for Lopez means being the best leader he can be. The judges of that will be the Soldiers he leads. Ultimately, they will be the ones who will determine whether he's become the kind of officer he wants to be.

"I didn't do this because I wanted to have some fun. I joined because I think I have something to give," he said. "And I hope that when my career is over, whenever that may be, that the Soldiers that I led can say that I gave that to them: a proper leadership."

Lopez's duties in Washington will end sometime in early February, he said. After that, he will return home to Fort Eustis. In April, he will go to the Maneuver Captains Career Course. And after that, he said, he hopes the Army's will have bigger, better leadership opportunities for him to pur-

"I would kind of like to see the more traditional Army side," he said. "Fort Hood, Fort Bragg, Fort Campbell, and getting into like a normal brigade combat team element, and see the tactical side of the Army a little more.

"That's what I'm hoping for. I'd kind of like to maybe get to Special Operations Command, or U.S. Army Special Operations Command, and kind of try to get one of the Special Forces units and try to be a group support battalion member over



## **ASF** hosts free series now through May 6

Alabama Shakespeare Festival Press Release

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival will host its free Theatre in the Mind series on various Saturdays now through 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 dramaturge.

Schedule: 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.



# WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

#### **ANDALUSIA**

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

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

#### **DALEVILLE**

**ONGOING** — 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

**ONGOING-DEC. 31** — The Wiregrass Museum of Art hosts its fall exhibitions Southern Abstraction and Firmly Planted in the Black Belt - the Art of Bud Harris Wednesdays-Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Private tours and activities can be arranged by appointment on Mondays and Tuesdays. For more information, visit http://www.wiregrassmuseum.org/ or call 334-794-3871.

**ONGOING** — Disabled American Veterans Dothan Chapter 87 maintains a service officer at its office at 545 West Main St. (Mixon Business Center) Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The chapter will assist veterans who were injured or disabled while in military service. DAV service officers help veterans and their spouses with disability compensation claims and other veterans benefits. All veteran services provided are free of charge.

For more information, call 836-0217, Ext. 123, or send an email to davchapter 87@gmail.com.

#### **ENTERPRISE**

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

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

ONGOING — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6683,

John Wiley Brock Post monthly membership meetings for the VFW Post 6683 and Auxiliary are on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the post headquarters building located at 2615 Coffee County Road 537. The post mailing address is P.O. Box 311752 Enterprise, AL 36330. For more information, call 334-464-1171 or the auxiliary at 334-464-2222. The post also has a Facebook site at vfw post 6683.

#### **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

**TODAY** — Disabled American Veterans Chapter 99 will conduct its annual Fun Time get-together at 6 p.m. in the New Brockton Senior center, located one block behind the police station. Finger food and soft drinks will be served free of charge to DAV members and their families, and other interested persons are invited. For more information, call 334-347-0114.

**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

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

**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.

#### **PINCKARD**

ONGOING — The public is invited to the Cross Country Workshop every Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Pinckard United Methodist Church.

For more information, call 983-3064.

#### SAMSON

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

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

#### TROY

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

For more information, call Janet Motes at 808-8500.

#### **WIREGRASS AREA**

**ONGOING** — 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.

**JAN. 5-6** — **D**isabled American Veterans annual service officer certification training will be at the Auburn Hotel in Auburn. For more information, call 334-406-6700.

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

**ONGOING** — Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, 970 County Road 528, Elba, offers Sunday school the first, second, third and fourth Sundays of the month at 9:45 a.m., and worship the first and third Sundays of the month at 11 a.m. Bible study is Wednesdays after the first and third Sundays from 6-7 p.m. For more information, call 334-774-1738.

## **Beyond Briefs**

#### **Montgomery Christmas Parade**

The 2016 Capital City Christmas Parade is scheduled for Dec. 16 from 6-8:30 p.m. in Montgomery. The parade will run from the Alabama State Capitol, down Dexter Avenue to the Court Square Fountain.

