

**VOL. 65** NO. 10

FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

MARCH 12, 2015

## TALKING TRAINING, BUILDING TEA

#### Centers of excellence leaders build relationships

#### By Nathan Pfau Army Flier Staff Writer

Senior leaders from seven different centers of excellence visited Fort Rucker to get together and better communicate ideas in the Army, but the conference's main focus was set on team building.

Fort Rucker was abuzz with commanders, commandants and directors from all across the Army March 5-6 during the Commandants and Directors of Training Conference where senior Army leadership could get face time with each other to better work together, according to Col. Brian McHugh, military deputy for the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center-Training.

The conference was an opportunity for Lt. Gen. Robert B. Brown, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, commanding general, to meet with Army leadership across the CAC and get that leadership working together as a team.

"This is his conference and his opportunity to get face-to-face with those individuals. It's important because it gets him with his commanders, commandants and directors of training, and allows them to get face-to-face, allows him to give guidance, hear what they're doing and give the guidance in person," said McHugh. "And more importantly, it allows a collaborative effort amongst all of these individuals who are spread across the nation."

"These are commandants from all over the Army, from cyber, Aviation, fire, maneuver, infantry, armor, MPs (military police), chemical, intelligence - we're scattered all over the United States," said Brown. "We have to work together to solve all kinds of tough problems for the Army. So, the more you get to know each



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFAU

Maj. Gen. Michael D. Lundy (center), U.S. Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, Command Sgt. Maj. Eric C. Thom(second from right), Aviation Branch command sergeant major, and senior leaders from across the Army take part in the Skedco pull event of the Mungadai challenge at Ech Stagefield Friday as part of a team building exercise for the Commandants and Directors of Training Conference.



Lt. Gen. Robert B. Brown (right), U.S. Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth, Kan., commanding general, works with his team of senior leaders from across the Army to answer doctrine questions during a Mungadai challenge event.

other and the more of a team you are, then the more likely you are to call that guy and work out a tough problem and work

together, and that's what it's all about. The problems today are really complex in the world and complex problems take a trusted team to be able to solve them."

One of the unique ways that the senior leaders would build that team was through a Mungadai challenge. Mungadai is meant to test Soldiers' endurance and skills as a team, and is based on the legendary Mongolian cavalry selection process by Genghis Kahn.

The leaders were divided into eight teams of about 10 members each, and during the event there were four challenges that the teams had to overcome that required all members to work together.

The teams were loaded into two CH-47 Chinook helicopters early Friday morning following Reveille on Howze Field. From there they were flown out to Ech Stagefield where they hit the ground running to start the Mungadai events.

The first event consisted of a Skedco pull, where the team had to work together to transport sandbags and a Skedco 1 mile to the next event without any members falling behind more than a certain distance, or points would be subtracted.

The Skedco pull was followed by the HUMVEE push, which required the team to push a HUMVEE 100 meters using only their manpower.

After the HUMVEE push, the teams' minds were put to the test through a doctrine test, where each team had to answer 10 doctrine questions correctly with one bonus question. Each correct answer allowed for time to be taken off the final completion time.

The final event was a paintball shoot, during which each member of the team had to shoot at least once at targets marked at different distances. The farther the distance of the target hit, the more time was taken off the team's final time.

The emphasis of the exercise was less on winning and more about working together as a team to solve problems, which

## **Post kicks** off AER fundraising

#### **By Nathan Pfau** Army Flier Staff Writer

The main purpose of Army Emergency Relief is to alleviate the stresses that financial burdens can put

on the Army's Soldiers, retirees and family members, and the organization is looking to break records this campaign season through its relief efforts.

The 2015 AER fundraising campaign kicked off during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum March 4, as Fort Rucker senior leaders came together to sign a The trophy that is up for pledge and be the first to donate to the cause.

PHOTOS BY NATHAN PEAU

grabs by the top unit.

"AER was established in February of 1942 as a non-profit organization with one, sole purpose - to help Soldiers, retirees and family members," said Capt. Schuyler Emery-Munn during the ceremony. "It's a program for Soldiers, by Soldiers, and it's that mechanism that allows Soldiers to take care of their own. It's an invaluable tool for leadership and all

SEE AER, PAGE A5



Fort Rucker senior leaders donate to the AER campaign during the AER Campaign Kickoff Ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum March 4.

## **Club inducts new members**

#### By Nathan Pfau Army Flier Staff Writer

Audie Murphy is widely known as the most decorated Soldier in the U.S. Army, and for that reason, members of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club are held in high esteem.

The Fort Rucker Sergeant Audie Murphy Club welcomed two new inductees into the organization during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum March 4, who will continue to "lead from the front."

The inductees were Staff Sgt. Autumn Hirth and Staff Sgt. Mark Renkal Jr., both of C Com-Aviation Regiment.

Hirth is a 15Q air traffic control operator training supervisor at Hunt Stage Field, and Renkal serves as a 15P Aviation operations specialist advanced individual training instructor.

"It feels good (to be finally inducted)," said Hirth. "I'm glad the process is finally over because there were a lot of boards that we had to go through."

"A lot of boards and a lot of hard work, and it feels good to see all of these people come out and support us," added Renkal. "It was definitely worth it, in the end."

Each Soldier has his or pany, 1st Battalion, 11th her own reasons to want an elite group of NCOs



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Staff Sgt. Mark Renkal Jr. and Staff Sgt. Autumn Hirth, both of C Co., 1st Bn., 11th Avn. Regt., recite the NCO creed after they were inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum March 4.

selfless service.

"I wanted to be among to join the club, but for and people who can help

many it comes down to me better myself as an NCO, so that I can contribute to the community,"

SEE MEMBERS, PAGE A4

## AVIATION TEAM OF TEAMS

#### Team effort keeps Army Aviation strong, focused on future

#### By Kelly P. Pate

U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence Public Affairs

While the home of Army Aviation is at Fort Rucker, the team of teams that keeps Army Aviation aloft is scattered across several states and Army commands.

Though the enterprise includes many players, three of the major commands hail from installations in the state of Alabama: the Aviation branch chief, along with the Army Aviation requirements de-

velopers and the Aviation training base at the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence at Fort Rucker; the Program Executive Office for Aviation at Redstone Arsenal; and the Aviation and Missile Life Cycle Management Command at Redstone.

Major participating elements include the Army G3/5/7 - Aviation at Headquarters, Department of the Army, Pentagon, Arlington, Virginia, as well as Army Special Operations Aviation Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

"The focus of the Aviation en-

terprise is to provide our Soldiers, Aviators, unmanned aeroscouts and maintainers the very best training and equipment that we can possibly produce for them to carry out their warfighting mission," said Col. David Francis, USAACE deputy commander.

The enterprise encompasses all major decision makers and action officers that either control programs, procurement, sustainment or other aspect of Army Aviation, who regularly share information

SEE FUTURE, PAGE A5



# PERSPECTIVE

## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

LINCH

### EEO bosts lunch-n-learn

#### By Sherie' Trone

Fort Rucker Equal Employment Opportunity Office

The Fort Rucker Equal Employment Opportunity Office Special Emphasis Program Committee will host a lunch and learn March 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950, in honor of National Women's History Month.

The National Women's History Project designated "Weaving the stories of women's lives" as the theme for the 2015 National Women's History Month Observance.

In the United States, Women's History Month traces its beginnings back to the first International Women's Day in 1911. In 1978, the school district of Sonoma, California, participated in Women's History Week, an event designed around the week of March 8 – International Women's Day.

In 1979, a 15-day conference about women's history was held at Sarah Lawrence College from July 13 until July 29, chaired by historian Gerda Lerner. It was co-sponsored by Sarah Lawrence College, the Women's Action Alliance and the Smithsonian Institution. When its participants learned about the success of the Sonoma County's Women's History Week celebration, they decided to initiate similar celebrations within their own organizations, communities, and school districts. They also agreed to support an effort to secure a National Women's History Week.

In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued a presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8, 1980, as National Women's History Week. The proclamation stated,

"From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well. As Dr. Gerda Lerner has noted, 'Women's History is Women's Right.' It is an essential and indispensable heritage from which we can draw pride, comfort, courage, and long-range vision. I ask my fellow Americans to recognize this heritage with appropriate activities during National Women's History Week, March 2-8, 1980. I urge libraries, schools, and community organizations to focus their observances on the leaders who struggled for equality - Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, Lucy Stone, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Harriet Tubman, and Alice Paul. Understanding the true history of our country will help us to comprehend the need for full equality under the law for all our people. This goal can be achieved by ratifying the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which states that 'Equality of Rights under the Law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

By 1986, 14 states had de-

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH -"WEAVING THE STORY OF WOMEN'S LIVES"

## YOU ARE INVITED TO

TOPICS/EVENTS:

- Home and Work Life Balance
- Nutritional Health
- Financial Empowerment
- BMI/Blood Pressure Checks

20 March 2015 The Commons, Bldg 8950 Fort Rucker, AL 1130-1300

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER FOR A SESSION, CONTACT: MS. SHERIE' TRONE, VIA EMAIL: <u>sherie.l.trone.civ@mail.mil</u> (334) 255-9219, NLT COB 18 MARCH 2015

SEATING IS LIMITED !!!! REGISTER EARLY !!!

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC SPONSORED BY THE FORT RUCKER SPECIAL EMPHASIS PROGRAM COMMITTEE

COURTESY GRAPHIC

clared March as Women's History Month. In 1987, after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9, which designated the month of

March 1987 as Women's History Month. claim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since

Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the president to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, U.S. presidents have issued annual proclamations designating the month of March as Women's History Month.

