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ARMED AERIAL SCOUT



An AH-64 Apache departs Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan.

PHOTO BY AIR FORCE TECH. SGT. MATT HECHT

Platform still a valid requirement

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Despite canceling its quest for an Armed Aerial Scout aircraft – a replacement for the OH-58 Kiowa – the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general told Congress there is still a valid need for that type of aircraft.

During a March 19 hearing before the House Armed Services Committee, subcommittee on tactical air and land forces, Maj. Gen. Michael D. Lundy said the Army still considers AAS a valid requirement.

“We still have a valid requirement for Armed Aerial Scout. That has not changed,” he said. “We made a fiscal decision, based on the original 40-percent cuts

that came into the Aviation modernization portfolio.”

Right now, the Army plans to divest itself of the OH-58 Kiowa aircraft, which had performed the armed reconnaissance helicopter mission. The Army deemed it too expensive to maintain the aircraft or upgrade it for the AAS mission through a Service Life Extension Program. Also too expensive was a replacement aircraft.

The Army now plans to use AH-64 Apache aircraft teamed with unmanned aircraft systems to fill the role. But Lundy said that isn’t the end of the Army’s quest for a new AAS aircraft.

“Really where we are taking that now is, as we go into Future Vertical Lift, what

SEE SCOUT, PAGE A5

Women’s History Month session inspires attendees

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

A small group of Soldiers and civilians gathered at The Commons Friday expecting an informative lunch and learn session honoring Women’s History Month, but they received inspiring messages of determination and resilience in the face of adversity.

“I cannot stress enough to the young female generation the importance of hard work and professionalism,” Staff Sgt. Kari Brenner, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment, said. “There are times you are going to feel lonely and even downright discouraged. But remember, we are all going to have to stick it out and find the ones along the way who support us. It doesn’t have to be a specific race or gender. It doesn’t even matter what background they come from, as long as you know they will encourage you and inspire you to build exciting and amazing careers.”

Brenner’s message came at the end of her speech to the luncheon attendees. Her success story was one of many shared in support of Women’s History Month’s “Weaving the Stories of Women’s Lives” 2015 theme.

“My father had to sign the paperwork to allow me to join the Army when I was only 17 years old,” Brenner said. “I had a rough life growing up and always found myself in trouble. Not knowing which path would be the best, I desperately wanted to make my parents proud and prove to them I could become successful one day. I had all the odds stacked against me, with my whole family practically taking bets on whether I would be in prison or dead by the age of 23.”

Brenner said she was determined to prove them wrong and saw enlistment in the Army as the perfect opportunity.

“I chose a challenging career in Army Aviation that would prove, not only to them, but also to myself that, no matter how difficult it may be, I was going to be successful,” she said. “This was the mindset I brought with me to the United States Army.”

Brenner outlined her journey, beginning with basic combat training in September 1999.

“I quickly realized this might have been a bad choice as soon as the drill sergeants began yelling in my face day in and day out,” she said. “Graduation day couldn’t come soon enough. The only thing that kept me going was the thought of my family seeing me walk across the stage as an American Soldier.”

Brenner continued her journey after graduation at Fort Rucker, where she entered advanced individual training to become an Aviation operations



Brenner

SEE HISTORY, PAGE A5

SHARP

Riding to educate, raise awareness

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Fort Rucker is committed to the fight to combat sexual assault and harassment.

One way the installation hoped to promote awareness, not just on Fort Rucker, but throughout the Wiregrass community, was through the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention motorcycle ride Friday.

“This event is to primarily get out in the community and show the community what we’re doing here on Fort Rucker and (the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence) as a whole, and show that we’re dedicated and committed to eliminating



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Riders exit out of the motorcycle safety course training area during the SHARP motorcycle ride to promote awareness against sexual assault and harassment Friday.

sexual assault and sexual harassment,” said Sgt. 1st Class Renaldo Edge, victims advocate for the NCO Academy. “It’s too easy to sit somewhere and pitch sexual assault and sexual harassment. You can beat somebody over the head with a PowerPoint presentation all day long, but something like this gives us an opportunity to think outside of the box and get creative to promote awareness. Teach them while they’re doing something

they enjoy.”

The ride started at the motorcycle safety course track located next to the Lemon Lot and led out the Ozark gate. From there, the more than two dozen riders rode on Highway 231 through Ozark into Dothan where they stopped for lunch to enjoy a bit of fellowship and to talk a little SHARP.

“We want to get everybody’s take on how we’re doing as senior leaders and officers and civilians

here on the installation, and talk about what we can do to better promote (prevention) and eliminate (sexual assault and harassment),” said Edge.

Although eliminating sexual assault and harassment entirely is a daunting task, Edge said it’s important to try, no matter how impossible the feat may seem.

“I personally think that not everybody is built with the same moral compass,” said the victim

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UAS shifts focus to building capability

By Kelly P. Pate
*U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence
Public Affairs*

When Army Aviation first assumed proponentcy for the Army’s Unmanned Aircraft Systems, the systems were viewed as a disposable materiel solution.

“We didn’t train our UAS operators the same way that we train our Aviators, with the rigor we have in place — with the safety, standardization, how much training we put in it because we know how precious our resources are for people and machinery. Now we’re bringing unmanned systems more into that fold, that mentality,” said Col. Tom von Eschenbach, director, TRADOC Capability Manager for UAS at Fort Rucker.

With organizational structure changes already under way, the Aviation Restructure Initiative served as a forcing function not only to bring UAS to Aviation units, but also to bring the branch to the realization it needs to better embrace UAS, he said. Now, a greater emphasis is on building



ARMY PHOTO

A Gray Eagle sits on the ramp at Libby Army Airfield, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., in preparation for a flight Feb. 23.

capability, whereas before it was about capacity.

“In the OIF/OEF surge, we were rapidly buying and procuring whatever was available at the time to build capacity. Now that we’ve peaked, we have to build capability, and that is through our human dimension part of it—our operator,” von Eschenbach said.

The way ahead for UAS involves a greater emphasis on UAS platforms and reliability, and bringing unmanned aeroscout (operator) training more in line with Aviator training.

“We have our materiel solutions

that we’re going to get. Let’s make our humans better. Let’s train them better. Let’s integrate them better,” he said.

The Army’s initial rapid fielding of Shadows happened without the luxury of time for training or product development, according to CW3 Adam Morton, battalion standardization officer for Aviation’s UAS training battalion, the 2nd Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment, based at Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

“We were burning [the systems] up at a high rate, especially on the

SEE UAS, PAGE A5

PERSPECTIVE

DPW manages predator coyotes

By Fort Rucker Directorate of Public Works
Natural Resources Branch Staff

The coyote (Canis Latrans) is a relatively new species in the southeast and to the Fort Rucker landscape.

Although they are an invasive and non-native species, they have quickly adapted and their influence on Fort Rucker’s resident prey species have become a major cause of concern.

Coyotes are known to feed on rodents, rabbits, lizards, snakes, insects, grasses, fruit, fish and carrion. They are also a major predator on deer fawns and turkey poults. In addition to the damage caused by predation, coyotes are documented to carry dozens of diseases, such as rabies, eastern equine encephalitis and salmonellosis, which can be transmitted to

humans and livestock.

In 2008, due in part to a dwindling whitetail deer population, decreased harvest numbers and decreased fawn recruitment, the Fort Rucker Natural Resources Branch launched a cooperative study with Auburn University to determine what was causing these declines on Installation lands.

After two years of study, it was revealed that the major contributor to the deer decline on Fort Rucker was fawn predation by coyotes. Coyotes were determined to be responsible for 70 percent of the fawn mortality and that 80 percent of all newborn fawns were no longer surviving in the wild.

In response to these findings, the Natural Resources Branch launched a management program to reduce the high numbers of coyotes that have taken residence on installation lands.

During June and July of 2011, the staff implemented a trapping program on installation lands that resulted in the removal of 28 predator coyotes. Beginning in June of 2012, the program was updated to include a Depredation Permit issued by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Freshwater Fisheries, which further allowed a group of dedicated volunteers, in accordance with state and federal regulations, to assist in the organized trapping and removal of the predators.

To date, 204 coyotes have been removed from installation lands. They may be removed using any legal means other than snare trapping, which includes shooting and leg-hold trapping.

The Coyote Trapping Program is a vital part of Fort Rucker’s Wildlife Management Plan. The program’s success is directly re-

sponsible for increasing the resident deer population, increasing newborn fawn survivability, as well as decreasing any negative human-coyote conflicts.

The DPW Natural Resources Branch plans to continue targeting and trapping the predator coyote primarily during the months of July and August, which is just

prior to fawn birthing within our area. Local hunting groups have also developed incentives to remove the animals.

As the installation’s deer herd continues to recover and rebuild, the removal of predator coyotes will remain a high priority within the Natural Resources Management work plan.



Large coyote captured in rubber jaw leg-hold trap.



Volunteer Trapper Sgt. Jason Duncan with a successful trapping effort.

Rotor Wash

“A Two Man Buddy Bass Tournament is Saturday from 6 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Lake Tholocco. What tips would you suggest for remaining safe during a day on or near the water?”



2nd Lt. Adam Kunkle,
D Co., 1st Bn.,
145th Avn. Regt.

“Don’t drink alcohol when on the water or near the water.”



Staff Sgt.
Rodrigo Contreras,
WOCC student from
Fort Sill, Ok.

“If they’re on the water and using a flotation device, make sure it’s properly inflated.”



Jackie Conner,
military spouse

“If you’re going on a boat, make sure everyone is wearing a life vest.”



Jasmine Gunther,
military spouse

“If you have children, make sure to keep an eye on them.”



Courtney Mullins,
military family member

“Make sure to only swim in areas where there is a designated lifeguard on duty.”

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If you would like to contact the Army Flier by e-mail, please contact the editor at jhughes@armyflieger.com.

ICE comments give customers a voice

By Jay Mann
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

Everyone has received both good and bad service while dealing with the military, but one program gives reach to community member's views on the services they receive at Fort Rucker facilities.

The Interactive Customer Evaluation program is a customer feedback program that can make a big difference to local facilities, said Janice Erdlitz, Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation marketing director.

DFMWR has embraced ICE as a valuable tool in their organization, she said.

"MWR has a direct link for each of our programs and activities from the Web," said Erdlitz. "This simplifies the process of leaving an ICE comment because it takes you right to where you need to go.

"We also have computer kiosks set up at a number of our MWR activities," she said. "Those computers are set up solely for ICE submissions. At The Landing Zone and several of our special events, we have paper ice com-



ARMY GRAPHIC

ment cards. You can submit those on site or have a manager submit them for you.

"I find ICE to be a very useful tool for both the patron and the manager of the facility," added Erdlitz.

"Managers can see how patrons are rating their facilities. They can look for areas that need improvement and they can see areas that they are excelling at; however, sometimes I think pa-

trons aren't aware that if there is an area that needs improvement, the first step really is letting the manager know first and see if they can directly fix the issue."

People can leave ICE comments on many facilities and services here. Fort Rucker's ICE feedback site is accessible from www.rucker.army.mil. Once there, visitors can select the category and then the individual of-

fice, search for an individual office, or view a list of all offices on Fort Rucker.

Online comment cards can be submitted judging employee knowledge, attitude, timeliness of service and whether the customer's needs were met.

"Quality of life is so important for our community," said Erdlitz. "Through the ICE program, you can directly relay your customer

service experience, so we can recognize employees doing an outstanding job. Letting someone know that they did a great job is important. We need to recognize our staff for their service and let them know when they are taking great care of our customers.

"If you had a negative experience, your feedback allows us the opportunity to look at areas of concern and improve," said Erdlitz. "Your feedback matters.

"I don't think everyone really understands that ICE isn't just a complaint tool," she said. "It also serves a great tool to let managers know about staff members who are providing outstanding customer service. It's a great feeling as an employee to receive a positive ICE comment from a patron that you have helped. We sometimes forget how much a positive comment can affect employee morale.

"Family and MWR actually uses the ICE program to recognize employees who receive positive ICE comments," Erdlitz said. "So, next time a clerk, an instructor, a waitress or whoever goes above and beyond, take a minute and submit an ICE comment."

'Shark Tank' contestant inspires FRES students

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

March kicked off STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Month at Fort Rucker Elementary School, and the students got some words of wisdom from a Wiregrass local who has made his mark as an inventor.

Travis Perry, Dothan resident and inventor of the Chord Buddy, was a contestant on the popular ABC show "Shark Tank" and visited the children at FRES March 2 to help inspire them and show them that failure, as much as success is part of the inventing process, said Dr. Vicki Gilmer, FRES principal.

"We wanted to bring the children a get a real-life example of someone who's local in our area and made a real-life invention," she said. "Shark Tank is such a hit, so we wanted the children to really see a real-life demonstration from (Perry), and he was just fantastic with the children. He was right there on their level. He talked about how there was so much trial and error, and how he had to go back and improve, and how it helped him do something he wanted to do."

Perry invented the Chord Buddy, which is an invention of his own design that helps people to learn how to play the guitar. He conceptualized the idea at 18 and sat on the idea for 30 years. Because of his daughter's frustration over not being able to play the guitar, he decided to pursue the idea and went on the show in order to get the funding to make his idea come to life.

Since the show, he has sold over 250,000 Chord Buddies in five countries, and made almost \$10 million, and it's that kind of success that came out of deter-

mination, and it's that determination that FRES wanted to show the children was necessary for success, said Marye Bess Browning, of FRES.