For more information, call 334-625-2118 or visit www.montgomeryal.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/2417/190?cu rm=12&cury=2016.

#### 'The Great Russian Nutcracker'

The Moscow Ballet will perform its production of "The Great Russian Nutcracker" Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m. at the Montgomery Performing Arts Centre. Tickets run from \$28 to \$175. Tickets can be purchased through Ticketmaster or at the MPAC Box Office.

For more information, call 334-481-5100 or visit www.mpaconline.org/events/.

#### Montgomery New Year's Eve

Montgomery will host its Downtown Countdown New Year's Eve Street Celebration Dec. 31 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Commerce Street Entertainment District. The event will feature live entertainment,

plus fireworks and confetti once the clock strikes midnight.

For more information, call 334-625-2100 or visit www.funinmontgomery.com.

#### Panama City Beach New Year's

Panama City Beach, Florida, will host its New Year's Eve Beach Ball Drop festivities Dec. 31.

The festivities will kick off with a family celebration along the boardwalk on Pier Park Drive. The event will feature face painting, costumed characters and exclusive giveaways, as well as live entertainment. At 8 p.m., local dignitaries will release 10,000 inflated beach balls along Pier Park's beachfront boardwalk. This awe-inspiring activity, heralded as the nation's only family beach ball drop, will be followed by a dazzling fireworks display, according to organizers.

At 8:30 p.m., the official countdown celebration will begin with live musical performances throughout the evening. Just before midnight, attendees will countdown to 2017 as an 800-pound LED lighted beach ball descends nearly 100 feet, followed by a second fireworks display.

The ninth annual New Year's Eve Beach Ball Drop at is free and open to the public. For more information, visit http://www.

visitpanamacitybeach.com/events/new-years-eve-beach-ball-drop/.

#### **Christmas Lights Festival**

The Montgomery Zoo has transformed into a Winter Wonderland sparkling with thousands of lights and festive decorations during its annual Christmas Lights Festival through Dec. 31. People can enjoy the lights by walking through the zoo, taking the train or riding the Zoofari Skylift Ride. Santa mamkes regular appearances and the event also includes live nightly entertainment, hot chocolate and fresh baked cookies. Regular night time admission is \$15. Ticket includes entry and one Christmas Lights Festival train ride.

For more information, call (334) 240-4900 or visit montgomeryzoo.com/special-events.html#12-2016.

#### Governor's Mansion open house

The Alabama Governor's Mansion Christmas Open House is scheduled for Dec. 19 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Admission is free and tickets are available at the Governor's Mansion Gift Shop.

For more information, visit governor. alabama.gov/governors-mansion/mansion-tours/. The mansion is located at 1142 S. Perry St., Montgomery.

#### 'A Christmas Carol'

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery presents its production of "A Christmas Carol," adapted by Geoffrey Sherman and based on the novel by Charles Dickens, at various times now through Dec. 24. Festival officials said the production is recommended for ages four and up.

Ticket prices vary based on play, date and availability of seating. For more information, call 334-271-5353 or visit http://www.asf.net/.

#### Civil rights walking tour

People are invited to explore Montgomery's history by walking from different historical sites to learn about profound moments from slavery, the Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement, according organizers. The tour highlights pioneers and unsung heroes who contributed to a new era. Walking tours are held Saturdays and Sundays at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. Tours start from The Village Gallery, 107 S. Court Street. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and younger, and children 4 and younger are admitted for free. To book a tour, call 334-595-9243.

For more information, visit www. facebook.com/Civil-Rights-Montgomery-996880590368424/?fref=ts.

# SECARMY:

## Equality, inclusivity not experiments, but American values

By C. Todd Lopez Army News Service

WASHINGTON — For more than 150 years, almost as soon as men and women from Asia began arriving in the United States, they began defending the United States, said Army Secretary Eric Fanning.