Rofor Wash

The Army Performance Triad promotes getting quality sleep, engaging in activity and improving nutrition. What are some tips you can offer for improving nutrition or health if budgets and daily schedules are tight?



Michelle Tremble, Army spouse

"Just do some workouts from home."



Reggie George, retired military

"Try to walk or jog every day."



Josh Stanton, Army family member

"Plan your meals throughout the week and stay away from fast food."



Andrea Hammond, Army family member

"Keep your meals simple."



Eric Joseph, Army veteran

"Try to get active, either by going outside for a run or doing some exercises at home."

#### COMMAND

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## **Fort Rucker thanks Gold Star Families**

#### **By Nathan Pfau** Army Flier Staff Writer

Gold Star Family members got the opportunity to take part in something normally only flight school students get to experience - the chance to take to the skies, through simulation, anyway.

Fort Rucker's Survivor Outreach Services hosted the Gold Star Simulator Day at Warrior Hall Saturday where 33 Gold Star family members representing 11 fallen service members got the chance to get behind the controls of different flight simulators.

A Gold Star Family member is a designation given to spouses, parents and other relatives of fallen service members.

Col. Stuart J. McRae, Fort Rucker garrison commander, was on hand to welcome the families, and thank them for the sacrifice that they and their fallen service members have made to the nation

"I appreciate you guys and the extreme sacrifice that you guys have given - the ultimate sacrifice," he said. "We can never repay what you guys have paid, and so I'm just thankful for all of you, and the way you continue on and everything you all do to continue to support our country.

"We are glad to see all of you here and we're glad that you all were able to make it out here. If you have never flown in a helicopter simulator, you're in for the ride of your life," he continued. "It's quite an experience and it'll give you an appreciation for what



Andrea Partee, Gold Star Family member, tries her hand at flying a UH-60 Black Hawk simulator during the Gold Star Simulator Day at Warrior Hall Saturday.

the pilots of your United States Army do for a living, as well as the complexity of what they have to do in executing their mission. You'll also get to appreciate some of the most technical aircraft in the world."

Those aircraft included the TH-67, the OH-58 Kiowa Warrior, the UH-60 Black Hawk and the CH-47 Chinook.

The Partee family was among the Gold Star Families to attend the event and they said the experience is one they won't soon forget.

"I really enjoyed it," said Ann Partee, Gold Star Family member. "It was so thrilling and it was different. I never dreamed that (the controls) would be so (sensitive). When you just touch the (controls) slightly, it would just move. It was difficult to not lose control, but it was so nice."

Partee's

agreed.

husband, Darryl, "It was wonderful and a very

exciting experience," he said. "It was definitely hard to put pressure on the controls, but I'd love to do it again."

The Partee's lost their son, Kevin, who was stationed in Arlington, Virginia, and worked in casualty assistance. Although the loss of their son was hard, they said that SOS has helped them through the most difficult time in their lives.

"I think the outreach they provide is great, I really do," said Ann. "They've been great the

whole time and they really made us feel that Kevin was special, and that's what really matters."

"Seeing that the Army still cares makes us feel really good – it's a wonderful thing that they do (for the families) and I would like to come to more of these events in the future," added Darryl.

Rick Kohl, SOS support coordinator, said that outreach and assistance is vital to helping these families through these difficult times.

"Family members of fallen service members need time to be together with other families that have experienced loss," he said. "The ongoing connection to the Army through SOS assists families as they continue to grieve the loss of their loved one.

"Survivor Outreach Services is often the only option for the family to stay connected to the Army. Through this connection, the families develop a deeper understanding of their loved one's Army experiences, and deeper understanding assists in the grief process," Kohl continued. "Being together with other Gold Star Families allows for the family members to talk with one another, and these discussions are often deeply meaningful."

After the event at Warrior Hall, the families were invited to lunch at The Landing in The Legends room, where they were met by Maj. Gen. Michael D. Lundy, USAACE and Fort Rucker commanding general, who welcomed the families and acknowledged their life-long connection to the Army Family.

### **WOCC graduates donate to Fisher House Foundation**

#### By Shadi May

**Contributing Writer** 

The recent graduates of Warrant Officer Intermediate Level Education Class 15-005 made a donation of more than \$1,100 to the Fisher House Foundation.

Traditionally, professional military education classes donate money to local or national charities to help make a difference in their missions. The students come up with a list of charities and they decide on the one with the majority of the class votes.

"I believe in the Fisher House Foundation because it supports not just the Soldiers but also their families during tough times," said CW4 Robert Hembrook, a February WOILE Class graduate and class operations officer. "I convinced my classmates to go with the Fisher House because it spends its largest percentage of their donations serving military and veterans' families. We collected an attractive sum of money for a class of 56 students, so we wanted to make sure we would give it all back to our own." The Fisher House Foundation is most known for the free homes or lodging it provides the military and veterans' families while their loved ones receive medical care, but it also operates other programs such as the Hero Miles program, which gives donated frequent flyer miles to bring family members to the bedside of injured

service members, and the Hotel for Heroes program, which provides donated hotel points to allow family members to stay at hotels near medical centers free of charge. In addition, it also supports other military charities to include scholarships for military children, spouses and children of fallen and disabled veterans.

"We have received donations from other military schools, such as the Army War College and the Army Non-Commissioned Officer Academy, but this is the first time we have received a donation from the Army Warrant Officer Career College," said Mary Considine, Fisher House Foundation Headquarters chief of staff.

Donating money or goods to help out local or national charities is an integral part of many military PME schools. The effort is intended to unite students, who are from Army active duty, Reserve and National Guard, for a common cause, and doing something above and beyond the academic requirements. "The course we attended was about leadership, and it is a fundamental concept of successful leadership to take care of your troops and their families, so we thought taking care of our own military families by donating to the Fisher House would be the best use of our money," added Hembrook, who is the Army Reserve Cyber Operations Group's command chief warrant officer in Adelphi, Maryland.



CW4 Robert Hembrook presents a check for \$1,125.75 to Mary Considine, Fisher House Foundation Headquarters chief of staff, and Brian Gawne, vice president of operations, in Rockville, Md.

For more information on the Fisher House Foundation, visit www.fisherhouse. org and for more information on Army

Warrant Officer Career College, visit http://usacac.army.mil/organizations/lde/ wocc.

#### Brief ews

#### Closures

The Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center will be closed Friday in support of the health fair and safety stand down. For more information, call 255-2296.

The Blue and Green running trails on Beaver Lake will be closed temporarily for repairs from Monday 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.

The automotive skills center will be closed due to a scheduled power outage March 21 during the morning. The center will adjust its hours of operation to noon to 6 p.m. that day. For more information, call 255-9725.

#### Lunch and learn

The Fort Rucker Equal Employment Opportunity Office will host a lunch and learn in honor of National Women's History Month March 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in The Commons, Bldg. 8950. Topics and events include home and work life balance, nutritional health, financial empowerment, and body mass index and blood pressure checks.

People should bring their own lunches. Seating is limited, so people are encouraged to register early. The deadline to register is March 18.

For more information or to register, call 255-9219.

#### SHARP motorcycle ride

The Fort Rucker Sexual Harassment/ Assault Response and Prevention program will host a SHARP Motorcycle Ride March 20 for all uniformed and civilian motorcycle riders on post to raise awareness and encourage prevention in local communities. Riders will meet at the Motorcycle Safety Course facility, Bldg. 6030, at 10:30 a.m. and once safety inspections and briefs are complete will depart by 11:45 a.m. Riders will head out the Ozark Gate and travel to US 231 and ride to Dothan for lunch at a buffet-style restaurant. The riders will then leave Dothan and take US 84W to Enterprise, where the riders will merge onto Boll Weevil Circle and head towards the Enterprise Gate to return to the Bldg. 6030 for an after-action review.

For more information, call 464-3553.

#### Supply support activity inventory

The Fort Rucker Logistics Readiness Center Supply Support Activity in Bldg. 1212 will conduct a wall-to-wall inventory March 23-27. During this period, the SSA will only accept emergency requisitions. Normal operations will discontinue at 4:15 p.m. March 20. Officials expect to resume normal operations March 30. 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 March 31-April 3. All garrison, mission and tenant units are required to participate. Spring cleanup will be conducted as follows:

- March 31 Clean-up of interior offices and work areas;
- April 1 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.mu 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

#### **Thrift shop**

The Fort Rucker Thrift Shop is open Wednesdays-Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The thrift shop needs people's un-

wanted items. People can drop off donations at any time in the shed behind the shop (former Armed Forces Bank building) located in front of the theater next door to the bowling alley. Donations are tax deductible.

For more information, call 255-9595.

#### **Volunteers needed**

Lyster Army Health Clinic is looking for volunteers to drive patients to and from the parking lot in its golf cart. The golf cart was donated in 2011 by the mayor of Dothan after a retiree noticed that patients often needed assistance when walking to and from the clinic parking lot. Those interested in volunteering can call Capt. Brian Turner at 255-7245.

#### Marriage 101

Marriage 101, a premarital seminar and training, will be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays and Wednesdays of each month from 1:30-4:30 p.m. at the Spiritual Life Center, Bldg. 8939. Marriage 101 is mandatory for those wishing to get married at Fort Rucker, according to Chaplain (Capt.) Troy D. Allan.

For more information, call 255-3447 or 255-3903.