While speaking to the children, he explained to them the process of developing the invention, the patent process and how he developed 17 prototypes before getting it right.

"The students have been working on the engineering design process all year, so they know how to ask the questions, how to problem solve and how to improve," said Gilmer. "In terms of motivation, I think (having him come speak to them) makes it realistic for them. It's not one of those things that just tell you that 'one day you can do this,' but with him coming, they could see it and see that he actually did it and followed his dream."

Many of the students found his presentation to be very entertaining, as well as helpful, like Natalie Thorman, FRES student, who said the presentation wasn't only educational, but made her want to learn how to play the guitar.

Perry's visit ties in with STEM Month and the students creating their own inventions throughout the month. By hearing of Perry's ups and downs throughout his process, it helps to motivate the children to continue to keep trying, said Gilmer.

"It was a good connection for them to see his processes, so when they're about to launch their process for (their inventions), they can use him as a reference point and say, 'He did this and it didn't work, but it's OK if it doesn't work. I can go back and try something else,'" she said.

Not only was the presentation a good motivator, but it's also important to help nurture a child's creativity and learning, said the principal.



COURTESY PHOTO

Justin Murray, FRES student, gets a lesson with the Chord Buddy from Travis Perry, 'Shark Tank' contestant and inventor of the Chord Buddy, March 2.

"With the world that we live in now, it's more about those who create," she said. "We see a lot of things that are automated these days – basic functioning skills – but to have somebody that can create and problem solve, that's what companies are looking for these days, and you don't want to squash that when they're young. You've got to foster that imagination.

"Sometimes the sciences taught to children are drawn down in schools the older kids get, but what we need to do is expand it instead of draw it down," Gilmer said. "Here at FRES, we're going to start with them young and stretch their mind and their wonder and their design ideas."

As a culminating event, the school will host its STEM FEST Friday, which is a

celebration of all the work the student's have been working on throughout the year with the engineering design process. There will be different stations set up to challenge the children with physical challenges, brain challenges, engineering challenges and art challenges.

The students will rotate through the different challenges as a way to see how they can use their brain differently with each challenge to come up with different ideas and features, said Gilmer.

"We're just really excited," said the FRES principal. "We're excited to give the children this opportunity and we're very excited to be a designated STEM school so that we can provide these children with the best education possible."

News Briefs

'Living Last Supper'

The Fort Rucker Chapel Community will present the drama, "The Living Last Supper," Sunday at 9:30 a.m. at Wings Chapel (Bldg. 6036). The drama reenacts the biblical account of Jesus sharing the Passover meal with his disciples on the night before his crucifixion. This year is the 36th anniversary of the presentation.

For more information, call 255-2989 or 255-2012.

Easter Sunrise Service

The Fort Rucker Chapel Community will host its post-wide Easter Sunrise Service April 5 from 6:30-7:30 a.m. on the landing strip behind Wings Chapel (Bldg. 6036 on Andrews Avenue). Chaplain (Col.) John L. Kallerson, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker garrison chaplain, will deliver the Easter message. The service will involve people of the Fort Rucker and neighboring civilian communities. All are invited to attend.

For more information, call 255-2989 or 255-2012.

Army Aviation Ball

The U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker will host the Army Aviation Ball April 11 from 6-11:30 p.m. in The Landing Ballroom to celebrate Army Aviation's 32nd birthday. This year's theme

is Honor our History ... Continue the Legacy. Costs for tickets are \$25 for E-6 and GS-8 and below; \$30 for E-7, W-1/2, O-1/2 and GS-9/10; \$35 for E-8, W-3, O-3 and GS-11/12; and \$40 for E-9, W-4/5, O-4 and above, and GS-13-15.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact your unit point of contact.

Change of command

The 1st Battalion, 58th Aviation Regiment (Airfield Operations Battalion) will host its change of command ceremony April 15 at 9 a.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Lt. Col. James M. Ashburn will assume command from Lt. Col. Daniel Y. Morris.

Retirement ceremony

The post quarterly retirement ceremony will take place April 24 at 2 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. All are invited to attend and honor the post's latest retirees and thank them for their service.

Supply support activity inventory

The Fort Rucker Logistics Readiness Center Supply Support Activity in Bldg. 1212 will conduct a wall-to-wall inventory now through Friday. During this period, the SSA will only accept emergency requisitions. Officials expect to resume normal operations Monday. Customers will be notified by the accountable officer.

For more information, call 255-9504.

Spring cleanup

Fort Rucker's annual spring cleanup is scheduled for Tuesday through April 3. All garrison, mission and tenant units are required to participate. Spring cleanup will be conducted as follows:

- **Tuesday** – Clean-up of interior offices and work areas;

- **Wednesday** – Clean-up of exterior areas and police call areas;

- **April 2** – 9 a.m. to noon, continue clean-up of interior and exterior areas, and 1-4 p.m. under the supervision of the brigade or owner of the barracks, Soldiers residing in the barracks will be released to conduct clean-up of common areas of responsibility (mission dependent); and

- **April 3** – Inspection of the post conducted by the garrison command sergeant major, the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence command sergeant major and the Fort Rucker Directorate of Public Works NCO in charge.

For more information, call 255-0020

Trail closures

The Blue and Green running trails on Beaver Lake will be closed temporarily for repairs until May 16. People will not be able to complete the circle on the green and blue course while repairs are being made. For

more information, call 255-9567.

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.

Retiree council meetings

The Fort Rucker Installation Retiree Council meets the first Thursday of each month in The Landing at 11:30 a.m. The meeting is an open forum and all retirees are invited to attend.

ID card appointment system

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., the ID card service, located in Bldg. 5700, is available to people by appointment only to better serve the community and alleviate some of the long waits that people experience when getting their ID cards, according to military personnel division officials. If necessary, people will still be able to get their ID cards as a walk-in customer on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

To make an appointment, people can visit <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/appointment/building.aspx?BuildingId=876>.

Command drills trainers to roll out new NCOER

By David Ruderman
*U.S. Army Human Resources Command
Command
Public Affairs*

FORT KNOX, Kentucky — U.S. Army Human Resources Command will train a cadre of Soldiers April 13-24 and dispatch them across the Army to spearhead the implementation of a new NCO Evaluation Report system scheduled for roll-out this autumn.

“We’re on the cusp of implementing a new NCOER for the U.S. Army,” said Maj. Gen. Richard P. Mustion, HRC commander, adding that this will be the first overhaul of the rating system in more than two decades.

The changes to the evaluation system will enable leaders to more clearly assess and identify the Army’s best talent by eliminating inflation in the rating process and encouraging self-improvement, Mustion said. The goals behind the changes are to meet the chief of staff of the Army’s strategic priority to develop adaptive Army leaders for a complex world.

HRC will implement the NCOER by ensuring mastery of its use across the Army and conduct pilot testing to refine the new system before its launch. Key objectives are teaching Soldiers to understand the three new NCOER forms and to master additions to the entry evaluation system that will capture the changes.

“The first phase of training will occur on Fort Knox, where the HRC Evaluations Branch will train and certify 44 personnel who will serve as mobile training team members,” said Sgt. Maj. Stephen McDermid of HRC Evaluations Branch. The MTTs will be drawn from all three components: active, National Guard and Reserve.

The lesson plan will begin with an overview of the new NCOER and evaluation policy updates, he said. MTTs will become experts on the structure and use of the

three unique grade plate forms and assessment techniques that incorporate the senior rater narrative in the evaluation process. They will undergo instruction and practice on maintaining and forecasting senior rater profiles and operating within EES to create support forms and NCOERs.

McDermid said 75 percent of each trainee’s assessment will be based on hands-on use of the process and its tools. Instruction will include four practical exercises and a final assessment based on a written exam, hands-on performance and the delivery of a 45-minute briefing to demonstrate solid understanding of the NCOER and the ability to educate Soldiers in the field.

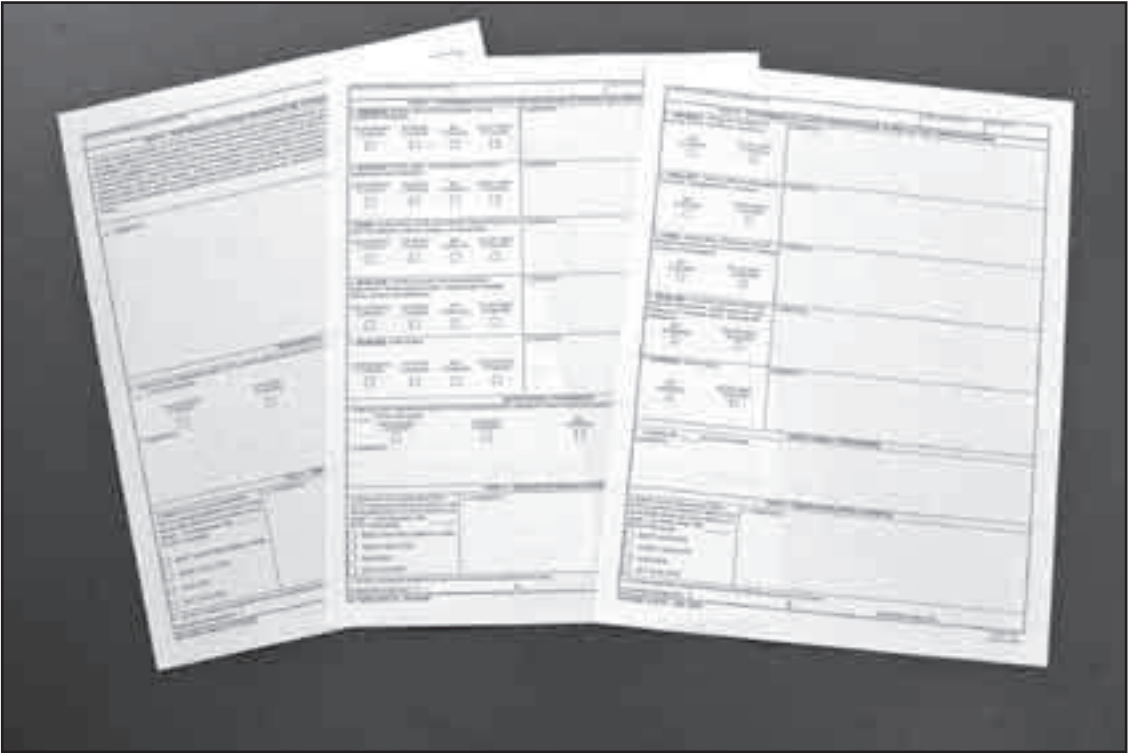
“They’ll have to be proficient with initiating, completing and submitting the form to HRC for processing,” he said.

Once certified, the MTTs will travel to Fort Jackson, South Carolina, where they will train more than 650 train-the-trainer Soldiers from across the Army between late April and the end of May. Once trained and certified, TtTs will return to their units and begin training the entire force, both Soldiers and civilians, to use the new NCOER, McDermid said.

“Training should commence in May and continue throughout the summer. That will be the initial phase. Because there are so many new concepts that are going to be addressed, there will be a need for refresher training even after we implement the NCOER,” he said.

Among the fundamental changes NCOs will encounter are a move away from a single report form to a trio of reports based on rank, and a major focus on documenting accountability in the rating chain.

In terms of grade plate, raters will assess sergeants via a direct-level report, focused on proficiency and considered to be developmental. Raters will use an organizational-level report form to assess NCOs in the ranks



ARMY PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Draft versions of three proposed grade-plate evaluation forms that will be incorporated in the new NCO Evaluation Report that U.S. Army Human Resources Command will implement across all Army components this fall.

of staff sergeant to first sergeant/master sergeant, and a strategic-level form for sergeants major and command sergeants major.

Mastering the additions to the EES will be critical, McDermid said.

“The EES is going to consolidate both the OER and NCOER for all components. With that, there will be two notable additions within EES for the NCOER. The first is the use of the rater tendency, which is going to be unconstrained and is going to be more of a ‘rater’s rating history’ of NCOs in a particular grade,” he said. It will be viewable by the rater’s rating chain, enabling leadership to provide guidance and mentorship to the rater in following Army guidance to assess more accurately.

The second major innovation will be the addition of a senior NCO reviewer delegate function. It will allow rating officials to identify up to two individuals – command sergeant major, sergeant major or first sergeant – to provide an informal review of all NCOERs.

“They’ll be able to review the

reports and will have an online dialogue box where they can provide comments to those rating officials for their consideration,” McDermid said.

As trainers fan out across the Army to teach the new NCOER, HRC will coordinate and conduct system load testing at selected installations in late spring and early summer. Testing will allow HRC to identify issues and integrate refinements before the system is implemented across the Army. At this time, likely testing locations will be Fort Campbell; Fort Knox; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington; Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Belgium; and Korea, though that is still open to change, McDermid said.

The final draft NCOER support form will be posted 90 days before implementation, so that Soldiers across the Army can begin to familiarize themselves with the changes. “Rating officials can begin counseling and documenting the rated NCO’s performance,” he said.

“As of right now, the target date is Sept. 1, but as we get closer, we

will publish more information to the field, informing them of the actual implementation date. If the actual implementation date is Sept. 1, then all NCOERs with a through-date of Sept. 1, or later, will be addressed on the new grade-plate forms. Reports ending Aug. 31 or earlier will still be processed under the current NCOER,” McDermid said.

“Probably the first board that will see these new reports will be the fiscal year 2016 master sergeant promotion board, which will likely convene next February,” he said.

The establishment of information technology systems, development of regulations, and the implementation of the new NCOER through coaching, teaching and training the force is a tremendous effort, Mustion said.