"Asian Americans and Pacific islanders have contributed to the power of our example and the example of our power. It's a tradition that dates back to the Civil War," Fanning told his audience during keynote remarks for the National Forum for Asian American and Pacific Islander Military Members and Veterans Dec. 5.

The event, which was held at the Women's in Military Service to America memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, was sponsored by the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, a commission that was restored in 2009 by President Obama.

"This initiative by the president is to support military members and veterans in all of our diverse groups, particularly in the Asian-American and Pacific Islander demographic," explained Ravi Chaudhary, a member of the commission.

According to Chaudhary, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are the largest and fastest growing demographic in the nation.

"As this demographic grows, so too are the men and women who are raising their right hand to serve," he said. "This forum is about serving them, giving them a voice, and ensuring that both the Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs hear their voice and take a look at policies going forward."

The day-long event included panels on the future of diversity and inclusion in the DOD. Speakers discussed the successes of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander service members and the challenges they face. Panels also touched on challenges faced by veterans, including post-traumatic stress disorder and the risk of suicide.

Secretary Fanning opened the forum by highlighting the importance of diversity in the armed forces and went on to point out how recent policy changes have increased the opportunity for all Americans to serve and, as a result, strengthened the military by bringing aboard an array of diverse viewpoints.

He cited as examples of the military's leadership in furthering diversity both the desegregation of the armed forces a full 16 years before the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the military providing equal pay to women 40 years ago, at a time when women were not widely represented in the private-sector workforce.

"When critics said our military was too set in its ways, too big, or too afraid to move forward with change, our men and women in uniform proved them wrong," Fanning said. "In the process, they've proved what's right about our country. Today, when critics say the military is not a place for social experimentation, they may be right. But equality and inclusivity are not experiments, they are American values."

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Secretary of the Army Eric Fanning provided keynote remarks for the National Forum for Asian American and Pacific Islander Military Members and Veterans Dec. 5 at the Women's in Military Service to America memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Today, while the U.S. military is growing smaller, it is still challenged with deterring Russian aggression alongside European allies, providing stability in the Pacific, and serving as the backbone for the nation's counter-terrorism mission, Fanning said.

"Our Soldiers alone are serving in more than 140 countries worldwide," he said. "For our Army and military to accomplish this diverse set of missions, we need our men and women in uniform to harness the power of diverse teams. We need experience, criti-

cal thinking, and creativity in our force, but most importantly, we need teams of people who think differently from one another and yet are joined together in common cause."

Fanning said the strongest Army, and the strongest military, will represent the entire U.S. population, regardless of faith, race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or gender iden-

"When the people of the world see the ability of the American people to join together, reflecting every party of this country,

and every thread of our American fabric, within our military, they see the power of our example," he said. "And it is both the power of our example and the example of our power, which makes our military the most powerful fighting force in history."

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#### 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

#### Wings Chapel, Bldg. 6036

5 p.m. Catholic Mass

(Saturday)

(Saturday)

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 Chapel, 9 a.m.

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and 6 p.m.



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**DECEMBER 15, 2016** 

## Army sinks Navy for 1st time in 14 years

**By Sean Kimmons** Army News Service

BALTIMORE, Md. — Wearing a short-sleeve T-shirt in the frigid cold with his face painted black and gold, the cadet joined other West Point classmates in taunting their rival midshipmen Saturday before the Army-Navy game.

"We beat Temple! We beat Temple!" they belted, referring to the Army's first win of the season against the Temple Owls, a team that managed to beat Navy in the American Athletic Conference championship game a week before.

The midshipmen waited until it was their turn and then quickly responded with a chant of their own: "14 years! 14 years!" – the number of years since the last time Army won against Navy on the gridiron.

"This is an unforgettable experience," Alek Kauffman, the cadet leading the Army chant, said about the annual game. "It's my favorite day of the whole year."

A few hours later, the day got much better for Kauffman and his fellow cadets when the Army sneaked by with a 21-17 victory over their archrival.