## Experiment highlights new technologies

#### By Kelly Ann DeWitt

U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center

FORT BENNING, Ga. - Three Army technologies were in play at the recently conducted Army Expeditionary Warfighter Experiment at Fort Benning.

"AEWE is (Training and Doctrine Command's) live, prototype experimentation campaign," said Harry J. Lubin, chief of the experimentation branch, Maneuver Center of Excellence. This year, 66 industry and military technologies participated in AEWE.

U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center technologies participating in spiral "J" included the TowerHawk weapons system, Containerized Weapons System and the Maneuver Aviation Fires Integrated Application.

TowerHawk is a transportable, modular remote weapon system. Soldiers can employ it as an integrated capability of the Combat Outpost's Force Protection network or as a stand-alone capability, said Stephen W. Stillwell, Jr. project engineer, Engagement and Effects Tech Area, Mission Systems Focus Area, Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, Aviation Development Directorate. In either configuration, TowerHawk provides surveillance, enhanced perimeter defense and an extended range of precise lethal response.

TowerHawk combines a modular remote weapon system consisting of a highly accurate .338 Lapua Magnum semi-auto rifle equipped with a 10 or 35 round magazine, day and night optics, and a laser rangefinder/pointer an electro-optical/infrared sensor ball.

The operator controls the system remotely using secure fiber optic communications between the weapon and the ground station enabling the system to engage man-sized targets at ranges more than 1,200 meters with a reduction in civilian casualties or collateral damage, Stillwell said.

The CWS was designed to provide enhanced lethality and bolster force protection. This "weapons system in a box" concept combines a rapidly deploy-



First Lt. Cole W. Holland, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Brigade, 2nd Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash., demonstrates the Maneuver Aviation Fires Integrated Application at the Army Expeditionary Warfighter Experiments on Fort Benning, Ga., March 3.

able Container Express with the Commonly Remotely Operated Weapons Station M153 system, with various levels of firepower ranging from .50 caliber to the Javelin.

CWS works to augment or replace existing guard towers, said John Dillon, a mechanical engineer with the Weapons Development Directive, Platform Integration group. CWS provides a scalable, standalone force protection or threat suppression asset. This technology has been completed and qualified through testing and demonstration and is deployed in numerous locations under the management of Program Executive Office Missiles and Space, Program Management-Close Combat Weapons Systems.

MAFIA is a collaborative software application that allows field artillery and infantry small unit leaders to create precise, Category 1 coordinates for accurate, timely and predictable fires support, said Michael V. Murray, government lead and training coordinator, Battlefield Operations Software Suite team, Software Engineering Directorate.

The application provides full motion video from various small unmanned aircraft systems directly to the squad level and supports cursor on-target commands. The



A Soldier briefs AMRDEC Director James Lackey on the TowerHawk Weapons System on Fort Benning, Ga., March 3.

application is fully government owned and is hardware agnostic, allowing for future hardware migration.

Lubin said the AEWE used the technologies in three cases: a live-fire exercise and two forceon-force events with Soldiers and Marines integrating the participating technologies into each mission.

The Army Test and Evaluation Center will analyze the results of the experiments and publish a final report, followed by an "experiment to action plan" to help TRADOC discover and develop "technologies of merit," Lubin said. That plan enables TRADOC organizations and the Army's Science and Technology community to place evolving technologies into the hands of deploying Soldiers earlier and more often, he said.

The three technologies performed well, said Lubin, who was especially complimentary of MAFIA, in its third year of experimentation at AEWE.

"We have over the last few years established a really great working relationship with AMR-DEC. They have been linked to everything we do," said Lubin, crediting the MAFIA team's constant contact with the Maneuver Center of Excellence. "That constant contact enables this integrated development over time. We see that partnership continuing to grow over time."

Initial feedback from the participants of AEWE was also positive on the CWS and TowerHawks systems, he said. Both provide the sought-after expeditionary aspect for further development.

"With their expeditionary emphasis, we can certainly see some utility for both," Lubin said.

"This was a great opportunity to hear about strategic challenges facing the Army's continuing transition as an agile, networked, expeditionary fighting force," said James Lackey, AMRDEC director, who attended a visitors day March 3. "The overall focus at AEWE on building a networked infrastructure was a key takeaway for me. This reinforces the importance of how all of our AMRDEC systems interface along networks. It's all about linking various levels of command and control to sensors and shooters and pushing warfighting control to the lowest practical unit.

"AMRDEC's products of MA-FIA, Containerized Weapon System and TowerHawk demonstrate networked sensor to shooter warfghting value for the expeditionary fight," Lackey said. "In my talks with the Soldiers at AEWE, they provided overall complimentary opinions of these specific capabilities. Through forums like AEWE, AMRDEC retains a tuned ear to the valuable, operational voice of the user. Their inputs drive our overall purpose and direction."

## Teams: Event focus on collaboration, building teamwork

#### Continued from Page A1

Brown said is an integral part of solving problems.

"The best part about this is the teambuilding - it's always important to build the team," said the CAC commanding general. "You can always have meetings, but you really don't work on how to get along together or how to form a bond, so we're with guys that we normally don't work with and now we know them a heck of a lot better.

"You'll talk about how sore you were from the HUMVEE push or how somebody shot on the paintball course, so it just builds camaraderie and the Army is all about the team. I'll say our Army's got the best team in the world," he added.

Brown said he was unsure about how his team would place during the event, but they worked together well and completed each challenge. The general's team did better than expected as they took the crown with the best time to win the Mungadai challenge.

Brown said he was very appreciative of the efforts made by Fort Rucker and Maj. Gen. Michael D. Lundy, U.S. Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general.

"It was a great job by General Lundy and the Aviation Center of Excellence for putting this on for us. It's not easy to do. It takes a lot of effort, so we appreciate their hard work," he said. "I do feel sorry for the next folks that have to host (this conference) because the Aviation Center of Excellence has set the bar really high -a

tremendous job across the board."

Lundy said that he was pleased to see the different centers of excellence working together to overcome challenges and he looks forward to continue working with the leaders in the future.

"Seeing the power of the different COEs working together, we're going to build a good team and I think there's so much collaboration," he said during the conference. "One of the main things about this was less about what we're doing and more about how we can help each other."

## **Members:** 2 Soldiers inducted

#### Continued from Page A1

said Renkal. "We do a lot for the community, but I want to make sure that they see that we're there for them. They're always so appreciative and we just love being able to help out ... it makes it all worthwhile it's a good feeling."

Exceptional NCOs who set the highest standards for leadership and excellence earn the Sergeant Audie Murphy Award, said the narrator during the event. They are those who have contributed significantly to the development of a professional noncommissioned officer corps in a combatready Army, and exemplify leadership categorized by personal concern for the needs, training, development and welfare of Soldiers, as well as their families.

Command Sgt. Maj. Eric. C. Thom, Aviation Branch command sergeant major, attended the ceremony to offer his congratulations and speak on what the organization stands for.

"Have you ever thought about why the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club was started?" he asked. "The purpose of this organization is to perpetuate the leadership attributes of its members, and that is saying something. You have to exemplify loyalty, caring, discipline and professionalism. You have to be swift and decisive when taking actions.

"That is why it's so hard to get into this organization," he said. "It's not the hundreds of hours studying and it's not the rigorous boards that you have to go through, although those boards are no easy feat."

The boards that each prospective inductee must go through are filled with situational questions that are designed to elicit in-depth responses, and although the boards are rigorous and ensure that each NCO is well equipped with knowledge to be a leader, they're not enough to make the Soldier a leader, said Thom.

"(The boards) simply polish what is or is not already there," said the Aviation Branch command sergeant major. "Entrance into this organization is not easy. It means taking care of Soldiers and their families, but even more importantly, it means that you will continue to demonstrate and foster that leadership learned in our Soldiers.

"Today we came here to recognize these two outstanding NCOs, but it's not for their benefit - it's for ours - so we can see what right looks like and have something to emulate," said Thom. "When the times are tough and the chips are down, and you find yourself not quite sure what needs to be done or how to do it, look for one of these two NCOs, and they'll show you how they lead from the front."





## AER: Trophy to be awarded to unit raising most funds

#### Continued from Page A1

levels to help accomplish one of the most basic command responsibilities – tending to the morale and welfare of Soldiers."

Col. Jayson A. Altieri, 110th Aviation Brigade commander, was among the leaders to pledge and spoke about the importance of AER and its fundraising campaign.

"Much of the assistance provided through grants, or partial grants and loans are there to help Soldiers alleviate financial hardship," he said. "As a commander of the United States Army, I've seen this (hardship) first hand."

Altieri spoke of a recent case on Fort Rucker involving a Soldier going through advanced individual training. The student had to make a 600-mile trip with his family in order to make it to AIT, but along the way his vehicle unexpectedly broke down, leaving him and his family stranded.

"To ensure that he made his report date, the family left the vehicle ... and they rented a car to travel the remainder of the distance because they were going to make this mission happen," said the colonel, but as fate would have it, the damaged car would be no easy fix.

The Soldier's family stayed in a hotel as they waited for their vehicle to be repaired, which ended up taking a couple weeks, so the unexpected costs of the vehicle rental, hotel, food costs and other unassociated costs quickly depleted the families savings.

"A noncommissioned officer at AIT overheard the private talking to a fellow Soldier about the stress he was under ... and his instructor referred him to AER, and after reviewing the families situation, assistance was provided," said Altieri. "None of this is really new to those of us who have served. For over 236 years of Soldiers, we've always maintained that we will make a difference for our Soldiers that we serve with, and we do this now with continued support of Army Emergency Relief. Together we can continue to take care of our Soldiers and their families in a manner that is a mark of our great United States Army."