“It will help us build an even higher quality non-commissioned officer force than we already have and leverage talent management into the future, allowing us to reap great benefits across the Army for years to come,” he said.

Officer Selection Board training, mock board materials available online

By David Ruderman
U.S. Army Human Resources Command

FORT KNOX, Kentucky — U.S. Army Human Resources Command disseminated teaching materials throughout the Army March 18 to explain the mechanics of the officer selection board process.

An exportable mock board and related training material are available on the HRC’s public website. Unit S-1s and G-1s can download and use the material to help officers understand the selection process and properly prepare themselves for boards that will determine their career path.

“Now, we can take a board product out to the field, put folks around a table and let them see how a centralized selection board operates,” said Maj. Gen. Richard P. Mustion, HRC commander.

“The training is a part of the leader development program,” said Brig. Gen. David K. “Mac” MacEwen, adjutant general of the Army. “We at HRC have an obligation to the field to ensure our officers know how the system works and provide them with the proper training on this fundamental system.”

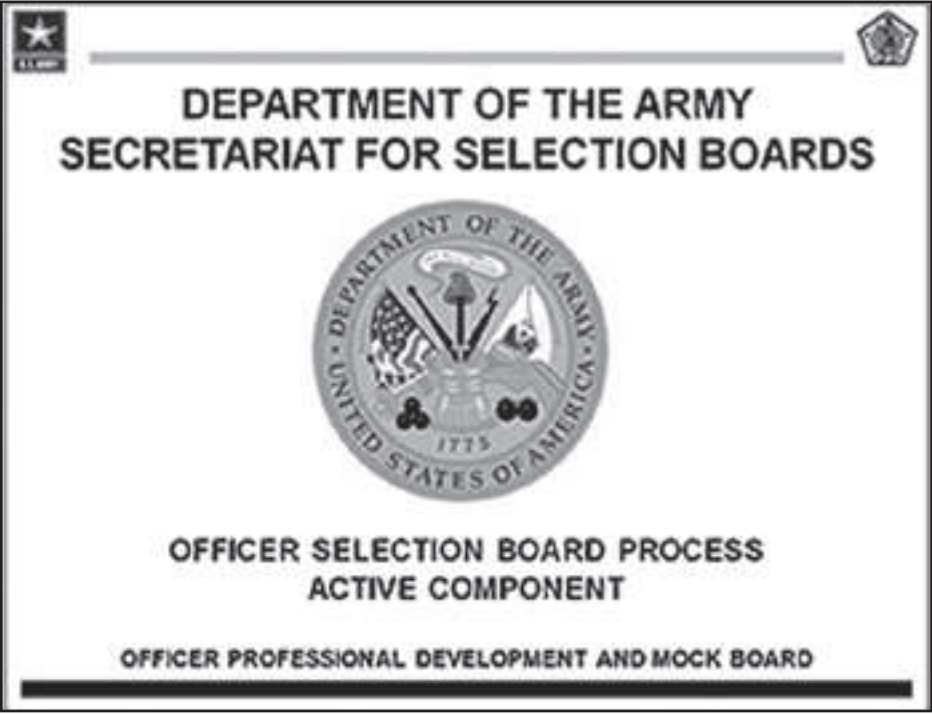
The presentation covers types of OSBs, the memorandum of instruction, which directs each board and the composition of board files. It goes into depth in describing the Army Selection Board System, board operations, the importance of evaluations, the voting process and individual voter philosophy.

“The first third of the training is about the mechanics of how a board works,” MacEwen said.

“A Headquarters, Department of the Army selection board, is a process that requires senior leaders to consider and recommend officers for selection,” said Capt. Chad Peltier, a board recorder with Department of the Army Secretariat for Selection Boards at HRC.

“Senior leaders are appointed by the secretary of the Army or the chief of staff of the Army to serve on a special duty assignment as a board member. Officers travel to the Department of the Army Secretariat for Selection Boards, located at HRC, to execute their duties,” he said.

Once assembled, board members are provided guidance and a board mission to select officers to meet the needs of the



ARMY GRAPHIC

Army. Board missions can include making selections for promotion, separation, school attendance or command, he said.

“Board membership composition is prescribed by Title 10, U.S. Code, Army regulation and Army G-1 policy. Board members must be senior to those officers considered and appropriately represent officers’ components, branch, joint experience, ethnicity and gender,” he said.

Army policy mandates that officer board members must be of lieutenant colonel rank or above. They must also have successful careers themselves as indicated by a history of on-time promotion or centralized selection list selection, and no record of derogatory performance.

“The second third provides officers examples of things they need to do to prepare for boards, replete with examples,” MacEwen said.

A Soldier’s board file, on which OSBs base their selections, consists of many parts. They include applicable correspondence with the board, the Soldier’s official photo, Officer Record Brief, the performance and evaluation sections of the Army Military Human Resource Record, and the education, training and commendatory portions of the official record, Peltier said.

Soldiers under consideration should absolutely view, correct and certify their own

file by using the “My Board File” application on the HRC website, Peltier said. All candidates should keep in mind that certi-

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Scout: Army intends to move away from M113

Continued from Page A1

is going to be the armored reconnaissance capability that we have in FVL? We are doing a number of analyses of alternatives associated with the armored reconnaissance variant. We've got the requirement already clearly identified for a conventional aircraft right now. We are looking again at FVL as being that next iteration of the armed scout," Lundy told lawmakers. "If something materializes between now and then, we are going to remain agile enough we can look at it. It is a valid requirement. But we are certainly going to be dependent on the fiscal constraints that we have."

For those pilots making the transition from OH-58 to AH-64 Apache pilot, Lundy said the training is going well, and said that the Army recently graduated three such pilots from training, and that two of those had done well enough to remain on at the school house as instructor pilots.

"I see no issues with the training," Lundy said.

Black Hawk modernization

Lundy also told lawmakers that the Army's effort at modernization of the UH-60 Black Hawk is under way

and that it supports all components of the Army.

As many as 600 UH-60A Black Hawks across the Army will be divested from the fleet by 2023, he said. Additionally, the Army is converting UH-60L Black Hawks to the UH-60V version, which includes a glass cockpit.

Fielding will happen between 2018-2032, he said. The majority of those will go into the National Guard and the Army Reserve. The Army continues to field the UH-60M model as well, and expects to finish by 2028.

M4 Carbine

Challenged by one lawmaker with the suggestion that the M4 Carbine is a less-than-satisfactory weapon, the Army's chief of resourcing said he has heard no complaints from Soldiers.

"It is a capable weapon," said Lt. Gen. Anthony R. Ierardi, deputy chief of staff, Army G-8. "In my service in 1st Cavalry Division, I did not hear one complaint from my Soldiers about the M4 Carbine. In fact, Soldiers wanted the M4 for what it brings, which is a compact, easy-to-maintain, and capable weapon."

Ierardi said the Army will continue to enhance the M4, including conversion to the heavier M4A1. He said 90 improvements have been made to the weapon

since it was fielded in 1994.

Goodbye M113

The M113 armored personnel carrier has been in the Army since 1960, and Ierardi said the vehicle has already seen its last days as an operational vehicle. While a number of M113s remain in the Army inventory, the service has stopped using them operationally. The Army plans to replace the M113's capability with the armored multi-purpose vehicle.

"It is the Army's intent, and it is under execution now to move away from M113, which brings into discussion the armored multi-purpose vehicle, the follow-on vehicle to the M113 variant," Ierardi said. "It's an important capability for the Army to replace: the mobility that the M113s bring in the varied terrain that our armored and tracked vehicles operate. So, AMPV is an important program for us to replace the M113s."

The Army announced in late 2014 that that BAE Systems Land & Armaments, L.P. was selected for the engineering and manufacturing development contract for the AMPV. The initial award is for a 52-month base term, valued at about \$382 million. During that time, BAE Systems will produce 29 vehicles.

SHARP: Trust, respect integral to professionalism

Continued from Page A1

advocate. "Especially with the younger generation and younger Soldiers who are brand new to the Army, a lot of times they just want to go, go, go, and party all the time. A lot of time alcohol is involved, so it's our job as senior leaders to educate them.

"And even at the senior level, a lot of senior leaders tend to forget how important it is that we

should be mentoring our Soldiers and making sure that they are doing the right thing, and that we're doing the right thing ourselves," he explained. "Sometimes as senior leaders, we don't do the right thing, and Soldiers see that. So what we do, they see, and they might want to portray and emulate us. We need to make sure that we have our things in order so that they get the right image of us."

Sgt. Maj. Marvin Pinckney, USAACE G-3 sergeant major, said that awareness is the reason he wanted to attend the ride.

"The reason I participated in Friday's ride is simple. As a leader I want to play an active role in the fight against sexual harassment and assault in the Army," he said. "What better way to do that than to take a ride with my fellow riders, both Soldiers and civilians, to promote awareness

and change?"

Edge said that level of communication and awareness is the best way to tackle these types of issues.

"The (Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno) said it as clear as I possibly can - 'It's about trust,'" he said. "'Trust is the bedrock of our Army profession,' and he hit that nail right on the head. We gain their trust, we earn their trust and a lot of

people seem to think when you put on the uniform, this rank or thank rank, Soldiers automatically need to respect me and trust me. That's not the case.

"Trust and respect are earned, and when you degrade that trust, it diminishes, it degrades, it destroys everything that we've worked so hard to build and gain with our Soldiers. That's something we have to work on," Edge said.

History: Attendees receive toolbox for personal health

Continued from Page A1

specialist. She then traveled to her first permanent duty station in Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

The first field exercise of her career was a learning experience in more ways than, Brenner added. She noticed a separation of gender in duty tasking and heard male Soldiers suggest the women should stick to cleaning. Brenner said she decided to express her concerns to her superior.

"I was afraid that making a complaint would change the way my boss treated me," she said. "And I was right. However, I was one of the lucky ones. My boss not only understood my point of view, but recognized how difficult it was for me to come forward. From that point

forward, he seemed to push me harder and teach me more. He took me under his wing. Once he saw I was motivated, he focused more on molding me into the leader he knew I could be.

"Now, where I stand today, I have the opportunity to tell the females who come into the Army that it will never be easy," she added. "You will always have to work a little harder and a little smarter. Some of them will face uncertainty and ridicule while others have to contend not only with the challenge of their jobs, but also with the perception they're not up to the task based solely on their gender."

Sherie' Trone, Equal Employment Opportunity specialist, opened the luncheon with a declaration of female strength and resilience.

"Women, we are resilient," she said. "We can take a licking and keep on ticking. We are one of the most underrepresented classes in the workforce, but that has not, does not and will not stop us."

Trone shared the story of women like Mary Ludwig Hays McCauley who, after finding her husband and fellow artillerymen wounded, picked up a gun and held her position until reinforcements arrived during the battle of Monmouth. She shared the story of Lucy Brewer, the first female Marine, who masqueraded as George Baker to serve for three years aboard the USS Constitution during the War of 1812.

"However, history is not just in the past," Trone said. "It is fluid and ever-changing. Women are making history

every day. Women like Malala Yu-Suf-Zi, a Pakistani who, in 2014 at the age of 17, survived life-threatening gunshot wounds to the face by the Taliban, took her fight for peace and gender equality to the world stage and created the Malala Fund. The fund aims to empower girls everywhere through education."

"With this lunch and learn event, it is our hope that you will walk away feeling more empowered and motivated," she said. "Ladies, you are the makers of our children's, grandchildren's, and even our great-grandchildren's history. What you are doing today will be written about in the history books of tomorrow."

Attendees were also treated to informational presentations on nutrition and financial security.

UAS: Changes include updates to doctrine, training support

Continued from Page A1

tactical UAS side. If you're pushing a product out there before you have time to really do reliability testing on it, trying to satisfy your wartime commanders and just push it to them as fast as you can, there are going to be some things that are missed," said Morton, who deployed multiple times to Iraq as a UAS operator.

Unmanned aeroscouts felt their share of the growing pains as unmanned and manned Aviation learned what each other could bring to the fight.

"We didn't talk the same way, we didn't look the same way, we didn't fly the same way," said Morton.

Mentoring by Aviators helped grow the UAS operators, according to CW2 Steven L. Ball, UAS operations technician with C Co., 2-13thAviation Regt.

"From the get-go, as a PV2 (private 2), corporal, specialist, I was getting talked to by CW4s and 5s that were Aviators in our own battalion, teaching us on maintenance programs, safety programs, flying hour programs, how to aviate better. That helped us. We were treated kind of like Aviators but expected to walk that standard, as well," said Ball, who deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan as a UAS operator.

According to Morton, Aviation raised the bar for UAS.

"Aviation increased the standard on what we were looking for as an Army, the materiel standards we wanted to see in our UAS, and it was also the reporting mechanisms. Instead of just accepting that we lost a UAS during the deployment, we started to get into the investigation piece, and learning what we can do better to prevent this in the future," Morton said.

According to Morton, the key to future growth is creating a common picture for unmanned and manned train-

ing, and making Aviation look as uniform as possible across the formation.

"I think we're really getting after that. By incorporating UAS into these combat Aviation brigades, and really letting ARI be the forcing function, we're going to discover that there's a value added by having these guys grow up together, train together, deploy together. I think when we look at it 10 years from now, we're going to discover that was the key ingredient that was missing," Morton said.

Efforts at 2-13th Avn. Regt. include qualifying UAS operators on gunnery. In the past an operator's first experience with gunnery was often in combat, according to Morton.