"It still doesn't even feel like it's real," said Edgar Poe, a senior wide receiver with the Black Knights, following the game. "People were always talking about the [losing] streak. We're starting our own streak now."

Swarms of cadets emptied the



NAVY PHOTO BY PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS DANIAN C DOUGLAS

West Point cadets celebrate after the Army-Navy Game at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore Saturday.

bleachers and rushed onto the field after the final seconds ticked away. Army players, like senior quarterback Ahmad Bradshaw, were caught up in the mayhem.

"I honestly just went blank [when] I saw a bunch of cadets running at me," he said. "It was an amazing feeling. We haven't won in 14 years so they were waiting for that to happen."

"They took my helmet," Poe chimed in, grinning. "I have no idea where it is.'

At the annual event, known as

"America's game," the pageantry of marching cadets and midshipmen joined a sellout crowd of loyal fans who fervidly cheered as the teams faced each other for the 117th time.

"It's one of the greatest rivalries of sports history," observed Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley before the game. "But at the end of the day, no matter who wins or loses, these young cadets and midshipmen will all get commissioned as officers in the United States military, and shoulder-toshoulder they will fight and destroy

the enemies of the United States of America when the time comes."

This year, the Army football team donned special uniforms honoring the 82nd Airborne Division paratroopers of World War II. Their jerseys sported the 82nd patch, while their helmets were emblazoned with symbols of individual units in the division, along with a lattice design similar to the netting covering of the helmets worn by the paratroopers during the war.

Three days after the 75th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attacks, which catapulted the nation into the war, Milley said, it was an appropriate time to honor the 82nd, the Army's only paratrooper division.

"We wanted to single out the 82nd as a tribute to Soldiers from World War II who formed the greatest generation," Milley said, adding that each and every Army division is special.

Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth "Rock" Merritt, who jumped into enemy territory with the 82nd during the D-Day invasion, represented the division at the

Walking around gloveless in temperatures in the mid-30s, he shrugged when he was given a pair of gloves to wear.

"This weather is not near as cold as it was in the Battle of the Bulge. I almost froze to death," he later said, referring to the major World War II battle fought during the winter in Belgium. "Today's weather is nothing compared to that."

While attending his first Army-Navy game, the hardy 93-year-old sergeant major wasn't shy about his love for the 82nd, but he also commended today's military.

"For 70-something odd years I've known the 82nd Airborne Division. I think it's the best division in the world," Merritt said. "Of course in all of our armed forces today, we have the best trained and educated officers and noncommissioned officers that our [military] has ever produced."

## Functional fitness mirrors, strengthens common movements

By Jeremy Henderson

Army Flier Staff Writer

Equipment availability continues to grow for functional fitness enthusiasts and new training options are available for anyone interested in utilizing the dedicated space inside the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Cen-

According to Zea Urbiztondo, fitness program specialist, the functional fitness area allows patrons to perform exercises and movements that are multi-planar and multi-joint, mirroring movements that are performed in everyday life.

"You are not restricted to a machine that forces you to perform isolated movements,"

The functional fitness area opened with a few pieces of equipment in December, but has since grown to accommodate a wide range of exercises.

"Right now, there is a 20-yard (area with) artificial turf with six lanes for sprints, tire flips and sled use," Urbiztondo said. "We have a 14-foot rig that houses three adjustable squat racks, multiple height pull-up bars and rings. There are two lifting platforms, two power racks, weighted bars, kettle bells, medicine balls, slam balls, eight rowers, four assault bikes, four spin bikes, sandbags, two 20-foot climbing ropes and two free-standing heavy bags.

"In addition, workouts are posted Monday

through Friday, designed to improve speed, power, agility, strength, mobility and aerobic endurance," she added.

The functional fitness area now contains six Olympic lifting platforms, four power racks, two TRX rigs with suspension units, rogue sleds complete with towing harnesses and ropes, battle ropes, tires for tire flips, plyometric boxes, Brute Force tactical sandbags, and agility equipment, according to Urbiztondo. The indoor artificial turf has also been extended to 65 feet.