Army Emergency Relief has been around for 73 years and has helped more than 3.6 million Soldiers and contributed over \$1.7 billion since its inception, said Col. Stuart J. McRae, Fort Rucker garrison commander and AER chairperson. More than \$1.3 billion of that amount has gone out as loans for Soldiers, \$140 million of that has gone out as grants for Soldiers who are in need, and another \$89 million has gone out to Soldiers, family members and retirees as scholarships.

In 2005, Fort Rucker set a record for its campaign season, raising more than \$155,000, and in 2013 nearly beat the record with \$148,000 raised. This year, McRae said he hopes to break the 2005 record by providing a little incentive and friendly competition.

"This year, we decided if we're going to break the record, we needed to think outside the box," he said. "We have developed a traveling trophy that is going to recognize the company or detachment that raises the most amount of money per capita."

At the end of the campaign when all the totals are tallied, the winning organization will have their company, battalion and brigade added to the trophy to be forever known as that year's winners.

"We have talked about the greatness and what this does for our Soldiers," said McRae, " and we know this is a great program. It gives a lot of money and we've got generous hearts here at Fort Rucker, so as we continue on here, we want to recognize the folks who are the winners of this fine cup."

## Future: Session allows leaders to speak with 1 voice

#### Continued from Page A1

and synchronize efforts.

"The purpose was so that everybody in the Aviation community spoke with one voice. That has paid a lot of dividends for us. When we talk to anyone, whether it's the Pentagon or to Congress, or anybody else, they get the same story, no matter who they talk to," said Ellis Golson, director of the Capability Development and Integration Directorate for USAACE.

"Not necessarily because everybody likes the decision," Golson explained. "But because everybody understands why that decision needs to be made and the way it's being made, and therefore they all support the path ahead."

The process of Aviation starts at Fort Rucker where Aviation requirements are developed. Those requirements then move to PEO Aviation to work with industry to develop a materiel solution. The AMCOM's role is the sustainment of that solution.

The director of Aviation, Army G3/5/7 at the Pentagon interfaces with all Aviation enterprise elements, as well as the Army staff, the Joint Staff, the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Congress.

Because the ARSOAC draws its



PHOTO BY KELLY PA

Members of the Aviation Enterprise participate in an Aviation Restructure Initiative synch session at Fort Rucker Jan. 13. Pictured are Col. Chris Brewer, military deputy director, AMCOM Logistics Center; Col. Brian Tachias, G3/G4, PEO Aviation; Col. Karl Stahlecker, assistant program executive officer for special projects at PEO Aviation; Brig. Gen. Ben Adams, deputy commanding general (ARNG) at Fort Rucker; Brig. Gen. Mike Bobeck, special assistant director of Army National Guard; Col. Dave Francis, deputy commander, USAACE; Sgt. Maj. Jesus Ruiz, training sergeant major for USAACE; and John Arnold, G3, USAACE.

Aviators from the conventional Army, a strong tie exists between the two and makes ARSOAC an important player in the enterprise, concerned with training and doctrine and the quality of Aviators the conventional force produces. On the materiel side, the conventional Army can benefit from the research done in the special operations Aviation community, and vice versa.

The enterprise's efforts encompass all

components of Army Aviation, with one theme – a decisive edge over adversaries, as the Army balances manning, equipping and training.

"From training to materiel solutions, the enterprise prioritizes those things that help Army Aviation maintain an asymmetric advantage over our enemies and bring those things to realization in our combat Aviation brigades out there. That's not just the active component, but also we're very concerned about the reserve component — the National Guard and the Army Reserve, and all Aviation elements therein that also benefit from the work of the Aviation enterprise," Francis said.

Current priorities include the ongoing execution of the Army's Aviation Restructure Initiative, including regular work group sessions at Fort Rucker where the active, Guard and Reserve Aviation components and members of the Aviation enterprise meet regularly to identify issues, provide continuity of effort and ensure Aviation readiness.

Priorities also include support to the current warfight, including a wide array of global Aviation commitments, and building a more efficient, effective and expeditionary force for 2025, which is an Army Chief of Staff priority, as well as looking beyond 2025.

The bottom line is support to the ground commander.

"At the end of the day, it's about making sure our Soldiers are trained and equipped, ready to go to combat — and that means taking care of Soldiers, and saving lives," Francis said. "We have the best Aviation force that's ever been fielded in the world, and our goal is to keep it that way."

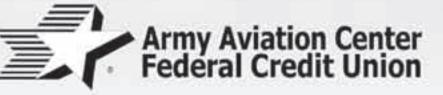


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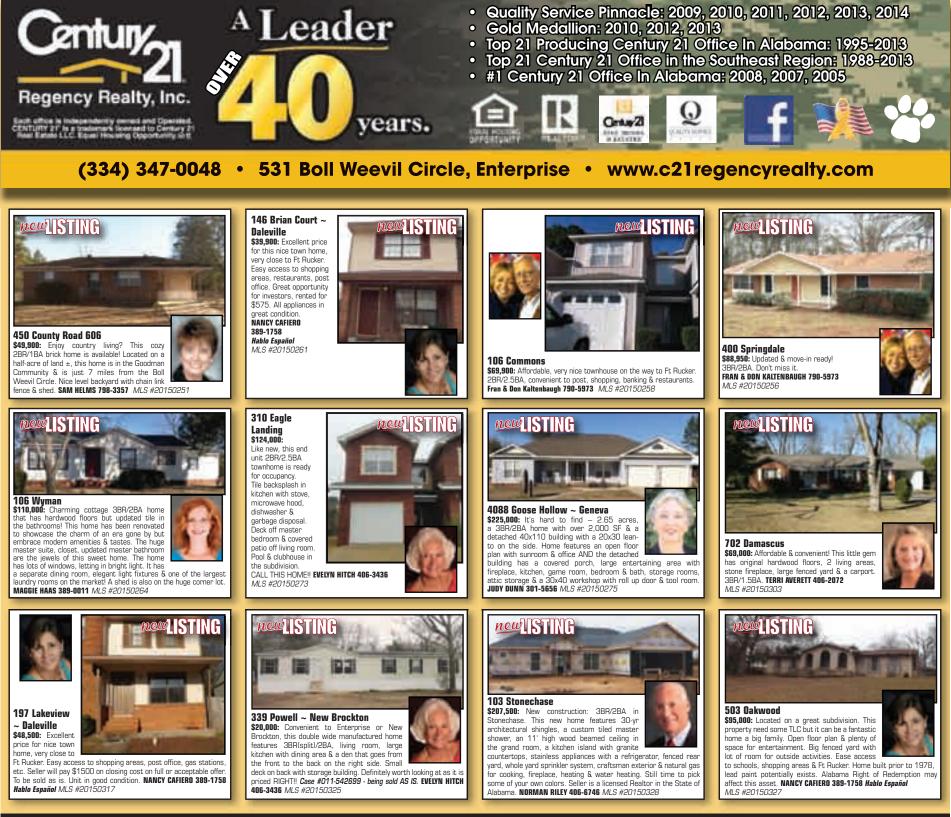


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## ARMY SAFE B IS ARMY SAFE





An artist's conception of future Army rotorcraft is shown.

## Army engineers define future Aviation fleet

#### By Dan LaFontaine

U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, Public Affairs

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — The Army science and technology community is charting the future of military vertical lift Aviation that will enable warfighters to accomplish missions not possible today.

The Army, supported by NASA and the Navy, is combining its areas of technical expertise to accomplish the aggressive scientific and engineering goals necessary to develop a new fleet of joint aircraft, said Ned Chase, deputy program director of science and technology for the Joint Multi-Role Technology Demonstrator/Future Vertical Lift.

JMR TD has been established to address several of the capability gaps that cannot be satisfied by updating the current fleet.

"Let's figure out what we want this new aircraft to do, and let's go out and prove that we have the technologies available to meet those requirements. That's what we're doing with JMR TD," said Chase, with the Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center on Fort Eustis, Virginia.

The Department of Defense is using JMR TD to design and integrate the technologies that will eventually feed into the Future Vertical Lift and replace the military's vertical lift fleet with a new family of aircraft.

#### Leveraging expertise

AMRDEC, one of seven centers and laboratories that make up the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, is leading the S&T effort.

Chase and his team are working closely with fellow scientists and engineers within



## U.S., Polish forces hone interoperability skills

#### **By 1st Sgt. Jim Wagner** *U.S. Army Europe*

DRAWSKO POMORSKIE, Poland — On a sunny, winter morning, with the last of the frost dissipating into fog, U.S. troopers and Polish infantrymen met at the edge of the airfield to await the arrival of a UH-60 Black Hawk and the beginning of medical evacuation training Feb. 26.

It was the latest mission in weeks of training between Dragoons assigned to K Troop, 3rd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment and Polish infantrymen from 3rd Company, 1st Infantry Battalion, 12th Mechanized Brigade. The training will culminate in an upcoming live-fire exercise as part of Operation Atlantic Resolve.

Operation Atlantic Resolve is a NATO exercise led by the United States to test the alliance's interoperability with Polish, Latvian, Lithuanian and Estonian military forces while demonstrating their commitment to a safe and prosperous Europe.