"We're changing that now. When these guys get to their units and they deploy, it's not the first time they've thought about pulling a trigger or actually employing armament," Morton said.

Changes on the horizon for UAS include updates to doctrine and training support products for MUM-T. The future also calls for a greater emphasis on training at home station, Aviation oversight of UAS maintenance - including the goal of having a consolidated UAS facility for Shadow UAS in brigade combat teams and working through issues regarding Shadow platoon training.

"In some cases, facilities may not be in place to support that," von Eschenbach said. "We have to work our airspace a little better to make it easier for them to go out and fly. We've got to integrate UAS into CTCs We are working through some of that."

A key to future air-ground training opportunities may simply be more communication with ground elements for inclusion in scheduled training events, he said.

As a proven, integral part of the asymmetric advantage Army Aviation provides to the warfight in support of

ground commander, UAS provides flexibility in decision making and greater lethality.

"It allows us to do more," he said. "The same person can do more than they could before because you have remote and autonomous systems."

While UAS has come a long way in the past few years alone, he believes there is still a long way to go.

Morton said he personally looks forward to the day when the word "unmanned" disappears from the vernacular.

"I really think it's going to boil down to when we, as an Army, completely adopt UAS as just another Aviation platform and it's just Army Aviation," Morton said.

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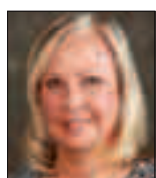
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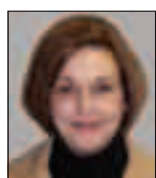
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Welcome home

3rd CAB Gray Eagle Company returns from deployment



Sgt. Tre Baity, E Co., 3rd CAB, gets a warm welcome from his daughter during the welcome home ceremony on Fort Stewart, Ga., March 13.

By Sgt. William Begley
3rd Combat Aviation Brigade
Public Affairs

FORT STEWART, Ga. — The last of the Soldiers from E Company, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade returned home from a nine-month deployment to Afghanistan and were reunited with their families on Fort Stewart March 13.

Lt. Col. John B. Broam, commander, 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, 3rd CAB, was on hand at Jordan Fitness Center, along with an enthusiastic crowd of Families, friends and loved ones to welcome home the Soldiers.

“The Gray Eagle Company here in the 3rd CAB deployed last June as a company after standing up the previous nine months and did an outstanding job during the train-up and the deployment,” Broam said. “They executed some incredible missions and we’re looking forward to integrating them into the training plan with the AH-64 Apache helicopters.”

Broam said he’s pleased with the reports he got from another commander on the per-

formance of his Soldiers, adding that it was a great feeling to know his team performed well for someone else outside his purview.

“The main thing is they all made it home safe. That’s what is most important to me,” Broam said.

Maj. Jonathan Coe, commander of E Co., said it feels great to finally be back home.

“Deployments never get any easier, but it feels awesome to return home with all of the support of the families and leadership that are here,” Coe said.

Coe said a list of honey-dos are among his first things to do at home.

“My wife already has a list of errands for me to run, but we’ll be doing it together,” he said. “After that, we will go get a nice dinner somewhere.”

Spc. Robert Bonacolta, E Co., returned from what was his first deployment. He could not hold back the smile on his face after being released to his family.

“It’s good to be back,” he said. “It was an honor to deploy with the 3rd Infantry Division and be part of the history, but it’s great to be home with family and friends.”

SPARTAN SHIELD

Team preps Chinooks for Kuwait mission

By Jason Brundidge
Aviation and Missile Command and Communications and Electronic Command

AERIAL PORT OF DEPARTURE, Kuwait — The 34th Combat Aviation Brigade received multiple CH-47 Chinook helicopters in Kuwait in late February.

The Chinooks, part of the 2nd Battalion, 3rd General Support Aviation Regiment, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade out of Hunter Army Air Field, Georgia, joined the 34th Combat Aviation Brigade in support Operation Spartan Shield.

Soldiers, contractors, Aviation and Missile Command and Communications and Electronic Command logistics assistance representatives were on hand during the initial unloading of Chinooks. The Chinooks flew in on C-5 Galaxy aircraft, a heavy lift strategic airlift plane, but not even the C-5 can carry a fully assembled Chinook. Maintenance team members spent a few days reassembling each aircraft before handing them over to test pilots.

The C-5 Galaxy is an Air Force asset. The Army and Air Force work together to bring equipment into theater.

Once assembled, the unit’s maintenance test pilots ensure the air worthiness of the aircraft before they are flown to their final destination. AMCOM and CECOM LARs remain available during the operation to quickly address any maintenance issues that arise.

LARs are subject matter experts on specific types of aircraft or of certain systems of an aircraft. Their presence on site greatly reduces time spent troubleshooting or evaluating faults and damage.

“The role of a LAR at any unit is to support them with technical and logistical support,” said Curtis Latta, an AMCOM LAR with the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade. “This includes finding and expediting

SEE SHIELD, PAGE B4



Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 3rd General Support Aviation Regiment, inspect a CH-47 Chinook at the Aerial Port of Departure, Kuwait, Feb. 19.



Spc. Nikolas Wright and Pfc. Joseph Johnson, crew chiefs with B Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, hang off the back of a CH-47F Chinook helicopter while flying over the waters off of Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, Hawaii, March 16. The Soldiers assisted in conducting a helo cast in support of Operational Detachment Alpha 1215, 1st Special Forces Group, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, who were completing a simulated combat dive mission.

Pilot says expectations same for men, women

By Vanessa Villarreal
U.S. Forces-Afghanistan
Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — At 5 feet 4 inches tall, CW2 Tristan Archambault has no problem maneuvering a giant machine that boasts a length of over 50 feet and a cruise speed of 175 mph. It’s what she’s trained to do. And she’s the only female in her unit who does it.

Archambault is the only female pilot in Task Force Wolfpack of the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade. And her machine is an AH-64D Apache Longbow attack helicopter — all 5.17 tons of it.

“I don’t think I feel differently,” she said of being the only woman pilot. “I think everybody just brought me in ‘close hold’ and it feels we’re more of a team than any one individual.”

Archambault, a native of Whitehall, Michigan, joined the Army after graduating from Michigan State University in 2008 with a bachelor’s degree in social work. She said she had the flying bug as soon as she got in, but there was a process that she had to follow.

First, she attended basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, then Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Next she served as a signal officer for four years, and completed one



CW2 Tristan Archambault, Aviator with the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, with an AH-64D Apache Longbow attack helicopter at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan.

tour in Iraq and Kuwait before submitting her packet to revert to an Aviation warrant officer. Once selected, in October 2012, she went to Army Aviation School at Fort Rucker and then helicopter-over-water survival training a month later. In January 2013, she attended Survival Evasion Resistance Escape training and then started the Apache course eight months later.

Fort Rucker is home to the same Army Aviation School that the Army’s first female helicopter pilot, retired Col. Sally Murphy, attended in 1974.

“I think that having women in this field is extremely important,” Archambault said. “I think that nobody’s telling us ‘no’ anymore.

And so it’s really important for us not to restrict ourselves from things that we want to do in the Army.”

As of fiscal year 2014, women represent about 14 percent of the active Army and Archambault thinks that, since the days of Murphy, women in the military have come a long way.

“Absolutely,” she said. “The Army is one of the only organizations that pay women the equal amount as men for the same job. So, when you think about it that way, the military is hands above any other organization that’s out there as far as equality. And I think they’re making strides in the right direction as far as getting us in the roles where we were

previously restricted because of our gender.”

Archambault said she chose Fort Bragg, North Carolina, her home now, so she could go to a line unit and deploy to Afghanistan. So far, she’s been here for six months and has over 450 hours of flight time. Her short-term goal is to make pilot in command.

“You earn flight time as you get out here,” she said. “Typically, you’d like to make pilot in command between 500 and 700 hours. In total, I have about 460 hours here and a majority of that is combat time because I came straight from flight school to Fort Bragg and then deployed.”

Archambault said there are four tracts for Apaches — safety, tactical ops, maintenance test pilot, and instructor pilot. Her long-term goal is to be a maintenance test pilot. And that differs from the type of pilot that she is now.

“When you first get into a unit as a pilot, you basically just fly,” she said. “And for Apaches, you basically fly in the front seat and you do the gunning for the aircraft. Once you make pilot in command of the overall aircraft, you fly in the back seat generally — for the most part. And then you make all of the decisions for the aircraft.”

She works the night shift. So a

SEE PILOT, PAGE B4

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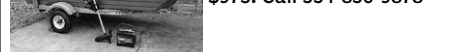
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Shield: LARS will continue to support 34th CAB Soldiers

Continued from Page B1

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“We work in the ‘gray area’ for depot repairs in the field and non-standard repairs that may be required to enable the unit to have operational aircraft,” he added. “We are also the middle man between the unit,

support engineers, program managers and original equipment manufacturers.”

LARS and Aviation maintainers from the 90th Aviation Support Battalion and 603rd ASB inspected the aircraft to see how well they traveled. Minor damage that is identified before the aircraft is fully assembled can be addressed during the process.

“Some of the discussion we had with Soldiers was the buildup requirements and differences between the CH-47F and CH-47D,” said Latta. “We look into the parts

requirements and problems with parts that did not make it with the aircraft. Our biggest concern is ensuring that the units have the tools, parts and knowledge to conduct their mission in the safest and most efficient way as possible.”

After the Chinooks and accompanying Black Hawks are all fully assembled and flyable, they will join the 34th CAB mission in Kuwait and throughout the region to support coalition forces during training partnerships and joint missions. The LARS

will continue to assist the 34th CAB Soldiers throughout the mission.

“A majority of the LARS are prior service,” said Latta. “We have family and friends that are still serving our country. There is nothing like working with Soldiers – there is not a better job. This gives LARS the opportunity to continue serving alongside our Soldiers. We still have skin in the fight. When they ask for help, we do everything we can to ensure mission success.”

Pilot: Maintaining, flying Apache takes hard work, dedication

Continued from Page B1

typical evening begins with a preflight then a briefing for the mission.

“Then we conduct the mission and come back,” Archambault said. “Typically, the mission doesn’t take up the whole evening, so I have additional duties that I take care of during that time. Then the other shift comes on, and we close (out the) flight and pull our gear.”

As for the mechanical side of things, that’s the responsibility of the crew chief.

“That’s more her realm,” Archambault said, pointing to Spc. Edie Belk, 82nd CAB and the only female Apache crew chief in the unit.

Belk, a native of Salisbury, N.C., has been in the Army for almost three years. And she joined the Army right out of high school.

“This is what I wanted,” she said. “I made a really good score on my ASVAB. Even before I looked at the list I said, ‘I want to work on Apaches.’ Mainly because I really want to fly them.”

She’s working on her flight packet now, she said, adding that she knew that having experience on the aircraft first would help her become a pilot in the future.

A pilot just like Archambault, which, she said, makes her feel “pretty awesome -- because she’s the only one. I want to strive to be (like Archambault). Be something different.”

Belk’s job includes daily inspections, plus scheduled and preventative maintenance. In a nutshell, make sure that the aircraft is flyable – plus find and fix anything that will ground it.

“There are different inspections that we have to do just to upkeep that aircraft,” Belk said. “And unscheduled maintenance when pilots take it out and break it. We check all of the fluid levels, and make sure there are no parts or screws that come up because whenever the gun shoots it vibrates underneath. If there’s anything leaking, we’ll see that, and then find out where it’s coming from and fix it from there.”

Belk said she feels at home and she’s treated “like the little sister of the com-

pany.”

“It’s like having a pack of big brothers watching over you,” Archambault added. “Plus it brings out the competitiveness in you, I think. To be stacked against your male peers.”

When asked what tips she has for Belk, Archambault said, “It’s attitude more than anything that’s going to get you anywhere – especially

in this profession. If you want to do it, do it. And don’t put it off. I don’t think the Apache is ever going away. It’s the one that everybody calls when they need help. That and MedEvac.”

Archambault also shared the first time she flew an Apache.

“The first day you go out there, all you do is run the engines,” Archambault said.

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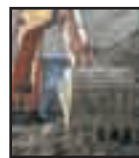


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MARCH 26, 2015

Commissary Value Brands

Benefit helps Soldiers, retirees save money on groceries

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

When money is tight, the Fort Rucker Commissary has a way for Soldiers, retirees and family members to pinch pennies and take their savings to the bank.

Through the Commissary Value Brand Program, patrons can save an average of 30 percent or more simply by looking for the orange tags throughout the commissary with the word "Value," according to Jess Lira, assistant commissary officer.

"We're providing that 30 percent savings across the board with the value brands," said Lira. "With all of these different brands, there are significant savings to be made with not only off-brand products, but name-brand products, as well.

"When you go to some of the stores in town and you see that they have all of their generic items that will be on sale, but when you come into the commissary you'll see that we have a lot of the name-brand items on sale with the Commissary Value Brand program,"

he said. "I'm retired Army, so I shop here, and when I go shop (at another store), I notice the significant savings because I do a price comparison when I come back."

The Commissary Value Brand program was re-energized by the Defense Commissary Agency as a response to growing demand for private label and value-priced products that people find in stores off post, according to the DeCA website, www.commissaries.com.

There are currently more than 300 items across 33 categories that people can choose from, and unlike sale items in most competing stores, Value Brand items provide the low price for a minimum of six months that is equal to or better than private-label brands.

As an example, the commissary sells a box of name-brand nutrition bars for \$2.50. The same brand at a competing store sells for \$3.89, which is a \$1.39 savings that can add up significantly when tallying groceries, said Bobby Ward, Fort Rucker commissary store director.