"I have conducted 185 unit PT training sessions for 2,658 Soldiers since we first opened the functional fitness area in January," she said. "I am available for instructorled unit PT training both onsite in the physical fitness center or offsite for units that have received BeaverFit fitness boxes. If interested, I can be reached at 255-2296."

Functional fitness may be a new concept for some, but Urbiztondo said its purpose is straightforward and beneficial to Soldiers.

"Functional fitness involves exercises designed to improve an individual's performance of daily tasks and/or activities by training muscles to work together in simulated common, repetitive movement patterns," she said. "It is beneficial because it trains muscles to work simultaneously, safely and efficiently. It also focuses on core stability and injury prevention, preparing the body to perform well in a variety of situations, and improvement of quality of life. When paired



Then-WOC Cody Elzey performs a functional fitness power clean lift using bumper plates.

with tactical training, functional fitness can vastly improve performance as a Soldier."

Urbiztondo is available Mondays-Fridays from 5 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. for any assistance or questions that patrons may have. If there is a piece of equipment or exercise that a patron is interested in, she is available to assist the person in learning about how to use the equipment.

"The biggest thing that a lot of people lose sight of is the quality of their movements," she said. "It is not about how heavy you lift or how fast you move if your form is poor. Too often, people rush to get through their sets and reps and compromise good form in the process.

"Because functional fitness focuses on mirroring every day movements outside the gym, you want to make sure that the quality of your movement inside the gym counts," she added. "By utilizing good solid form when performing exercises with weights, you are training your body to perform the same quality movement in any situation."

For those patrons interested in trying functional fitness training for the first time, Urbiztondo urges them to step outside their comfort zone.

"There is nothing frightening or scary about functional fitness," she said. "You are simply taking things you're doing on a normal basis and adding an element of strength and power to it. Do not be hesitant to step out of your comfort zone because everyone can benefit from functional fitness, regardless of their fitness level."



# OWNITM









1/ 20 1/19/

## **Super** Crossword

## UNSPOKEN BEVERAGE

74 CAT scan

75 Three, in

#### ACROSS potential danger)

- savin'," in a
- 10 Letters after chis 14 Apple variety
- de Mayo 19 Indian
- melodies 21 "Don't say
- 22 Famed flood figure
- 23 Challenges 24 School, in
- France 25 Card game for one
- 27 Start of a riddle 30 Popular Eli
- Lilly brand 31 Sacred vow
- 32 Tidies 33 Riddle.
- part 2 38 Fit bill
- 39 Sodium hydroxide chemically
- "You Got It" singer

18

23

33

38

59 63

82

85

106

111

100 101 102 103

- **40** Lean-(shacks) 41 Octet count
- Bonnie 49 Ghostly spirit

- 52 Trivial lies 53 Riddle,
- part 3 58 Cozy spot 59 Publishes 60 Morales of
- Hollywood 61 Citrate, e.g. 63 Burrito
- topper 64 Riddle. part 4
- 68 Like a king 71 Pupa-to-be 73 Microwave,
- informally 74 Islamic holy city 75 Turn liquid
- 77 Riddle, part 5 82 "— Lama
- Ding Dong" (1961 hit) 83 Like a scornful
  - villain's face " (piano
- classic) 85 Annual sports awards
- 87 TV actress Arthur 88 Roosevelt's terrier
- 90 - West (life jacket) 93 End of the riddle

72

83

94

120

93

- 100 Devotee 104 Tombstone
- lawman 105 Theater area 106 Riddle's answer
- 111 Sent by plane, as a letter 112 Ghostly
- 113 Pop singer Lopez
- 115 Word after a noun, often 116 Snow glider
- 117 "Fear Street author R.L.
- 118 Perfect spots **119** Big ice cream brand
- 120 Old fast jets, for short 121 Finger sound 122 TV "explorer" and others