The MedEvac training was spearheaded by a flight crew from B Co., 3rd Bn., 158th Assault Helicopter Brigade based out of Katterbach, Germany. In the hours before, troopers from 2nd CR prepared for the day by going over their training schedule before loading into Strykers and heading to the airfield. Meanwhile, the Polish infantrymen moved out in their armored personnel carriers and plotted



PHOTO BY 1ST SGT. JIM WAGNER

Polish infantrymen, 3rd Company, 1st Infantry Battalion, 12th Mechanized Brigade, egress from a UH-60 Black Hawk during MedEvac training at the Drawsko Pomorski Land Forces Training Center, Poland, Feb. 26.

their own training points on a terrain map at the airfield's edge.

Similar tactics, with different execution, is one of several challenges facing military members as they seek to streamline operations conducted in a combined coalition environment. Where the end goal is the same, getting the details right between forces and using different doctrine to achieve that end state can result in miscommunication and a potentially failed mission.

U.S. and Polish forces have trained for more than a year to hone their interoper-

ability skills with the MedEvac training being no exception. Both militaries have spent years developing the most efficient means of removing injured troops from the battlefield and each have their preferred method of achieving that result.

For the aircrew, responsible for the safety and security of all members involved, that meant providing instruction to Polish infantrymen using U.S. MedEvac procedures – watching for and responding to flight crew hand

SEE ABOVE, PAGE B4



RDECOM to conceptualize research and design the many technologies that will be necessary for this future vertical lift capability.

AMRDEC will leverage its expertise in Aviation; however, the team will rely upon its peer organizations for the complementary pieces. For example, RDECOM's Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center at Aberdeen Proving Grounds is the expert in areas such as communications systems, sensors and cameras, he said.

"The one thing that we've not done in quite a long time was demonstrate that we

SEE ENGINEERS, PAGE B4

HOTO BY MASTER SGT. ALEX LICEA

Sgt. 1st Class Seth Nicolayev, Special Operations Command South, yells instructions to his paratroopers before they jump out of a CH-47 Chinook helicopter during a rotary-wing airborne operation on Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., Feb. 25. SOCSOUTH conducts airborne operations to maintain proficiency and mission readiness.

## 25th CAB practices non-combatant evacuation

**By Staff Sgt. Sean Everette** 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD, Hawaii — Two CH-47 Chinook helicopters from the 3rd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade picked up close to 60 refugees from a muddy field by Dillingham Airfield on the North Shore of Oahu March 1 and evacuated them to the safety of a U.S. Navy ship at Pearl Harbor.

The refugees, however, were not as they seemed. They were Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team role-playing as civilians, and the evacuation was a planned part of a non-combatant evacuation operation built into Lightning Forge 2015, an exercise conducted by the 25th Infantry Division.

"What's happening today is an opportunity for us to be able to exercise both Aviation and ground components in the evacuation of what we call non-combatant personnel," said Lt. Col. Hunter Marshall, 3-25th Avn. Rgt. commander. "In some cases, it could be an embassy, or American citizens living abroad



PHOTO BY CAPT. HEBA BULLOCK

Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, role-playing as civilians, exit a CH-47 Chinook helicopter on the deck of the Ex-USS Tarawa at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, March 1 as part of a non-combatant evacuation operation exercise.

in a country that may be torn up by storms, a tsunami or hurricane, or strife within that country."

There are 49 countries and seven of the world's largest armies in the Pacific region, and the U.S. has recently shifted its focus to this theater of operations. That makes this NEO and Lightning Forge a crucial piece of Army training, Marshall said.

"The largest population in the world is located in this theater," said Col. Ken Hawley, 25th CAB commander. "While there is a lot of water, there's also a lot of land. The likelihood of some kind of humanitarian assistance or disaster relief exercise or even a non-combatant evacuation, having to evacuate to a Navy ship or a port facility somewhere to get folks out is highly likely. So having that capability to execute with our helicopters is one of those key things, and this is an opportunity for us to make sure that happens."

"The 25th Infantry Division has done a great job with creating a package of personnel, Soldiers, aircrew and aircraft to respond to something like this in a 96-hour period, which is impressive," said Marshall. "What's extremely unique about this mission set is that it not only gives us an opportunity to go abroad and to, quite frankly, build relationships with folks, and hopefully preclude something as horrific as war, but additionally, even here in Hawaii, is the opportunity to provide direct support to civil authorities should we be asked. So, should something happen here — a hurricane or tsunami — there's that opportunity to be able to correlate and apply our training, even on Oahu."

The next step for 3-25th Avn. Rgt. is even more intense training with 3rd BCT, Hawley said.

"[Lightning Forge] is our last training exercise before 3rd BCT, with our Aviation battalion, deploys to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana," said Hawley. "So, this is really our 'get ready to go' for that exercise."

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## **Above:** Training allows Soldiers to see multiple points of view

#### Continued from Page B1

signals and removing thermal blankets (used to stabilize an injured Soldier's core body temperature) from the litter before it is sucked into the helicopter's rotor blades, etc.

CW3 John Kimball, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot from B Co., 3-158th AHB, has been involved in the MedEvac training of allied soldiers in several countries, which includes Poland. He said that while training allied soldiers using U.S. procedures is common, it is a collaboration that works both ways.

"I think working with our allied partners has been beneficial all around," Kimball said. "You get to see different points of view, as well as different ways of doing something that maybe you haven't thought about in the past, and you can adapt it to the way you do things."



HOTO BY 1ST SGT. JIM WAGNE

Spc. Joseph Sylvester, right, crew chief for B Company, 3rd Battalion, 158th Assault Helicopter Brigade, conducts a pre-flight safety briefing to U.S. and Polish ground forces at Drawsko Pomorski Land Forces Training Center, Poland, Feb. 26.

### Engineers: Initiative to develop standard architecture reference

Continued from Page B1

can build an aircraft from scratch that incorporates the individual technologies that we've been working on the past 25 years," Chase said. "We have the capacity across AMR-DEC to populate the aircraft with the right components engines, rotors, structures, flight controls.

"We want to put together a roadmap to develop the radios, weapons, sensors and survivability equipment by drawing from RDECOM in preparation for FVL. We take their products and integrate them onto the platform itself. FVL is going to reflect the aggregate of RDECOM investment," he added.

Charles Catterall, AMRDEC lead systems engineer, has worked to develop an S&T integrated product team to build an investment strategy across RDECOM.

"We are engaging our sister organizations within RDE-COM. What can the command do to support this program? What resources can be brought to bear to facilitate and support this Future Vertical Lift initiative with technologies? Given a clean sheet, could you bring additional capabilities to bear? We're looking across the command," Catterall said.

Catterall said JMR TD has two components — the air vehicle demonstration and mission systems architecture demonstration. Two contract teams — Sikorsky-Boeing and Bell Helicopter — are responsible for the design, analysis, fabrication, ground testing and, ultimately, flight testing of the demonstrator aircraft.

The industry proposals for FVL include the capability to carry a payload of 12 troops and four crew, hover out of ground effect at an ambient condition of 6,000 feet and 95 degrees, and self-deploy 2,100 nautical miles at a speed of at least 230 knots.

The MSAD portion will integrate technology concepts from across RDECOM, as well as the Department of Defense, into an open, efficient, effective and enduring architecture.

The MSAD initiative will develop a standard reference architecture that can be used as the basis for design and implementation of an avionics architecture. This will enable hardware and software reuse across multiple mission design series aircraft and multiple vendor implementations, Chase said.

The Imeruladae standards measures and tools make

While government agencies, such as the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, build single-purpose aircraft, Chase emphasized that the goal of JMR TD is to develop a fleet that will achieve several stringent goals.

"We're in pursuit of several aggressive individual requirements that in the aggregate is something way beyond what we can do today," he said. "We have to be able to operate all over the world, in any kind of environment, across a speed spectrum that allows us to do our mission anywhere, anytime."

This article appears in the March/April 2015 issue of Army Technology Magazine, which focuses on Aviation research. The magazine is available as an electronic download at http://usarmy.vo.llnwd.net/ e2/c/downloads/383002.pdf, or print publication. The magazine is an authorized, unofficial publication published under Army Regulation 360-1, for all members of the Department of Defense and the general public.



The knowledge, standards, processes and tools necessary to design and implement such a mission systems architecture that is affordable will be used to inform the government's generation of requirements for the anticipated FVL program.

Chase said that a major challenge for DOD scientists and engineers is to develop their specific pieces of technologies – whether sensors, weapons, cameras or crew systems – and ensure they function correctly within a much more demanding future aviation environment than exists today.

"This future fleet will be faster and go farther. We're trying to ensure that the other (research centers) understand how the Aviation environment and constraints change when we go from flying aircraft at 130 knots to 250 knots," Chase said. "The environment we're creating for weapons, sensors and radios is much different with FVL than the current fleet. FVL will operate in a different performance regime."

#### Army leads

Developing a joint aircraft instead of a separate version for each service is expected to save time and money in technology development, training, maintenance and logistics, Chase said.

There are four classes of aircraft that have been identified for the fleet — light, medium, heavy and ultra.

"We want to develop technology applicable to each of the four basic aircraft of the FVL family, and then populate them with the mission equipment that is required to satisfy each of the service's missions," Chase said. "You're working from the same framework of requirements and technologies. You don't have to do individual technology developments for every single class of aircraft in the fleet. It's about efficiency of investments, costs and logistics."

Working with NASA and Navy scientists and engineers brings complementary expertise to the project, he said. Significantly different missions among the services require different skill sets among the Aviation subject-matter experts.