It's those kind of savings that

Ward said he wants to get to people. And those savings will carry over into the new commissary, which is slated to be complete in July.

Most of the construction for the building is completed and the parking lot is finished, and now the process of installing equipment for the new commissary is going on -- cubicles for the offices, refrigerators and electronics, said Lira.

Shelving is due to arrive April 16, said Ward, and industry professionals will be coming from May 4-7 to work on setting the store. Shortly after, items to go on the shelves will be scanned and electronic shelf labels will be created to go into the store's database.

The new state-of-the-art commissary will be significantly larger than the current store, with a total of 85,302 square feet, 47,380 of which is designated for the sales floor. That's more than 18,000 square feet extra sales floor space than the current commissary.

It will feature extensive produce, meat, frozen, chilled and grocery



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Penny Frazier, commissary clerk, restocks the shelves of some Commissary Value Brand products at the Fort Rucker commissary Monday. Value brands are labeled with an orange label that reads "Value."

departments, as well as an international delicatessen and bakery with a sandwich bar, a sushi-to-go area and rotisserie chicken.

There will be 13 regular checkouts and four self-checkout stations to handle the more than 45,000 customer transactions and serve the 30,000-plus authorized shoppers that visit the commissary every month.

With the layout of the new store,

Lira said there is room for substantial savings in electrical cost with skylights providing light during the day, as well as many other sustainable and energy-saving design features that were incorporated into the new building.

With all of these improvements, coupled with the savings from the Value Brand program, shoppers are in for a treat when shopping at the new commissary, Ward said.



FILE PHOTO

A scene from last year's Stroller Parade and Decorating Contest. This year's parade is April 27 at 9:30 a.m. at the Fort Rucker Elementary School track.

Events seek to raise child abuse prevention awareness

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Children are the future, and Fort Rucker is investing in that future by taking care of those who will eventually come to shape the world.

Fort Rucker is celebrating Child Abuse Prevention Month in April with events throughout the month to not only celebrate children, but to bring awareness to child abuse.

"A lot of times, child abuse doesn't come to people's attention until something bad happens," said Crystal Roedler, Fort Rucker new parent support program manager. "With programs like ours, we're a prevention program, so we like to put on activities and things for the month that are in celebration of children and the great things that they do."

The month's theme is "Children deserve to be protected: know the warning signs, help stop abuse before it happens."

The events will kick off with a proclamation signing April 7 when Col. Stuart J. McRae, Fort Rucker garrison commander, will sign the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation in the lobby of Bldg. 5700 between 9-10 a.m. The signing will include information on child abuse prevention, as well as a performance by the Fort Rucker Primary School choir.

April 9, Army Community Service will offer a free infant massage class from 9-11 a.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950.

"This is a new event for us," said Roedler. "A lot of the parents over the last year and a half have shown a lot of interest in infant massage, so we're really happy and thrilled this year to be able to provide that as a celebration of children."

The class has been shown to provide many calming benefits to the baby, parents and family members, said the pro-

gram manager. People should bring a thick blanket or large pillow and lightweight blanket. The class is recommended for children age birth to 2. The event is open to the first 20 participants to register by April 6. For more information call, 255-9647 or 255-3359.

Army Community Service will also be offering two ScreamFree parenting classes -- one for parents of small children and one for parents of teenagers.

The ScreamFree Parenting Your Teenager Class is April 22 at Bowden Terrace Community Center from 6-7:30 p.m. It is designed to help parents create a more

"It is very important to know the warning signs of child abuse and to keep your eyes open."

— CRYSTAL ROEDLER
FORT RUCKER NEW PARENT
SUPPORT PROGRAM MANAGER

calm, mutually respectful and loving relationship with their teenagers.

The regular ScreamFree Parenting Class will be April 23 at the Fort Rucker School Age Center from 10-11:30 a.m. and will focus on younger children.

Registration for both classes must be done by April 17 and space is limited to 35 participants for each class. For more information, call 255-9636.

Another popular event that is returning this year is the Stroller Parade and Decorating Contest.

"Last year was the first time we did the Stroller Parade, and it was so cute and so much fun, so we wanted to do it again," said Roedler.

This year's event will take place at the Fort Rucker Elementary School track April 27 and start at 9:30 a.m. with a parade and performance by the Fort Rucker Elementary School band and choir. Strollers should be decorated prior to the event, and people with strollers, wagons and trikes are welcome. For more information, call 255-9647 or 255-3359.

There will also be a free family movie night April 28 at the post theater beginning at 5 p.m. No tickets will be required for the event, which is offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Tables will be set up outside the event to provide information on child abuse prevention. For more information, call 255-9647.

To close out the month of events, there will be the Sensory Integration Activities for Children with Autism and Autism Spectrum Disorder workshop, which will discuss what sensory processing and sensory integration is, as well as engaging children with challenging sensory needs.

All of these events are designed to promote awareness, and that awareness leads to prevention, which is key to battling child abuse, said Roedler. And knowing what to look for since not all child abuse is physical is important in the fight.

"It is very important to know the warning signs of child abuse and to keep your eyes open to try and lend a hand to anyone who might be in need before it happens," said the program manager, adding that many of the warning signs can be seen in a child's behavior.

Roedler said to look out for changes in their behavior, such as their grades dropping, activity levels going down, mood changes, and not wanting to be touched or shying away from adults.

Also, child abuse is more prevalent in the 3 and under age group, but many people don't think of the older children who may be victims of child abuse.

To report child abuse on post, call military police at 255-2111.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE

Army Family Team Building needs volunteers to conduct Get R.E.A.L. (Rucker Experience Army Learning) classes. The one-day class is an interactive program that helps individuals learn the knowledge level of AFTB. The program is designed to facilitate spouses teaching spouses. AFTB needs ACS trainers to conduct this Fort Rucker-customized training. The ACS training course will be available for spouses interested in helping with the AFTB Program. For more information, call 255-1429.

Army Family Action Plan is looking for volunteers -- facilitators, recorders, transcribers and information support conference staff -- to begin planning the 2016 AFAP conference. The AFAP conference is scheduled for November. The AFAP conference committee will begin meeting every other month to plan the conference and begin recruiting conference volunteers. For more information, call 255-1429.

1ST BATTALION, 212TH AVIATION REGIMENT

Position: Activities support.

Duties: Provide assistance to key volunteers.

For more information, call 255-1429.

1ST BATTALION, 13TH AVIATION REGIMENT

Position Title: Social networking manager

Duties: Gathers and keeps up with and posts news, unit announcements and achievements, and community happenings. Manage unit family readiness group's Facebook page.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Position: Vice-president, parent advisory council.

Duties: Serves as the assistant to and fills in for the PAC president on all the following duties: works with the outreach services director and center directors, as a team, to manage information, issues and upcoming events in CYSS.

Position Title: Secretary, PAC.

Duties: Attends all PAC meetings and takes the minutes. Types up minutes within seven days after the meetings and submits to the president and outreach services director. Maintains the minutes on disk for the PAC file. Creates any posters, flyers or displays needed for PAC in conjunction.

Position Title: Communication specialists, PAC.

Duties: Establishes an email account for PAC. Composes and sends email updates to parents, to include meeting minutes and event reminders. Creates and maintains the email roster of PAC participants. Refers all email communications from parents to proper authority. Creates and publishes the PAC flyers and monthly newsletters. Writes newspaper articles and prepares information for radio broadcast. Submits information to the public affairs office for approval and release. Attends all PAC meetings. Promotes PAC. Approximately five hours per month. Hours will be flexible.

YOUTH POSITION

Position Title: Volunteer service assistant. Designed for youth who would like to enhance their interpersonal relationship skills, gain positive reinforcement in the lives of other youth and develop leadership skills.

Duties: Assist with youth field trips. Assist with youth indoor and outdoor activities. Assist with youth accountability

For more information, call 255-2262.

ON POST

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

Right Arm Night

The Landing Zone will host Right Arm Night today from 4-6 p.m. 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 598-8025.

Relocation readiness workshop

Army Community Service will host its relocation readiness workshop Friday in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371D, from 9–10 a.m. Soldiers and spouses will receive information from the military pay office on benefits, entitlements, advance pay, government travel card and more. They will also receive information on Army Emergency Relief and budgeting, preparing for employment before moving (for spouses), compiling the necessary documents and forms for exceptional family members moving overseas, and relocation checklists and websites to help prepare for a move. Space is limited, so people should register early by contacting the relocation readiness program at 255-3161 or 255-3735.

Trail closures

The Blue and Green running trails on Beaver Lake will be closed temporarily for repairs until May 16. People will not be able to complete the circle on the green and blue course while repairs are being made. For more information, call 255-9567.

Mom & Me: Dad too!

Army Community Service hosts its Mom & Me: Dad too! playgroup Mondays from 9:30–11 a.m. at the Wings Chapel nursery. The playgroup is for families with children ages birth to 3 years old. For more information, call 255-9647 or 255-3359.

Spring Break at school age center

Fort Rucker School Age Center will host its spring break Monday-April 3. Spring break will feature a trip to WonderWorks, bowling and CiCi’s Pizza. The center staff will host other activities for the children at the center. To attend, children must be registered with Fort Rucker Child, Youth and School Services. For more information, call 255-9108. To register, call parent central services at 255-9638.

Lifeguard Courses

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host lifeguarding courses Monday-April 3 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the fitness center on Andrews Avenue. Each class, once completed, includes American Red Cross certifications in Lifeguarding, Waterfront Lifeguarding, Waterpark Lifeguarding, First Aid, and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Auto-



FILE PHOTO

Children’s Festival

Fort Rucker will host its 11th annual Children’s Festival Saturday from 1-4 p.m. at the festival fields. The Children’s Festival will feature activities, games, crafts, inflatables, a petting zoo, stilt walkers and more, including the area’s largest Easter egg hunt. Youth are encouraged to dress as their favorite superhero for the event. The event’s timeline: 1-4 p.m., photos with the Easter Bunny and petting zoo; 1:30 p.m., egg hunt for ages 4-6; 1:45 p.m., egg hunt for ages 7-9 and 10-12; and 3-3:45 p.m., magic show. For more information, call 255-9810.

matic External Defibrillator administration. Each certification is valid for two years from the course completion date. Courses are available to ages 15 and up. The cost is \$125 for Department of Defense ID card holders and \$150 to the public. A prerequisite test must be passed on the first day to enter the course. Prerequisite requirements include: non-stop swim of 550 meters, two-minute tread using only legs, dive ring retrieval, and a timed 20-meter retrieval swim. People interested should register at the front desk of the Fort Rucker PFC. The cut-off for registration is three days prior to course start date. The courses may be canceled if minimum enrollment is not met. For more information, call 255-2296.

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 April 2. 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 at 10:45 a.m. The sessions will inform people on the essentials of the program and provide job search tips, as well. Advance registration is required and attendance at a session is mandatory for participation in the program. For more information, call 255-2594.

Financial readiness training

Army Community Service will host its financial readiness training April 3 from 7:20 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, Rm. 284. The training provides a practical approach to help Soldiers manage their money more effectively.

The training is required for all first-term junior enlisted Soldiers – E-1 through E-4. Spouses are also encouraged to attend. For more information, call 255-9631 or 255-2594.

Child Abuse Prevention Month Blue Day

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and blue is the nationally designated color to recognize this month. People are welcome to show their support for preventing child abuse by wearing blue every Friday in April. For more information, call 255-9647.

Easter Brunch

The Landing will host its Easter Brunch April 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will feature brunch favorites, such as an omelet bar, meat carving stations, a dessert bar and more. The cost is \$18.95 for adults, \$8.95 for ages 6–12, \$4.95 for ages 3–5, and free for children 2 and under. There is also the Military Family Special where two adults and two children can eat for \$49. Reservations are not required, but are encouraged. For more information or to make a reservation, call 598-2426.

Infant massage class

In recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, Army Community Service will offer a free infant massage class April 9 from 9–11 a.m. at the Commons, Bldg. 8950. Organizers said that beyond the joy of spending quality time bonding with a new baby, infant massage has been shown to provide many benefits to the baby, the parents and to the rest of the family. Expectant parents and caregivers are also welcome to attend. The class is open to the first 20 people to register by April 6. People should bring a thick blanket, or large pillow and a lightweight blanket to the class. For more information, call 255-9647 or 255-3359.

DFMWR

Spotlight

Upcoming Family & MWR Events and Activities



CHECK OUT OUR APRIL RUNS



SHARP 5K

Saturday April 4

Race begins at 8:15 am
Howze Field
Cost: \$3
Shirt included to the first 100 registrants



SURVIVORS & FALLEN HEROES 5K RUN

Saturday April 11

Race begins at 8 am
Fort Rucker PFC
\$20 by April 4*
\$25 after April 4**
*Shirt included
**Shirt included while supplies last

For details or to register call the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center, (334) 255-2296 or MWR Central, (334) 255-2997.

Open to the public.

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 26 - 29			
Thursday, March 26	Friday, March 27	Saturday, March 28	Sunday, March 29
Night at the Museum 3: Secret of the Tomb (PG-13)7 p.m.	The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water (PG)7 p.m.	Jupiter Ascending (PG-13)7 p.m.	Project Almanac (PG-13)2 p.m.
TICKETS ARE \$6 FOR ADULTS AND \$5 FOR CHILDREN, 12 AND UNDER. MILITARY I.D. CARD HOLDERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE WELCOME. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 255-2408.			