#### **DOWN**

35

107 108

- 1 Have a role on stage 2 Depend upon, as a decision
- 3 Physically 4 "Blind Willie -" (Bob
- 5 Partner of Herzegovina 6 At no charge
- Dylan song)

- 7 1993 siege site in Texas
- 8 1952 Walt Kelly comic strip collection
  - 9 "The Misfits" actor Eli 10 Swank
  - 11 "Flee, fly!" 12 Off the coast
  - 13 Evening do 14 Out of place 15 Silk pattern
  - 16 RBI king Hank 17 The mating
  - game? 20 Catches sight of, biblically
  - 26 Josh -Ops (CIA mind
  - games) "— ya up to?"
  - 30 Curious pet 34 See 70-Down 35 "Taboo"
  - cable chan. 36 Copy a tiger 37 "Keep dreaming!'
  - 42 Assuming it's necessary 43 Fashion's

channe

25

65 66

96

112

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

50

84

109 110

Armani 44 "Veep" cable

- 45 "Tut" relative
- 46 Flees 47 Perfume from flower petals
- my fault 49 Singer Houston 50 Stocking
- tips **51** 168 in a wk. 53 Car navig. aid
- 54 Man-mouse link 55 Old indoor
- light source 56 "Go back"
- PC key 57 "... we'll a cup o kindness ...
- Burns 62 Deuce beaters
- 64 Lyricist
- 65 Neighbor of Switz. **66** 34th prez
- 67 Lowest tier of a parking garage, perhaps 69 "Further 70 With 34-
- Down, chew out 72 Beetles, e.g. briefly

#### not, lest judged"

- Milan **76** — -been 78 "Judge
- 79 Roe, e.g. 80 Spouts forth
- 81 Biblical kingdom
- 86 "Yes and no" 88 Mink cousins
- 89 Pain-relief pill **90** More
- clouded 91 Insect feeler
- 92 Conceit 94 Careless
- 95 Boring tools 96 Devil's place
- 97 Notable time
- 98 Leaning 99 Afro, e.g. 100 Tequila plant
- 101 Dehydrated 102 Cheerful
- 103 Feet, in verse 107 Cross paths
- 108 Roush and Byrnes 109 Singer
- Simone **110** Don't discard
- 114 Mag. printing 15

42

58

68

98

113

118

122

43

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114

#### by Linda Thistle 3 8 6 1

Just Like Cats & Dogs

I'M WRITING OUT CHRISTMAS CARDS TO ALL OUR LOVED ONES. I SHOULD HAVE SOME LEFT OVER, IF YOU WANT ONE FOR YOUR MOTHER

1. NURSERY RHYMES: What line

follows the rhyme, "Baa, Baa, Black

2. GEOGRAPHY: What river flows through the city of Vienna, Austria?

3. MOVIES: What movie was based

on a play called "Everybody Comes to

4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What did

President William McKinley die from

5. MYTHOLOGY: What was the

6. TELEVISION: What was the

name of the van in the "Scooby-Doo"

7 U.S. STATES: What is the official

8. FOOD & DRINK: What herb is

9. INVENTIONS: What 19th-centu-

10. SCIENCE: What type of rock is

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

ry trapeze artist created a bodysuit that

commonly used to make pickles?

Greek counterpart of the Roman god

Sheep"

Rick's"?

in 1901?

Cupid?

animated series?

bears his name?

Weekly **SUDOKU** 

state flower of Kansas?

by Dave T. Phipps



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! © 2016 King Features Synd., Inc.

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

# KID'S CORNI

# 2 3

A TRICKY TRIANGLE! Can you place the digits 1 through 6 in the circles in our Puzzle Card so that the sum of the three numbers along each

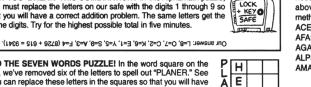
Our snawer: Starting with the top circle and going around clockwise: 6, 1, 5, 3, 4, 2. The sum will be 12.

side will be the same?

AN "A" WORDS FILL-IN PUZZLE!