"Because it is a joint requirement, it drives you to having a joint team. We have a mixed team to address a comprehensive requirement that neither the Army nor Navy S&T enterprise might be capable of solving entirely by itself," Chase said.

"The Army operates across land and we have specific missions — air assaults, attack and reconnaissance," he added. "The Navy has a different challenge with operating on the ship, which drives the space that an aircraft can fit on and be maintained in. The Marines Corps has an expeditionary mindset where extended range is extremely important."

First flight testing is expected in summer 2017. The technologies to be integrated onto the platform should be at technology readiness Level 6, or a prototype level, between 2022 and 2024.



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#### HOPE Advocate offers message of hope for women, children at risk Story on Page C3 MARCH 12, 2015

27th annual Travel

## Vendors display vacation options

#### By Nathan Pfau Army Flier Staff Writer

Finding the perfect vacation can be time consuming, but this year's Travel Extravaganza gave people more than just options, it also gave them experiences.

The 27th annual Travel Extravaganza brought more than 1,100 people and 67 vendors to The Landing's ballroom March 4, and awarded more than 80 door prizes, including three grand prizes - a one-week Armed Forces Vacation Club stay, three nights at either Punta Cana or Sandpiper Club Med all-inclusive resorts, and four admissions with lunch with an astronaut from the Kennedy Space Center.

"The 2015 Travel Extravaganza was the largest ever and patrons were thrilled with the diverse group of vendors," said Michelle Harris, Fort Rucker MWR Central program manager.

People were able to browse vendors that provided vacations to Panama City Beach, Destin and Orlando, Florida; New Orleans, Louisiana; Atlanta, Georgia; and even the Caribbean through cruises or all-inclusive vacations. People even had the opportunity to pet a live alligator from Gatorland in Orlando and talk with representatives from the Kennedy Space Center.

"Events like the Travel Extravaganza show our appreciation for the active-duty and retired service members and their many vendors offered discounts throughout the event.

Julie Brahman, military spouse, said she came out to the event to explore vacation ideas for her family as spring weather makes its way back into the area.

"The weather is warming up, so I really wanted to see what might be around here that would be a good place for our family to go on vacation," she said, adding that the beaches are always a good go-to vacation spot in a pinch.

Planning a vacation can be difficult for military families, so Brahman said that the Travel Extravaganza is a good way to help get a lot of the planning out of the way.

"It can get tough trying to plan out vacation time with how busy my husband and I are while raising a family, so any chance we can get away, we try to do something special," she said. "I think it's great that (Fort Rucker) put this Travel Extravaganza together so that you can browse your options all in one place."

Not only does it provide a onestop shop for vacation planning and helps families familiarize themselves with what's available locally, but it also provides a way to think outside of the box, said the mother of two.

"Sure, it's easy to go on the Internet and look up where might be a good place to go on vacation, but when you have these vendors here in front of you, you



Tim Williams, dean of gator wrestling with Gatorland, holds an alligator while Lilith Koones, military family member, pets it as her mom, Georgina, looks on during the 2015 Travel Extravaganza at The Landing's ballroom March 4.

Brahman. "It's definitely exposed us to some interesting places and given us a lot of ideas for vacations, not only for this year, but

the local areas have to offer in terms of recreation and casual day trips.

"The preparation for this event

determine what worked and what needed to be changed ... then the MWR Central team goes about organizing, planning and pre-

families, as well as the civil service population's service to our country," said Harris, adding that

have the opportunity to see places and ideas you might not have thought of in the first place," said

for years to come."

place for people to discover what said the program manager. "We region."

The event was also a good year's Travel Extravaganza," event the best in the southeast

began the week following last paring the details that make our

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUN **POST CHAPEL**

Bible study leader-minors – The volunteers will teach age-graded Bible study, obtain and use materials needed for the program from the director of religious education, evaluate the learning environment, manage a classroom conducive to learning, and maintain attendance records. Collaborate with the RE ministry leader and assistant teacher.

Activities Support – Provide assistance to key volunteers.

Financial Peace University – Work with preschool-, kindergarten- and elementary-aged children while their parents are in the workshop. All people working with minors must be interviewed and must remain under direct line of sight supervision until background check is completed.

Vacation Bible School Volunteers – From June 8-12 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Volunteers will serve in games, music, drama, crafts, kitchen area and the classroom escorting children to and from activities. Volunteers may be either adult or youth in grades seven and up. Volunteers working in the kitchen area must attend food-handler training or already have a current food handlers card.

For more information, log onto myarmyonesource. com or call 255-3946.

#### EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OFFICE

Administrative and Clerical Clerk – Volunteer will answer and direct phone calls, distribute messages, handle inquires and incoming work requests, review files and records to answer request reference requested information, proof and sort incoming mail, maintain a filing system, photocopy, scan and fax, prepare and distribute mail and packages, and type documents and correspondence. For more information, log on to myarmyonesource.com or call 255-2240.

## **BOSS provides community** impact, mentorship

#### **By Jeremy Henderson** Army Flier Staff Writer

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program offers organized recreation for participants, but volunteers also understand the importance of hard work and the value of positively impacting the community.

"It is not about zip-lining through the woods," Command Sgt. Maj. William D. Lohmeyer, Fort Rucker garrison command sergeant major, said. "We are building their leadership skills and sharpening their professionalism. Soldiers get something out of the experience and they have the opportunity to rub elbows with senior NCOs."

According to Lohmeyer, recent and upcoming community service projects have been aimed at boosting the program's visibility among the post and surrounding community.

BOSS volunteers support DFMWR events such as the Travel Extravaganza and Freedom Fest, but they also lend their time to other efforts like a recent outing for Gold Star Families, he added.

"Saturday, a small group of BOSS volunteers and I treated some Gold Star Families to a tour of the simulators in Daleville," Lohmeyer said. "It is a kind of 'Gold Star' day."

For the full story of the Gold Star Families tour of the simulators, see page A3.

Pfc. Goya Kanyinda, 164th Theater Airfield Operations Group, took the reins as Fort Rucker's BOSS program president.

"BOSS is an incredible program for single Soldiers," she said. "I started in the BOSS program as a volunteer, I saw how great of an impact this program had on me and pursued for a council position. I later on earned the position as secretary and ultimately the president.

"I would like for BOSS to be a program

to be in a place where more Soldiers are involved. My goal is to educate the Soldiers in the three pillars of BOSS: Quality of Life, Community Service, and Recreation and Leisure," Kanvinda said. "I want the Soldiers to be involved in enhancing their living quarters, contribute to their community, and yet find time to have fun and network with their fellow Soldiers."

Lohmever said he shares Kanvinda's sentiment, adding that the program became a personal point of focus when he assumed command sergeant major duties in June.

"I am a single Soldier, myself," he said. "I am at every meeting every Wednesday. It takes a lot to get me to miss that. BOSS is high on my priority list. I like to be involved with them and invested in the things they do. But I also demand the same level of commitment from them.

"Since I became a battalion [command sergeant major], I've tried to turn BOSS into a big brother, big sister program," he added. "When we do events, I try to get other CSMs to volunteer and come out to work with BOSS volunteers. It becomes a mentorship opportunity for these young Soldiers."

BOSS can be an integral tool to help young Soldiers find valuable mentorship, and good direction for their military career and personal life, according to Lohmeyer. "It's more than just a leisurely, volunteer experience. There is quality mentorship to push Soldiers in a positive direction."

According to Kanyinda, the next big BOSS event will be a 32-team dodgeball tournament May 30. Team registration fees generated from the tournament will support future BOSS volunteer projects. More information will be available as the event approaches.

For more information about future events or the BOSS program, visit http://www. ftruckermwr.com/recreation/boss/ or call 255-9810.



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

#### Closures

The Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center will be closed Friday in support of the health fair and safety stand down. For more information, call 255-2296.

The Blue and Green running trails on Beaver Lake will be closed temporarily for repairs from Monday 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.

The automotive skills center will be closed due to a scheduled power outage March 21 during the morning. The center will adjust its hours of operation to noon to 6 p.m. that day. For more information, call 255-9725.

#### Patron satisfaction, staff climate survey

Parents of children participating in child, youth and school services programs and CYSS staff members can voice their opinions by taking a brief CYSS patron satisfaction survey facilitated by the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Directorate and Installation Management Command. A link to the online survey will be sent to all families currently enrolled in one of the many CYS Services programs and the staff members at Fort Rucker.

The confidential survey will be open for two weeks this month.

The survey provides a unique opportunity to measure usage, helpfulness of individual CYSS offerings and identify emerging needs related to military families.

Parents and employees will receive an online link to log on and complete the survey.

#### Day trips



## **Children's Festival**

Fort Rucker will host its 11th annual Children's Festival March 28 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.

man foosball, ga-ga ball, kickball and mini-golf. The cost is \$40 for ages 5 and up, and \$14 for under 5, and includes transportation and entry fees. The event is open to the public and limited to 28 people. Bus will depart Fort Rucker at 8:30 a.m.

For more information or to sign up, call 255-4305, or 255-2997 or 255-9517.

#### **EFMP group**

The Exceptional Family Member Program invites all active duty military families who have an exceptional or special-needs family member to join the EFMP Information and Support Group Tuesday from 9–10 a.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950. The topic for the meeting is spring break and traveling with a special-needs family member. Tips, tools and resources will be discussed that can assist families to have a successful trip. The group offers camaraderie, friendship, information exchange, idea sharing, community resources, support and assistance with finding solutions.