Burial sites to open at Arlington

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — In 2016, Arlington National Cemetery will open “an additional 27,282 burial opportunities,” Patrick K. Hallinan told lawmakers.

Hallinan, executive director of Army National Military Cemeteries, testified with others before the House Committee on Appropriations’ subcommittee on military construction, Veterans Affairs and related agencies March 18.

The so-called Millennium Project is expanding the cemetery to the north on 27 acres along the border with Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, said Greg Hegge, Norfolk District project manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Norfolk District is doing the construction work, said Hallinan, telling lawmakers that the project is within budget and on schedule. The budget for the Millennium Project is \$81.8 million.

The name Millennium Project came about because in the late 1990s when Congress directed a land transfer from JBMHH and the National Park Service paired with existing ANC property. Work did not actually start until January 2014, Hallinan said.

Southern expansion

Besides expanding northward, ANC is looking south, as well, Hallinan said.

In July, Norfolk District hired an architect and engineering firm to begin formal planning and design efforts “for our intended southern expansion,” he said. This expansion will occur in the area formerly occupied by the Navy Annex, which is just up the hill from the U.S. Air Force Memorial.



PHOTO BY PATRICK BLOODGOOD

Construction crews move dirt and prepare the ground at the Arlington National Cemetery Millennium Expansion Project Feb. 19, 2014. The project also involves restoring an impaired stream that runs through the area.

The Navy Annex is now fully demolished and the Army is negotiating the details of a transfer of land with Arlington County “that will provide us the maximum contiguous burial space in this area,” he said.

“This project will appropriately honor and respect our nation’s veterans and ideally extend our first interment capacity out to the 2050s,” he said, referring to the southern expansion, where construction could begin in 2018.

However, funding for this southward expansion, which would be about \$300 million, has not yet been identified, he said.

The expansions northward and southward are not the only projects.

Planning and design efforts “are well

under way” for the establishment of an ossuary called the Tomb of Remembrance, he said. “This critical project will allow us to provide the nation with a dignified place to provide final disposition of cremated remains which may be co-mingled or unidentified.”

ANC expects to award the contract in July and complete the project by early next year, he said.

Other improvement

ANC workers are making progress repairing or replacing much of the cemetery’s outdated utility infrastructure, Hallinan said, referring to waterlines, roads and storm-water drainage.

In October, ANC began renovations of its welcome center to modernize the

visitor’s restrooms and to expand office spaces to improve the work environment for employees, he said.

In addition, “we are focused on continuously improving the experience of each family who arrives to inter their loved one,” he said. “Redesigning and improving the manner in which we gather and escort our funeral processions is a critical goal” for this year.

For example, a new funeral procession queuing area will make funeral organization and lineup “much more intuitive and easier to negotiate,” for visitors, he said.

Funding

The president’s fiscal year 2016 Army budget “increased Arlington’s Budget Control Act funding level from \$45.8 million to \$70.8 million, and this level of funding is adequate to maintain and sustain Arlington’s operating budget into the foreseeable future, not including anticipated capital costs,” Hallinan said.

However, a future furlough or funding emergency could jeopardize ANC’s “ability to remain open and operational,” he said.

Hallinan said a good solution for ANC would be to return the cemetery’s budget to “no-year funding” to ensure flexibility and predictability in the budget. Before FY13, ANC had no-year funding.

No-year funding refers to appropriations that are available for obligation without fiscal year limitations. In other words, the money is made available until it is spent and is not time-constrained.

American Battle Monuments Commission funding is of the no-year funding type, he said.

Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Felicia, a 2-year-old short-hair, Calico. She is friendly and loveable. Adoption fees vary per species and needs of animal, but include all up-to-date shots, the first round of age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip and spaying or neutering. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. All adoptable animals are vet checked and tested for felv/fiv (for cats) or heartworm for dogs (over six months) and on flea prevention. The facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels. Donations can be dropped off at the stray facility. Visit the Fort Rucker stray facility's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/fortrucker-strayfacility/> for constant updates on the newest animals available for adoption.



COURTESY PHOTO

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday.

Headquarters Chapel, Bldg. 109

8 a.m. Traditional Protestant Service

Main Post Chapel, Bldg. 8940

9 a.m. Catholic Mass Sunday

11 a.m. Liturgical Protestant Service

12:05 p.m. Catholic Mass

(Tuesday - Friday)

4 p.m. Catholic Confessions Saturday

5 p.m. Catholic Mass Saturday

Wings Chapel, Bldg. 6036

8 a.m. Latter-Day Saints Worship

Service

9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Wings Crossroads

(Contemporary Worship Protestant

Service)

12 p.m. Eckankar Worship Service

(4th Sunday)

Spiritual Life Center, Bldg. 8939

9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School

10:45 a.m. CCD

(except during summer months).

BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesdays

9 a.m. Protestant Women of the

Chapel, Wings Chapel

5:30 p.m. Youth Group Bible Study,

Spiritual Life Center

6 p.m. Protestant Women of the

Chapel, Wings Chapel

7 p.m. Adult Bible Study,

Spiritual Life Center

Wednesdays

11 a.m. Above the Best Bible Study,

Yano Hall

11:30 a.m. 164th TAOG Bible Study,

Bldg. 30501

12 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Soldier

Service Center

6 p.m. Adult Bible Study,

Spiritual Life Center

Thursdays

9 a.m. Adult Bible Study,

Spiritual Life Center

6:30 p.m. Latter-Day Saints

Bible Study, Wings Chapel

6:30 p.m. Wings Bible Study

(Meal/Bible Study),

Wings Chapel

Church Directory

“Be ye
followers of
me, even
as I also am
of Christ.”
1 Corinthians
11:1

First United Methodist Church

Traditional Worship Service

8:30AM & 11:00AM

Contemporary Worship -

New Connection

8:45AM & 11:00AM

The Gathering - Youth

5:45PM

Sunday School

10:00 M

Nursery Care: During all services

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efumc@adelphia.net

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Inventions benefit warfighter, educate community

By Kyle Chronister
AMRDEC Public Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. — Among the “101 Rocket City Inventions” on display at the Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, are three innovations created by the Aviation Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center, or AMRDEC.

In conjunction with the center’s featured exhibit, the “101 Inventions that Changed the World,” the center included local patents ranging from a poultry watering system to the four AMRDEC contributions.

AMRDEC’s exhibited inventions include the high-mobility, multi-wheeled vehicle crew extraction d-ring, the shadow unmanned aerial vehicle communication relay system, and the enhanced fiber optic guided missile.

Each featured AMRDEC invention was created to provide solutions to benefit the Soldier in communication, protection, and combat



PHOTO BY KYLE CHRONISTER

The unmanned aerial vehicle communication relay system, also known as the UAV CRS, provides Soldiers with early warning and intelligence information.

readiness beginning with the Iraqi War, and continuing through the current engagement.

“Pieces that came out of the AMRDEC really show the ingenuity that goes into the development of these systems whether it is communications, weapons, or in the case of the crew extraction d-ring, you are talking about a very simple

concept applied in a very unique and creative way,” said Edward Stewart Huntsville’s the Space and Rocket Center’s exhibits director. “AMRDEC’s engineers, scientists, and technicians apply the creativity and ingenuity to all of their inventions that are beneficial to the warfighter.”

AMRDEC’s featured inventions

include:

Crew extraction d-ring: During the Iraqi War, the high-mobility, multi-wheeled vehicles, or HMMWV, were attacked and Soldiers would be pinned inside their rollover vehicle with no way to escape. AMRDEC’s prototype integration facility designed a d-ring to provide an anchor point for emergency removal of damaged doors. There is a d-ring on every up-armored HMMWV in the military inventory.

The unmanned aerial vehicle communication relay system, also known as the UAV CRS, provides Soldiers with early warning and intelligence information through enhanced communications between the ground control station operators and company commanders. This technology gives the shadow UAV operators a way to communicate with Soldiers who are on the ground. Due to the high success of this system, the communication relay system has been used for situational awareness, call for

fire support throughout the theater and a way to communicate danger to troops at the ground control station.

The enhanced fiber optic guided missile, or EFOG-M, is a deployable missile system able to defeat armored vehicles, rotary wing aircraft and other high-level targets. AMRDEC designed the EFOG-M with a high resolution infrared video camera on the front nose of the missile, providing the gunner a visual from the missile’s perspective. This missile utilizes a fiber optic data link to transmit and receive command and sensor inputs to seek out and defeat threats hidden behind hills, foliage, or even urban settings.

The 101 Rocket City inventions, and its partner exhibit, 101 Inventions that Changed the World, remains at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center through Dec. 31. Admission is free for active-duty military (with discount for spouses and children). Admissions is also free for NASA employees.

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 — Andalusia Public Library offers free practice tests. Patrons can choose from more than 300 online tests based on official exams such as the ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, firefighter, police officer, paramedic, U.S. citizenship and many more. Patrons may select to take a test and receive immediate scoring. Test results are stored in personalized individual accounts, accessible only to patrons. Call 222-6612 for more information.

DALEVILLE

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

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

DOTHAN

MARCH 28-29 — The annual Gem and Mineral Show at the Houston County Farm Center, 1701 E. Cottonwood Road, will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 28 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 29. The family-friendly event features free admission and parking. Local and national vendors will display and sell gemstones, mineral specimens and fossils from all over the world. There will also be jewelry designers and flint knappers displaying

their handcrafted creations, educational exhibits and a children’s activity corner. The event is hosted by the Dothan Gem & Mineral Club. For more information, call 792-7116 or visit www.wiregrassrockhounds.com.

ONGOING — The Wiregrass Museum of Art hosts First Saturday Family Day the first Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m. The event is recommended for elementary-aged children. For more information, visit wiregrassmuseum.com or call 794-3871.

ENTERPRISE

APRIL 6 — American Legion Post 73 will host the first leg of the American Legions Riders State Wide Legacy Run at 9 a.m.. Members and others from across the state will meet at Post 73 for breakfast and start off the first leg of the five-day ride across Alabama. The first bike will be out at 10 a.m. People may register on line or on the day of the event. People may ride any portion of the ride. Preregistration is recommended. For more information, visit alabamaalr.org or call 347-1426.

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.

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

MARCH 26 — Disabled American Vet-

erans Chapter 99 will meet at 6 p.m. in the New Brockton Senior Center located one block behind the New Brockton Police Station. Food and drinks will be served, followed by regular chapter business. Veterans throughout the Wiregrass are invited to join as new members of both the DAV and DAV Auxiliary. New DAV hats will be available for purchase for \$12 each at this meeting. For more information, call 718-5707.

ONGOING — Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 10 a.m. to noon, 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 helps veterans and their spouses with disability compensation claims, Veterans Affairs pensions, death benefits, VA medical care, Social Security disability benefits, veterans job programs, homeless veterans services and other veteran services. All veteran services are provided free of charge. For more information, call 718-5707.

ONGOING — Adult education classes are offered in Rm. 12 at New Brockton High School, 210 South Tyler St., Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m. All classes are free for individuals 16 years old or older who are not enrolled in public school. Individuals must take an assessment test prior to attending class. Call 894-2350 for more information.

OZARK

MARCH 29 — Lively Stones Ministries Worship Center will host a Youth Fellowship Service at 4 p.m. The theme is Stir up your Gifts, with guest speaker Artez Jones from Greater Sardis Missionary Baptist Church. The church is located at 187 Parker Hills Drive.

APRIL 3 — Lively Stones Ministries Worship Center will host a community-wide, come as you are Good Friday Service at 7 p.m. with a message by Pastor Jimmy Jackson from Promise Land Ministries in Troy.

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 — The Pioneer Museum of Alabama invites people to learn to cook like a pioneer. The museum’s Hearthside Meals offers the opportunity to learn to cook in a Dutch oven and on a wood stove, and then participants get to enjoy the meal. Cost is \$15 per person, and includes the cooking class and the three-course meal. Pre-registration is required and is limited to 15 people. For more information or to book a spot, call 334-566-3597.

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

Beyond Briefs

Battle of Horseshoe Bend anniversary

Horseshoe Bend National Military Park will host the 201st Anniversary of the Battle of the Horseshoe March 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The free annual event recreates frontier life in the year 1814, and emphasizes the importance of the battle in United States history through a variety of special demonstrations and interpretive programs. Activities will provide park visitors with a better understanding of the combatants and the reasons why the battle took place.

People can experience the life of the Creek and Cherokee Indians, visit traditional hunting camps, and watch demonstrations of cultural skills such as hide tanning, flint knapping and finger weaving.

People also can experience the life of Andrew Jackson’s frontier army, watch Tennessee militia fire smoothbore cannon and flintlock muskets, learn how soldiers cooked their meals, and lived while on campaign through a variety of encampments and displays in the museum.

All demonstrations will be presented multiple times throughout the day and there will also be activities for children ages 5-12 at the junior ranger tent behind the

visitor center.

For more information, call 256-234-7111 or visit www.nps.gov/hobe. Horseshoe Bend NMP is located 12 miles north of Dadeville on Alabama Highway 49.

Dream Marches On trolley tours

The Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce Convention and Visitor Bureau will host special Dream Marches On Guided Trolley Tours throughout March. The tours will highlight all downtown attractions with an emphasis on civil rights history and feature a trip to the City of St. Jude along the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail. All tours are about one hour and will begin and end at the Montgomery Area Visitor Center.

Tour dates are March 26, 27 and 28 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person – children under 5 are admitted for free. Tickets can be purchased at the Montgomery Area Visitor Center located at 300 Water Street, Montgomery.