CAN YOU 'BREAK' THIS COMBINATION? In this AlphaMath puzzle, you must replace the letters on our safe with the digits 1 through 9 so that you will have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits. Try for the highest possible total in five minutes.

FIND THE SEVEN WORDS PUZZLE! In the word square on the right, we've removed six of the letters to spell out "PLANER." See if you can replace these letters in the squares so that you will have four 3-letter words across and three 4-letter words down. Time limit: 60 seconds.



OE

D

Illustrated by David Coulson

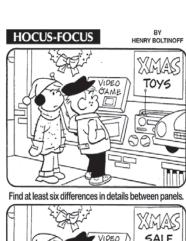
ŘΕ

Below are the 15 "A" words you'll need to complete the puzzle grid method, and keep an eraser handy! **AFAR** AMBLE ANON **AGAIN AMEBA APER** ALPS **AMIGO** ARENA **ANGST** 

Wishing Well® 4 3 8 6 2 CCRV A U Ε 8 7 6 5 6 7 8 5 H M K A Α Ν S 8 6 7 5 7 6 5 7 8 G N Ε WI Ν N W T 4 2 7 2 5 6 5 3 6 O F D 8 8 5 U Ε Α S H G Т 0 7 6 8 4 3 8 ΥE S В В Ε S D 3 3 4 2 4 2 4 2 2 KFCECAEHSESAD

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 Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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# Army beats Navy in hockey, 5-3

By David Vergun

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A combined Army and Air Force hockey team, coached by Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley, trounced a team of Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard players at the Verizon Center Dec. 5.

The game lasted almost to midnight, as it followed a Washington Capitals 3-2 victory over the Buffalo Sabres that went into overtime. After the game, Milley introduced several of the players to the media and asked each player to speak briefly.

Among the players was Under Secretary of the Army Patrick J. Murphy, who attributed the Army win to great leadership and teamwork. He called the game "a great way to start 'beat Navy' week," referring to the Army-Navy football game that played Saturday in



An Army player outmaneuvers Navy during an Army-Navy game at the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C., Dec. 5.

Baltimore.

Milley singled out Army goaltender Air Force Capt. Lindsey Colburn for several incredible saves, naming her the most valuable player and awarding her his

own personal Army puck. He reminded reporters that the Air Force was once part of the Army and joked, "We're thinking about taking it back again."

Asked by the chief to share a

few details about herself, Colburn said she's 32 and from Norfolk, New Hampshire. She has served in the Air Force for six years and is currently stationed at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Maryland.

The chief also praised retired Sgt. 1st Class Joe Bowser, 56, who played on a prosthetic leg. Milley noted that Bowser lost his leg to an improvised explosive device in Balad, Iraq, in 2004. He's "an American hero," the chief added.

Bowser said doctors asked him to make the call to remove the leg or live in pain with a mangled one. He chose the amputation so he could continue playing hockey. Bowser made the U.S. amputee team in 2007, which won the silver medal.

The chief then introduced Pvt. Corbin Bourque, a member of The Old Guard's Honor Guard

Company. "We are the presidential escort platoon, so wherever the president goes, we go," Bourque said.

Bourque said it was an honor to be chosen to play in that night's

"Everything felt good and it was nice to get a couple of goals in there," he said. "It was awesome. I had a great time."

When it was his turn to speak, Lt. Gen. James McConville, the Army G-1, said at age 59 he was "the oldest guy on the ice."

He said the Army-Navy hockey game was exciting and expressed hoped that the team's win was a precursor to victory on the gridiron Saturday. "Winning matters and we're going to win," he said.

Col. Doug Stitt, McConville's executive officer, said sports like hockey build teamwork and camaraderie and sow "the seeds for future victory."