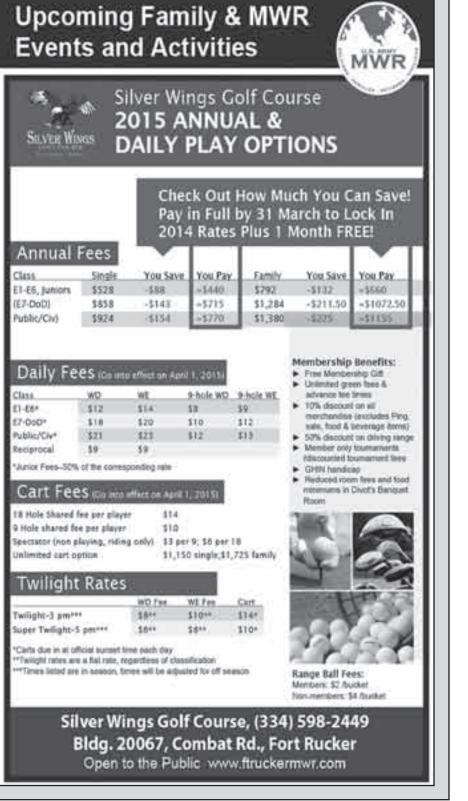
Age Center will host its Glow in the Dark Skate Night March 20. Youth are welcome to what organizers say will be a groovy time with wild and crazy glow lights. Youth can dress up in their favorite glow clothes, socks and glasses, and paint their faces, bring glow sticks or just use ones at the facility. Safety skate will be from 6:15-7:15 p.m. and costs \$2. Regular skate will be from 7:30–9:30 p.m. and costs \$5.

For more information, call 255-9108.

#### Mom & Me: Dad too!

Army Community Service hosts its Mom & Me:





Outdoor recreation has two day trips coming up.

• Saturday — Wonder-Works and Ripley's Believe It or Not in Panama City Beach, Florida. Wonder-Works has over 100 activities including laser tag, a bubble-making zone, a giant lite-brite, rollercoaster simulator and virtual sports. At Ripley's, people can see wonders of the world, including "the amazing floating car." After Ripley's and WonderWorks, the trip will head to Pier Park for dinner. Cost is \$52 for adults and \$49 for children ages 5–12. Price includes transportation to and from Panama City Beach; entrance to WonderWorks, including the ropes course and one game of laser tag; and entrance to Ripley's Museum, Mirror Maze, and 7D theater. Dinner is not included in the price. The event is open to the public. Bus will depart Fort Rucker at 8:30 a.m. and return around 9 p.m.

• March 21 — Camp Butter and Egg in Troy. People can spend the morning on the expanded zip line course, giant swing, climbing wall, and double zip line with net climb - for ages 9 and older. For children under 9, there is a ropes course that does not require a harness. There will be a lunch break, so people should bring their own food. After lunch, there will be group activities that include hu-

For more information and to register, call 255-9277.

#### **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 March 19. 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.

#### Glow in the Dark Skate Night

The Fort Rucker School

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.

#### Newcomers welcome

Army Community Service will host a newcomers welcome March 20 from 8:30-11 a.m. at The Landing. Active-duty military, spouses, foreign students, Army civilians and family members are encouraged to attend. A free light breakfast and coffee will be served. For free childcare, people can register their children at the Fort Rucker Child Development Center by calling 255-3564. Reservations must be made 24 hours prior to the newcomer welcome.

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

#### **Right Arm Night**

The Landing Zone will host Right Arm Night March 26 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.

#### **MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 12 - 15** KER

Thursday, March 12	Friday, March 13	Saturday, March 14	Sunday, March 15
The Boy Next Door (R) 7 p.m.	Cinderella (PG) 7 & 9:30 p.m.	Cinderella (PG) 4 & 9:30 p.m.	Cinderella (PG) 2 p.m.
TICKETS ARE \$6 FOR ADULTS AN	ID \$5 FOR CHILDREN, 12 AND UNDER. MILITARY I.D. CARE	HOLDERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE WELCOME. FOR MO	RE INFORMATION, CALL 255-2408.

### Advocate offers message of hope for women, children at risk

of the curative process, she said.

Next begins the journey to their

recovery. WAR does this by

teaching victims trades, treating

their physical and mental wounds

and filling them with "light, hope,

A lot of times, a safe house is

required for the victims, some of

which can hold hundreds of peo-

ple. While mostly for women and

children, McDonald pointed out

that there are three safe houses

dignity and worth," she said.

#### **By David Vergun** Army News Service

WASHINGTON - When Rebecca McDonald was 14 years old, living in Pakistan, her best friend of the same age was raped and had acid poured down her throat by others afterward.

At the Pentagon National Prayer Breakfast March 4, Pentagon Chaplain (Col.) Kenneth Williams introduced McDonald, who told her story. She is now the founder and president of Women at Risk, International.

The event was sponsored by the Office of the Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army.

McDonald said the reason for the acid attack on her best friend was that she resisted being raped. "They told her: 'How dare you cry out? You're only a woman. You have no voice.'

"God used the acid of her suffering to burn a hole in my heart and set me on a pathway of being the voice for the silent woman and child," she said, adding that she's been doing that now for about 30 years.

McDonald said human trafficking, and other forms of abuse of men, women and children are growing at home and internationally at a greater rate than most other crimes.

About 50 million women and children a year disappear due to any number of risk factors, including infanticide and honor killings, she said. Besides that, women, children and even men

are victims of human trafficking, forced prostitution and abuse - all areas WAR is combating in some 45 countries, including the United States.

"No one talks about this problem," she said, having provided her own testimony to the Department of Homeland Security and congressional committees.

WAR workers have rescued children as young as 2 years old, who were being sold into sexual slavery or in organ "donation" programs, she said.

And while the prevalence is high in many countries, the United States is not immune. About 2,400 minors are for sale at any given time in west Michigan alone, she said, according to Department of Homeland Security officials who contacted her in her Grand Rapids headquarters for assistance. "This is a carnage of the innocent."

It is not just men selling children, girls and women. A lot of traffickers are females. For example, in the United States, there are 15- to 18-year-old schoolgirls recruiting 9-year-old girls to go to parties, where they are coerced into sex and blackmailed. A lot of what happens is too graphic to tell

WAR focuses on three approaches, McDonald said: curative, preventive and supportive.

Curatively, WAR volunteers fan out into red-light districts worldwide, looking for places of captivity, determining if the victims are there against their will and then rescuing them, she said. But rescue is just the first part



Rebecca McDonald spoke during a Pentagon National Prayer Breakfast March 4.

for men, too.

In this way, thousands of people have been "rescued, redeemed, restored and empowered," she said. Many of the girls and women who are rescued become WAR members, and run safe houses or do other work, while others go on to lead productive lives and fulfill their dreams.

Two-thirds of WAR programs focus on prevention. "If we hear that 90 percent of women in some

villages in South Asia or Africa will be forced into working in red-light districts, we take immediate action," she said.

By action, McDonald said WAR will set up a sewing academy in the village where the girls and women can work, or they will place the women in training programs. "We graduated lawyers, doctors, school teachers, cosmetologists, goat herders, you name it."

The reason for doing this, she said, is that women who are rescued and are not provided with livelihood skills will most likely end up getting re-sold into slavery or prostitution. One estimate, she said, is 90 percent of Cambodian women, who get rescued but get no job training, get re-sold.

Support is the third aspect, she said. Support means coming to venues like this and telling people's stories. "We need people like you to volunteer and step up to help in any way possible. Use your voice. Be heard," she encouraged.

McDonald added a personal thank you to the military for addressing risk issues to women and blazing a trail for others to follow. "Thank you from the bottom of my heart for doing the hard things, addressing the hard realities and making change."

After her presentation, Williams added, "She's made a difference for women at risk. I hope you were stirred to discomfort. I encourage you to get involved and make a difference in people's lives."

## Pick-ofthe-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/fortruckerstravfacility/ 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

"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." 1 Corinthians

11:1

Church Directory

**First United** Methodist Church I'raditional Worship Service 8:30am & 11:00am **Contemporary Worship** New Connection 8:45am & 11:00am The Gathering - Youth 5:45pm Sunday School 10:00 м Nursery Care: During all services

217 S. Main St • Enterprise, AL Office: 334-347-3467 efumc@adelphia.net Prayer Line (24 Hours) 334-393-7509

Here, it's not about the building.

ll things done with great love will change the world VINEYARD CHURCH DOTHAN 10:30 Service; Wed 6:30 Small Gro (334) 671-0093 • 150 Bethlehem Rd DOTHANVINEYARD.COM

#### Grace Baptist Church

Minutes from Ft. Rucker Ozark's Gate On the corner of Highway 231 & Parker Drive Independent - Fundamental - Soul Winning

LISTEN TO A LIFE CHANGING MESSAGE OF HOPE "God So Loved the World"

www.1john316.net 334-774-2311

www.GraceBaptistChurch-Ozark.com

#### **VISIT US ONLINE AT** WWW.ARMYFLIER.COM.

Call 347-9533 to advertise your church on this page.

## **Production brings night of fun, romance**



#### **Coffee County Arts Alliance** *Press Release*

The community is invited to a night of fun and romance March 16 as "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" takes the Enterprise High School Performing Arts Center stage at 7 p.m.