To make reservations, call 334-262-0013. For more information, visit <http://visitingmontgomery.com/Blog-detail/dream-marches-on-guided-trolley-tours>.

Free tour at Museum of Alabama

A free daily guided tour will be offered Saturdays to the

public at the Museum of Alabama, located at the Alabama Department of Archives and History in Montgomery. This hour-long tour will begin at 1 p.m. and no pre-registration is required. People can join one of the museum’s experienced docents as they guide people through Alabama’s past, highlighting incredible artifacts, images and documents, and answering questions along the way.

The Museum of Alabama is open Mondays–Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free! For more information, call 242-4364 or visit www.museum-alabama.gov/.

Lighthouse Full Moon Climb

People are invited to climb to the top of the Cape St. George Light to watch the sunset and the rise of the full moon April 4. The sunset and full moon climb includes light hors d’oeuvres and a sparkling cider toast to the full moon. Cost is \$15 for the general public and \$10 for members of the St. George Lighthouse Association. After sunset, people are invited to climb to the top of the lighthouse for a view of the full moon, as space and time permit. Because space is limited, reservations are recommended.

For reservations or more information, call 850-927-7745. The lighthouse is located at 2 East Gulf Beach Dr., St George Island.

Paratrooper connects with grandfather

By Staff Sgt. Opal Vaughn
U.S. Army Europe
Public Affairs

VICENZA, Italy – It was the last stronghold of the Japanese. A small tadpole shaped island in the Philippines known as Corregidor and it was all the Americans needed in order to secure a victory.

The 503rd Parachute Regimental Combat Team, activated in August of 1941 prior to the beginning of World War II, was among the few chosen to combat Japanese defenses there.

Corregidor, an American outpost nicknamed “the Rock” before the war, had withstood a fierce Japanese siege for nearly five months. It is also where Gen. Douglas MacArthur, supreme allied commander, Southwest Pacific Area, was when he uttered his famous words while evacuating the island on March 11, 1942, “I shall return.”

Even after Manila had been captured, thousands of U.S. and Filipino soldiers continued to fight off the advances of Japanese forces from the Bataan Peninsula. April 9, 1942, the U.S. call to surrender the peninsula on the main Philippine island of Luzon served a devastating blow to U.S. and Filipino soldiers who had held out against the Japanese despite having no naval or air support.

Starved and disease ridden, approximately 75,000 soldiers on Bataan were forced to walk a 65-mile march to the prison camps. Those who could not make the arduous walk were rounded up like cattle and used as bayonet practice by the Japanese army. Others were simply barricaded into bunkers and burned alive.

Retaking Corregidor would be the most grueling combat action in which the 503rd Combat Team engaged in during the war.

Strategically, Corregidor was of major importance though, said U.S. Army paratrooper 1st Lt. Adam Obregon, assigned to 173rd Airborne Brigade, describing the history of Corregidor. Being able to take back the island gave the Allies access to Manila to push additional supplies through the Philippines.

Heavily fortified, over 6,550 Japanese soldiers defended the Island. With a position dominating the bay, an amphibious assault would be anticipated and costly. The paratroopers of the 503rd were called for an audacious mission.

Second Battalion of the 503rd would conduct a daytime airborne assault onto the island, with 1st Battalion conducting an amphibious assault.

With the invasion of the island of Leyte



ARMY PHOTO

First Lt. Adam Obregon, a paratrooper with Headquarters, 173rd Airborne Brigade, stands in front of the 503rd Infantry Regimental colors during the 70th anniversary of the re-taking of Corregidor Island, Philippines, March 1.

in October 1944, paratroopers surprised the Japanese garrison by jumping onto “the Rock.”

Three years later on March 2, MacArthur made good on his promise and he returned, giving the order to raise the U.S. flag once again over Corregidor.

“I see the old flag pole still stands,” said MacArthur. “Have your troops hoist the colors to its peak and let no enemy ever haul them down.”

Only one-third of the men MacArthur left behind on March 11, 1942, survived to see his return. “I’m a little late,” he told them, “but we finally came.”

One of the paratroopers that jumped in that day was U.S. Army Cpl. Maurice Obregon, assigned to the 462nd Parachute Field Artillery Battalion, 503rd Parachute Regimental Combat Team during WWII and fought at Corregidor.

His grandson, Lieutenant Obregon, had the privilege to carry the 503rd’s colors from their home in Vicenza to the Philippines March 2 in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the re-taking of Corregidor Island by Allied Forces during WWII.

“I’m third-generation Army,” said Obregon. “My father served 20 years and my grandfather, of course, (who) served with the 462nd. When I found out I was selected, my dad was just in awe. It’s a level of pride that he has not only for me but for his father.”

In its initial history, the 503rd was a separate entity. After the battle at Corregidor, the regiment became known as “the Rock.”

When the 173rd Airborne Brigade activated in Okinawa, Japan, in 1963, it was built upon the 503rd regiment, with four battalions of the 503rd Infantry Regiment.

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United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence & Fort Rucker
Fort Rucker, Alabama

Holy Week Services 2015

Come join us during special times of fellowship and remembrance. Let's reflect together on Christ's sacrificial gift and prepare our hearts for the victory that came on Resurrection morning.

Holy Thursday (2 Apr):
Catholic, 1900, Main Post Chapel
Protestant, 1200, Main Post Chapel

Good Friday (3 Apr):
Catholic, 1500 (Stations of the Cross), Main Post Chapel
Catholic, 1700 (Liturgy), Main Post Chapel
Protestant, 1200, Main Post Chapel

Holy Saturday (4 Apr):
Catholic, Easter Vigil, 2000, Main Post Chapel

Easter Services/Mass (5 Apr):
Latter Day Saint Service, 0800, Wings Chapel
Catholic Mass, 0900, Main Post Chapel
Wings Crossroads Service, 1045, Wings Chapel
Liturgical Worship Service, 1100, Main Post Chapel

Postlude
Easter Sunrise Service
5 April, 0630, Wings Chapel
(Flight Landing Strip behind Chapel)

Main Post Chapel (Bldg 8940)
Wings Chapel (Bldg 6036)

For more information contact the Religious Support Office, 334-255-2989/2012

Visit us at www.fortrucker.com and www.fortrucker.com/religious-support

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MARCH 26, 2015



FILE PHOTOS

Families participate in a previous youth fishing tournament at Parcours Lake.

Gone fishing

Fishing holes, weather heat up on post

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

As the weather warms up, more and more people are taking to the water, and Fort Rucker features a plethora of waterways that people can take to with rods and reels.

There are a total of six different lakes on Fort Rucker covering more than 670 acres that house a variety of different fish ranging from largemouth bass, hybrid bass, catfish, crappie and bream that people can test their skills against as they cast their lines, according to Bob Schotter, recreation assistant for Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation.

The first and most well known of all the lakes is Lake Tholocco, which offers two different fishing piers, one on East Beach and one on West Beach, and shoreline fishing is also permitted.

People can catch largemouth bass, bream, catfish and crappie in Lake Tholocco's waters, and something many people don't know is that night fishing is allowed on the lake.

"Night fishing at Lake Tholocco is the only authorized activity after sunset," said the ODR recreation assistant. "People can fish from the shore or from a boat, and as long as the boats are equipped with proper lighting, fishing at night is permitted anywhere on the lake."

People operating the boats must first complete the boater's safety course before taking any boats out on the lake, he added.

Lake Tholocco is also the only lake on the installation that permits powerboats, said Schotter. Any boats in the other lakes



Lucas Gangler, military Family member, took first place in a previous youth fishing tournament at Parcours Lake.

on Fort Rucker must be self propelled.

Although the lakes are full of fish, there is a limit on how many fish people can take home, said Schotter.

At Lake Tholocco, for largemouth bass, there is a limit of five for less than 14 inches in length and only one for more than 18 inches. Any largemouth bass caught between the sizes of 14-18 inches must be thrown back, he said.

For bream there is a limit of 30; for catfish the limit is 15; and people can catch up to 30 crappie longer than nine inches.

Although the other lakes on the installa-

tion don't compare in size to Lake Tholocco, they come pretty close when it comes to the fishing experience and are available from sunup to sundown, Schotter said.

Parcours Lake is another popular fishing spot on Fort Rucker, but this particular spot is reserved for the installation's youth anglers, he said.

"Because of the size of the lake - 4.1 acres - and its proximity to the housing areas, it's only permitted for those ages 15 and younger," he said, adding that parents are allowed to assist their children in fishing, but children must reel in their own fish.

The lake is home to bream, catfish and some largemouth bass, and is located on Farrel Road behind Lyster Army Health Clinic.

Another hidden gem on Fort Rucker, more known for its trails than its fishing, is Beaver Lake.

This 7.7-acre lake is open to all ages for fishing from sun up to sun down, and houses largemouth bass, bream, catfish and crappie. The limit on fish at Beaver Lake are two largemouth bass larger than 16 inches; 10 bream of no size limit; unlimited catfish; and up to 30 crappie with no size limit.

Beaver Lake is located off of Third Avenue across from the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center's football field.

There are also a few lakes that are relatively unknown to most on the installation, but the fishing they provide is just as enjoyable as their more well-known counterparts, said Schotter.

Eck Lake is a 7.7-acre lake that is open to all ages also filled with largemouth bass, bream, catfish and crappie. To get to this

hidden gem, turn from Christian Road onto Johnston Road and take the first unpaved road on the left, then follow the signs.

The limits for the lake are no more than two largemouth bass 16 inches or larger, 10 bream with no size limit, unlimited catfish, and up to 30 crappie with no size limit.

Schotter said there is an alligator that lives in Eck Lake, but "he never bothers anyone."

Buckhorn Lake is another lake that isn't very well known, but it's also one of the installation's most restricted lakes due to its location and proximity to training areas, said Schotter.

The lake is 13.2 acres and is home to largemouth bass, bream and crappie, but days of operation vary from day to day.

Buckhorn Lake is located two miles past Silver Wings Golf Course on Hatch Road.

"The lake is only open about half the time, so people should call outdoor recreation before they head out to the lake to confirm the times," said the recreation assistant.

Beaver Pond is the smallest of all the lakes on Fort Rucker and is also the least developed, according to Schotter. Beaver Pond is open to all ages, and is located off of Andrews Avenue between Silver Wings Golf Course and the Ozark Gate.

People 16 and older must have a state fishing license and post fishing permit to fish on Fort Rucker, and everyone operating a boat, motorized or self propelled, must complete the Fort Rucker Boating Safety Course. People can visit the outdoor recreation service center to obtain a license and permit.

For more information, call 255-4305.

Common portion sizes help increase waistlines

By Andrea Rigshy
*Lyster Army Health Clinic
Chief of Nutrition Care*

March is National Nutrition Month, and as we think about the nutritional problems facing our country, our main focus is on the obesity epidemic and its causes.

One factor that could be related to the increase in people being overweight and obesity is the increase in common portion sizes. Over the past few decades, portion sizes of most foods in America have increased considerably. Unfortunately, so have American's waistbands.

Although the increase in portion sizes are not the only reason for our obesity epidemic, large quantities of cheap foods have distorted our perception of what a typical portion is supposed to look like.

A 2004 study published in "Appetite," found that people who were given larger bags of potato chips ate more than people who were given the same chips in a smaller package. This supports the theory that as portion size increases, so does consumption.

As Americans, we love a good deal, but this frugality doesn't always work to our advantage. Today's value pricing, which gives us a lot more food or drink for just a little bit more money, makes sense economically, but is terrible for our health.

A 2007 paper published in the Journal of Public Health Policy stated that portion sizes currently offered by fast food chains are two to five times larger than when first introduced. In 1955, McDonald's first hamburger only weighed 1.6 ounces. Today, the average burger weighs 8 ounces. A hamburger 20 years ago would have



ARMY GRAPHIC

Lyster 4-part healthy eating class

- Healthy Eating 101 - Food and Your Body April 6 and 20.
- Healthy Eating 201 - Food Label Facts: April 8 and 22.
- Healthy Eating 301 - Supermarket Survey: Monday, and April 13 and 27.
- Healthy Eating 401 - Know Your Plate: Wednesday, and April 15 and 29.
- All classes will be held from 11-11:30 a.m. in the Lyster Activity Room (J100). Classes will be held throughout the year. For later dates or more information, call 255-7986.

contained 333 calories. A burger today contains 590 calories. Those extra 257 calories, if consumed once a week, would cause a weight gain of 3.8 pounds per year.

Although the 12-ounce can of soda used to be the most common option, many stores now only carry the 20-ounce plastic bottle, which contains 2.5 servings of soda. An original 8-ounce bottle of soda contained

97 calories. A 20-ounce bottle of soda today contains 242 calories. Those extra 145 calories, if consumed daily, would cause a weight gain of 15 pounds per year.

Two decades ago, people weren't given as many size options for a cup of coffee as we are today. An 8-ounce cup of coffee 20 years ago would have contained 45 calories. Today, a grande café mocha contains 330 calories. Those extra 285 calories, if

consumed daily, would cause a weight gain of 27.4 pounds per year.

Portion sizes are not the only thing that has increased in size. Plate, bowl and cup sizes have also become larger. In the 1950s, a standard dinner plate was nine inches. Today, the standard size is 12 inches. A study from the American Journal of Preventive Medicine found that when people were given larger bowls and spoons, they served themselves larger portions of food and tended to eat the entire portion.

Most of us are familiar with the idea that a serving of meat should be the size of a deck of cards or that a piece of fruit should be the size of a tennis ball. However, most restaurants do not take this into account when deciding their portion sizes.