### North Texas Penn State vs. Alabama Michigan us. Clemson Kent Anger **DPTMS** (59-25)**Todd Conyers** USAACE (53-31)Jeff Frey NCOA (46-38)Wes Hamilton NEC (60-24)John Tkac (57-27)

## FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRIEFS

Spring soccer registration

Parents can register their children for spring soccer through Jan. 15. All interested participants must have a current sports physical and a valid child, youth and school services registration. Children must meet the age requirements by July 31, 2016. Cost is \$25 for youth ages 4-5 years and \$45 for youth ages 6-14. Additional children will receive a percentage discount to be determined at parent central services during registration. Parents who use Webtrac to register their children should call 255-9638 to let the staff know what size shirt and shorts to order for the children. Practice will begin around Jan. 30 and the season will begin Feb. 13. There will be a parents meeting Jan. 25 at 6 p.m. in Bldg. 2800, the youth center, on Seventh Avenue.

To register, visit parent central services or use Webtrac. For more information, call 255-9638 or 255-2254.

#### **SWGC** holiday sale

Silver Wings Golf Course will host its holiday sale now through Dec. 24. Shoppers will be able to select items for purchase, and when they check out, they

will pick a stocking from the tree for their holiday discount that will be applied to their purchase. The sale will be open to

the public. For more information, call 255-0089.

#### Ham shoot out

Silver Wings Golf Course will host its ham shoot out Saturday with tee times from 8-10 a.m. Cost is \$20 per player, plus cart and green fees if applicable. Format is individual stroke play. U.S. Golf Association handicap or weekend dogfight points will be used. Gift certificates and ham will be awarded as prizes to gross and net winners. Registration deadline is Saturday at 9 a.m. The event is open to the public.

For more information, call 255-0089.

#### **Biggest Buck Contest**

Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation continues its Big Buck Contest through Feb. 10 during daylight hours. Entry fee is \$25 per person and the contest is open to the public. Participants must be registered before harvesting their buck bucks must be harvested on Fort Rucker to qualify. Fort Rucker requires that individuals ages 16 and older have an Alabama State Hunting License, a Fort Rucker Post Hunting Permit and a Hunter Education Card.

For more information and to register, call 255-4305.

#### Youth gymnastics classes

Fort Rucker Child, Youth and School Services hold gymnastics classes through Tuesday on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the school age center, Bldg. 2806. Classes are offered for preschool – coed – (age 3-5) up though Level 5 (age 16). Cost varies from \$25-\$50 per month. Students can join classes at any time.

For more information, call 255-1867.

#### Winter adult swimming lessons

Winter swimming lessons for people ages 18 and older will be conducted at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center Indoor Pool, Bldg. 4605 on Andrews Avenue, in December. Cost will be \$50 per participant. Each session will consist of eight classes held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Beginners classes will be from 5:15-6 p.m. and intermediate classes will be from 6:15-7 p.m. People need to register at least three days prior to the start of the session at the Fort Rucker

For more information, call 255-2296 or 255-9162.

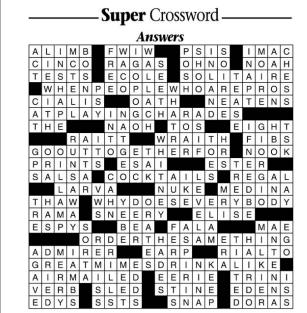
#### Basketball coaches meeting

There will be intramural basketball coaches meetings Dec. 13 at 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. in the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center Conference Room. All games during the season will be played at Fortenberry-Colton PFC.

For more information, call 255-2296.

#### Lifeguard training

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host its lifeguard training course Dec. 26-30 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The course is open to patrons ages 15 and up, and costs \$125 for military and DOD ID card holders and \$150 for members of the general public. A prerequisite test must be passed on the first day to enter the course. People can register at the front desk of the Fort Rucker PFC. The cutoff for registration is three days prior to the course start date. Candidates who take the training program are also eligible for



## PUZZLE ANSWERS

Weekly SUDOKU \_\_\_ Answer

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

 Eros
 The Mystery Machine Jules Leotard

10. Igneous, a rock formed from vol-



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