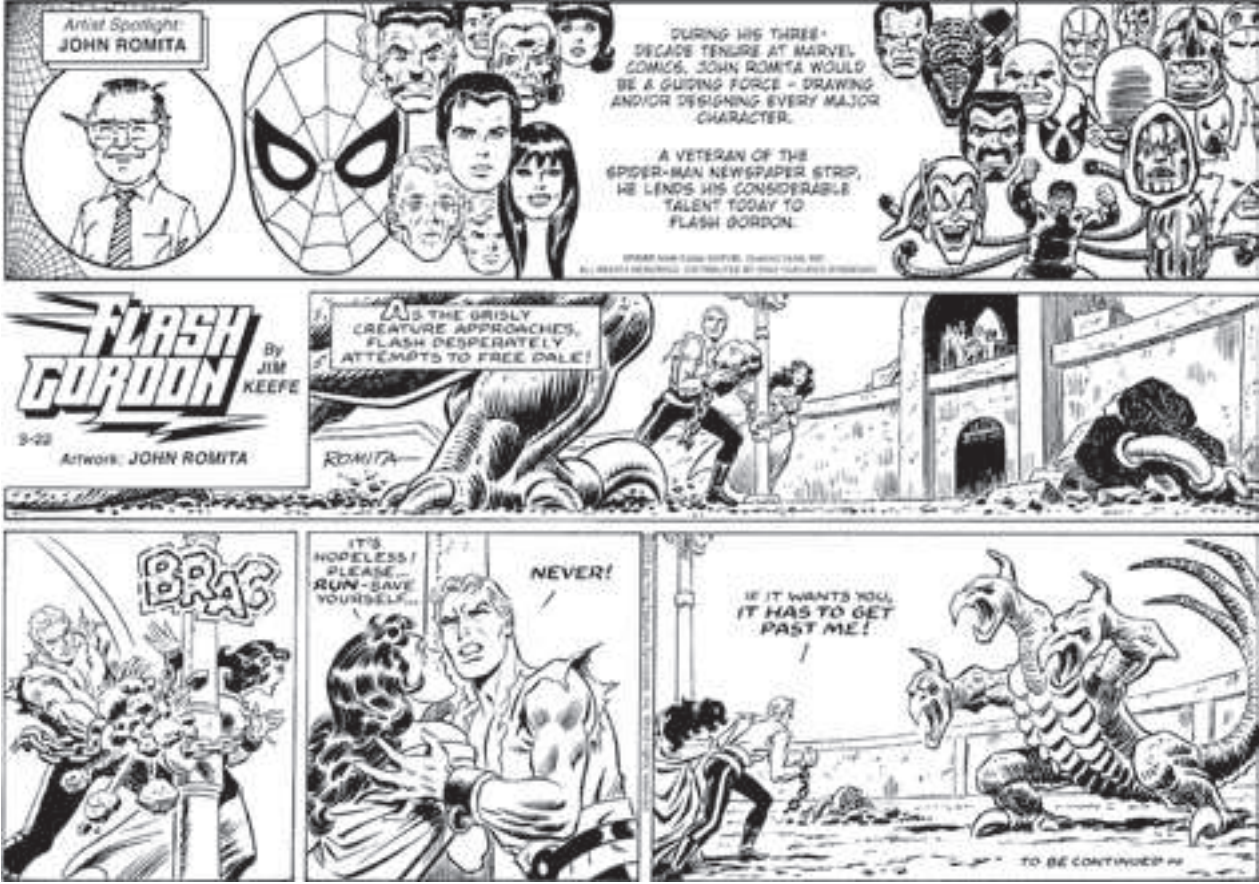
Lyster Army Health Clinic offers many classes to help further educate the Fort Rucker community on nutrition and health. Some of those include Army Move weight control classes, diabetes information classes, and healthy heart classes. Lyster rolled out a healthy eating class that started Monday, which is a four-part series teaching basic nutrition. Cooking demonstrations will begin April 17.

Anyone interested in participating in any class can call 255-7986 or stop by Lyster's new Lifespace Center to schedule an individual appointment.

The increase in portion sizes over the years has encouraged us to eat more and distorted our perception of appropriate serving sizes. That, along with more sedentary lifestyles, has contributed to our obesity epidemic.

Perhaps the image that we should become more familiar with in a restaurant setting is the doggy bag.

DOWN TIME



Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 It may begin "Here lies ..."
 - 8 Like fables with morals
 - 15 Sprayed like a firefighter
 - 20 Composer Saint-Saëns
 - 21 Maui tourist town
 - 22 Wash away
 - 23 Like overly harsh punishment
 - 25 Consolidate
 - 26 Suffix with prophet
 - 27 Calc. prereq
 - 28 Hosiery hitch
 - 30 Transmission option
 - 31 Coil of yarn
 - 33 1985 hit for Sheila E.
 - 37 Female graduates
 - 40 Middle: Abbr.
 - 41 Cello bow rub-on
 - 42 Monkey of kid-lit
 - 46 Upholstered footstool
 - 50 Country singer Travis
 - 51 Inits. on a navy vessel
 - 52 Neighbor of Ger.
- DOWN**
- 2 "Lo!" to Livy
 - 3 Golf norms
 - 4 Don of radio
 - 5 Deadlock
 - 6 100%
 - 7 Tableland
 - 8 Units of inductance
 - 9 Chug— (guzzle)
 - 10 Suffix with Caesar
 - 11 Mu— pork
 - 12 Pope before Gregory XIII
 - 13 More nonsensical
 - 14 Prison, informally
 - 15 — and haw
 - 16 Pizza herb
 - 17 More irritated
 - 18 Rocker Winter
 - 19 Plow pioneer
 - 24 Noisy clamor
 - 29 Basic idea
 - 31 Actor Jimmy
 - 32 Granny, e.g.
 - 33 At — of (priced at)
 - 34 Item in a P.O. box
 - 35 Part of NATO: Abbr.
 - 36 Acne spot
 - 37 Performed on stage
 - 38 Lies in wait
 - 39 Apocryphal archangel
 - 43 With 115— Down, nervous and apprehensive
 - 44 Part of i.e.
 - 45 "... wife could — lean"
 - 47 Injure badly
 - 48 Jai —
 - 49 DEA agent
 - 53 "Shape — ship out!"
 - 56 Alphabet opener
 - 57 "May — of service?"
 - 58 Burglar's job
 - 59 Missile's path
 - 60 "Deathtrap" star Michael
 - 61 "For — us a child is born"
 - 62 Guitarist Paul
 - 64 "Green" sci.
 - 67 Sci-fi power
 - 68 Robert De —
 - 69 1990s exercise fad
 - 70 Bldg. units
 - 71 Virus, e.g.
 - 72 Not closed
 - 73 Jay of NBC
 - 74 Biblical verb
 - 77 Belittling frat brother
 - 78 Circus venue
 - 79 Touchy
 - 81 Bohemianism
 - 82 Meanders
 - 83 Question's opp.
 - 84 Turndowns
 - 85 Like Brutus
 - 89 Prince — von Bismarck
 - 91 Go along with
 - 92 Christie's cry
 - 93 — many words
 - 95 Coloring stuff
 - 96 Camera —
 - 97 Ones toeing the line
 - 98 Tag anew
 - 100 In the habit of
 - 103 Crossed a ford
 - 104 Got by
 - 105 Like a charged atom
 - 106 Cyclical, at the beach
 - 107 — tai (drink)
 - 110 "The — the limit!"
 - 111 Markey of Tarzan films
 - 112 Nixing mark
 - 113 Stalin's land
 - 115 See 43-Down
 - 117 English dramatist Thomas
 - 118 Lyrical verse
 - 119 Ruin Bobby
 - 120 Peru's Sumac
 - 121 Campaigned



See Page D3 for this week's answers.

TRIVIA



- LITERATURE: How many publishers rejected James Joyce's "The Dubliners" before it finally made it to print?
- GEOGRAPHY: The Falkland Islands are located off which continent?
- MYTHOLOGY: What does the Greek goddess Aphrodite represent?
- PRESIDENTS: When was Lyndon Johnson elected president?
- MEDICAL TERMS: What is the common name for "epistaxis"?
- RELIGION: In the Christian calendar, what is Low Sunday?
- THEATER: What was the name of the female protagonist in the play "West Side Story"?
- LANGUAGE: What would "turbid" water look like?
- U.S. STATES: What state's nickname is the Pine Tree State?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What do the first three numbers of a Social Security number signify currently?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID's CORNER

Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman

A-PLUS! Beginning with letter A, at right, add a letter in each step to form a five-word, rearranging letters as necessary. As shown, every other word has a letter A in its center.

Definitions: 1. Repeat word (shown A in panel). 2. Nonstop. 3. Uninterrupted. 4. Related. 5. Same. 6. It leads for you. 7. One waiting. 8. Colorful notes.

THREE SUB! Invite a friend to select three consecutive numbers, insert in the top the numbers and color by three. First, answer to the middle number. Give 3 & 5.

OFF THE WALL FIGURING

Our 100-year-old is attempting to complete a set that will cost \$100 in all conditions. That is to say, across, down and diagonally.

Eight consecutive numbers from 400 through 500 are already in golden. Eight more consecutive numbers, from 400 through 500, appear twice, remain to be inserted. Each letter number also belongs in one of two categories: numbers including the letter in its name. Use 7 you can help the 100-year-old complete his formation.

DOG DAZE! How many dogs do you see in this picture? Our artist claims there are 25. Find them, if you can.

Wishing Well

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SMASH HIT! One good return deserves another in a nip and tuck Ping-Pong game. Colors: 1—Red, 2—Blue, 3—Yellow, 4—Black, 5—Green, 6—Brown, 7—Pink, 8—Purple.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form five complete words.

DISPROVE

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 30 points. Use 100 minutes, exactly.

Wishing Well

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

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

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTTHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRIEFS

Youth Extreme Fitness

Youth can sign up now through May 18 for Fort Rucker Child, Youth and School Services' Youth Extreme Fitness sessions that will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 19-June 18, from 6-7 p.m. at the youth sports football field. CYSS officials said that this program will be both challenging and rewarding, adding that parents should keep in mind that the program is intended to push children beyond their normal comfort zones – mentally and physically. The cost is \$20 and it is open to youth ages 8-18. A current sports physical and valid CYSS membership are required for participation.

People can sign up at parent central services, 255-9638. For more information, call 255-225.

2-Man Buddy Bass Tournament

Outdoor recreation will host a Two-Man Buddy Bass Tournament Saturday from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lake Tholocco. Prizes will be awarded, including cash prizes for the top three weigh-in totals, a special prize for the biggest fish, and door prizes. Participants must have a valid Alabama State Fishing License, a Fort Rucker Post Fishing Permit and a Fort Rucker Boating Safety Completion Card. The event is open to the public and costs \$100 per team. There are 25 slots are available for the tournament, so people are encouraged to register early.

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

April Fools Pindemonium

Rucker Lanes will host its April Fools Pindemonium Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event features games and shoe

rentals for 10 cents each. For more information, call 255-9503.

SHARP 5K run

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention 5K race April 4 in awareness of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The campaign slogan this year is "Eliminate sexual assault: Know your part. Do your part." The race will start at Howze Field at 8:15 a.m. Cost is \$3 for race entry. Refreshments will be provided. This race is open to the public. Participants are encouraged to pre-register at either physical fitness center.

For more information, call 255-2296.

Survivors & Fallen Heroes 5K

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host the Survivors & Fallen Heroes 5k April 11 starting at 8 a.m. Race-day registration begins at 6:30 a.m. at the Fort Rucker PFC on Andrews Avenue. Participants are encouraged to pre-register at either PFC. The fun run is open to all children, free of charge, and will begin after the 5K race is complete. Each fun run participant will receive a medal. Costs for the 5k is \$20 per individual with a shirt through April 4; \$25 after April 4 with a shirt – while supplies last. Refreshments will be provided. The race is open to the public. Trophies will be awarded in various categories.

For more information, call 255-2296.

Spring Boot Camp

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host its Spring Boot Camp April 13-May 22. PFC officials said the program is a


challenging and entertaining fitness camp packed full of outdoor activities to deliver a significant increase to people's fitness levels, and leave them feeling energized, recharged and motivated to maintain their transformed fitness level into the heat of the Alabama summer. Each session has been developed to ensure people get maximum benefits and results from every activity. All sessions take into account varying fitness levels and abilities. The program will run Mondays- Fridays, rain or shine, from 8:30-9:45 a.m. The cost is \$100 per participant, due in full by April 13, and includes training with certified personal trainers and group exercise leaders, access to all group fitness classes during the six weeks, a 2015 Spring Boot Camp T-shirt, and weekly nutritional tips and information. Orientation will be held April 13 at 8:30 a.m. at the Fort Rucker PFC. Each participant's information will be reviewed and people will be contacted if a doctor's release is needed before orientation.

People can sign up at the Fort Rucker PFC or MWR Central. For more information, call 255-2296 or 255-3794.

Gobbler Classic Turkey Hunt


Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation will host its Gobbler Classic Turkey Hunt now through April 30. The cost to participate is \$25. Prizes will be awarded. Participants must have a valid Alabama State All Game License, Fort Rucker Post Hunting Permit and a Hunter Education Completion Card. Alabama state regulation and Fort Rucker Regulation 215-1 apply. The turkey must be harvested on Fort Rucker in order to qualify. This hunting event is open to the public.

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



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