The musical tells the story of Millie, a young bride living in the 1850's Oregon wilderness, who plans to civilize and marry off her six rowdy brothers-in-law to ensure the success of her own marriage. The plan backfires when the brothers kidnap six women from a neighboring town to be their brides. This musical performance is all boisterous fun and romance. "Goin' courting" has never been as rambunctious as in this riproaring stage version that harkens back to the glory days of the movie musical.

Advance tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for students. Tickets pur-

chased the day of the event are \$30 for adults and \$23 for students.

Tickets are available at the following locations:

- David's Westgate Beauty Salon - 406-1617 - Enterprise
- Redbrick Pizza (next to Publix) - 475-2156 - Enterprise
- The Framery -347-7800 - Enterprise
- New Brockton Florist -894-6737 - New Brockton
- **Bradley Florist and Gift Shop** -897-3422 - Elba
- Wildflowers Florist & Gifts -897-3010 - Elba
- The Printing Press, Inc. -566-4060 - Troy
- MaFoosky's Deli -598-3030 - Daleville
- Harbin Jewelers -774-4427 - Ozark

For information, call 406-2787 or visit www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com.

## WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

#### ANDALUSIA

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

**ONGOING** — 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. tivities. Arts and crafts vendors will be set up during the day to give visitors a chance to purchase handmade works of art. Food concessions will also be available. Live music will take place throughout the day. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for senior citizens and active military, \$4 for children, and free for children ages 2 and under. Park members are admitted free. For information, visit www.landmarkparkdothan.com or call 794-3452. For more information, contact the park at 334-794-3452.

**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 elementaryaged children. For more information, visit wiregrassmuseum.com or call 794-3871.

#### **ENTERPRISE**

MARCH 16 — The Coffee County Arts Alliance will host its production of "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" at 7 p.m. at the Enterprise High School Performing Arts Center. For more information, call 406-2787.

**ONGOING** — The American Legion Post 73 meets at the American Legion/ Doer's Shrine Club building at 200 Gibson Street on the fourth Saturday of each month, beginning at 8 a.m. The building is across the street from the Lee Street Baptist Church. For more information, call 347-5961 or 447-8507. to town hall meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall, 1385 Hinton Waters Ave. For more information, call 983-3511.

#### **NEW BROCKTON**

ONGOING - Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 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.

#### 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

**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 21** — Landmark Park will offer visitors a glimpse into what rural life was like over a century ago during the annual Spring Farm Day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The day's activities will include demonstrations of old-fashioned skills and crafts like plowing with mules and horses, blacksmithing, sheep shearing and more. Volunteers will quilt, sew, cook on a wood stove and on the open hearth, wash clothes and make soap. Other activities include music, a quilt display and children's ac-

**ONGOING** — Disabled American Veterans Chapter 9 Enterprise-Coffee County, located at 201 W. Watts St., helps veterans with claims Mondays-Thursdays from 9-11 a.m. and other times by appointment. For more information, call 308-2480.

#### 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

#### OZARK

**ONGOING** — The Carroll High School class of 1965 (Ozark) reunion committee is planning its 50th reunion June 12-13. The program will include recognition of the class' Vietnam veterans and teachers. Classmate Joe Kelley will be the keynote speaker, followed by a tour of the new Carroll High School building. Organizers need some classmates' current information. Those who have not received a recent email should send an email to Judy Miller McLaughlin at judybobmcl@hotmail.com, or call 774-2752.

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

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 armory at the corner of Westgate Parkway and Choctaw in Dothan. For more information, call 718-4168 or 805-7335.

### **Beyond Briefs**

#### Southeastern Livestock Exposition Rodeo

Montgomery will play host to the 58th annual Southeastern Livestock Exposition Rodeo March 19-21 at the Garrett Coliseum, 1555 Federal Drive. The nation's top cowboys and cowgirls will compete for the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association Championship.

For ticket pricing and other information, call 334-265-1867 or visit http://www.slerodeo.com.

#### Working Apalachicola Bay

St. George Island State Park, Florida, will host its Ranger Talk: Working Apalachicola Bay March 21 at 1 p.m. The talk will focus on the local seafood industry and how it works, and features a presentation on harvesting oysters, shrimp, crab, and mullet in Apalachicola Bay. Participants are welcome to bring a snack item to share. Coffee is provided by the Friends of Franklin County State Parks. The program is free with paid park entry.

The park is located at 1900 East Gulf Beach Dr., St George Island. For more information, call 850-927-2111.

#### **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.

#### **Great Dinosaur Egg Hunt**

Mobile's Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center will host its Hatching the Past: the Great Dinosaur Egg Hunt now through May 10. The exhibit features 100 real dinosaur eggs and 100 replica eggs. This multi-media experience for all ages invites visitors to touch real dinosaur bones and reconstructed nests – one more than eight feet in diameter – dig for eggs, experience hands-on exploration stations and view animated video presentations featuring well-known dinosaur experts. Each science-rich section is enhanced with lifelike models of embryos and hatchlings, colorful illustrations of dinosaur family life andphotographs of some of the world's most renowned dinosaur hunters and their discoveries.

For more information visit: http://www.exploreum.com/ hatching-the-past-the-great-dinosaur-egg-hunt/.

#### **Jasmine Hill Gardens**

Jasmine Hill Gardens and Outdoor Museum features

over 20 acres of year-round floral beauty and classical sculpture, including a new statuary honoring Olympic heroes. People are invited to take a stroll through the outdoor gardens and experience flowers blooming throughout each season. Tours are available for groups of 20 or more.

For more information, call 334-263-5713 or visit www. jasminehill.org/. Jasmine Hill Gardens and Outdoor Museum is located at 3001 Jasmine Hill Road, Wetumpka.

#### **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 13 at 1 and 3 p.m.; March 21 at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; March 24 at 1 and 3 p.m.; and 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.

## Ist Lady: Mental illness should carry no stigma

#### By Terri Moon Cronk Department of Defense News

WASHINGTON — The military reaches out to assist troubled service members, and helping people with mental health issues "is what we've got to do for every single person in our own lives," First Lady Michelle Obama told attendees at a conference March 4.

As part of the White House's Joining Forces initiative, the first lady addressed mental-health professionals at the "Give An Hour" conference at the Newseum.

Give an Hour is a nonprofit organization that develops networks of volunteers to provide free counseling to troops, veterans and their families affected by the nation's wars, and works toward eliminating the stigma attached to seeking help for mental-health issues.

Just as the military community has, Obama said, all Americans should learn to recognize the distress indicators in family and friends.

#### Zero room for stigma

People who need help should not afraid to seek it because of how it will look to those around them, the first lady said. Mental health conditions often are perceived differently from diseases such as cancer, diabetes or asthma.

"That makes no sense," she said. "Whether an illness affects your heart, your leg or your brain, it's still an illness. So there should be absolutely no stigma around mental health. None. Zero." Nearly one in five adults -

more than 40 million Americans – experience a diagnosable mental-health condition, such as depression or anxiety every year, she noted.

"So it is really time to flip the script on mental health in this country," Obama said. "It's time. It's time to tell everyone who's dealing with a mental health issue that they're not alone, and that getting support and treatment isn't a sign of weakness. It's a sign of strength."

#### **One veteran's struggles**

To illustrate her point, Obama described the story of Ryan Rigdon, a Navy veteran who twice deployed to Iraq to disarm enemy bombs.

"[On] his first day on duty in Baghdad, Ryan and his team were sent out to dismantle explosives seven different times," the first lady said. "Then Ryan encountered a live (improvised explosive device) that was camouflaged to look like a rock. Ryan didn't have his protective suit on and he knew the device could explode at any minute. So he flipped it over and disarmed it with his bare hands."

Eventually, Obama said, Rigdon began to experience mentalhealth symptoms such as extreme emotional highs and lows, severe headaches, ringing in his ears and panic attacks. Once out of the military and back at home, he faced additional struggles with family issues, a sick child and difficulty finding employment.



First Lady Michelle Obama speaks at the launch of the mental health initiative Campaign to Change Direction at the Newseum in Washington, D.C., March 4.

Another Sailor who noticed story of far too many of our vethow Rigdon was struggling and encouraged him to seek help, the first lady said. After hitting rock bottom and nearly taking his life, Rigdon sought help from Give an Hour through the Veterans Affairs Department.

erans – the struggle to adjust to a new life (and) the terrors and anxieties that just won't go away, even when they're back home, safe in their own beds," the first lady said. Not all veterans are plagued

with mental-health issues, she added, but the veterans who do struggle are not alone.

Rigdon's story could have ended in heartbreak, but the people in his life wouldn't let that happen, the first lady said.

"The Sailor who reached out to him, the co-worker who supported him, his wife who was there for him every day ... they all showed Ryan that he didn't have to do this alone, and they helped him to change direction," she added.

#### Learning from the military community

Offering support the military community has learned to provide to those in need is something all Americans should do for people in their own lives, the first lady said.

"We've got to listen, connect with them, offer our compassion so that our friends. families, neighbors and our veterans can get the help they need, just like we would if they were diagnosed with cancer or heart disease or anything else - because we all know that our mental health is just as vital as our physical health," she added. "So it's time we started treating it that way."

As part of the effort, the first lady told the audience, Give an Hour is co-sponsoring the Campaign to Change Direction with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. SAMHSA will provide subjectmatter expertise and will coordinate federal outreach through the Veterans Affairs, Defense and Health and Human Services departments.

## Celebrities bring cheer to troops during USO tour

Nation's veterans are not alone

"In Ryan's story we hear the

#### **By Lisa Ferdinando**

Department of Defense News

ABOARD A MILITARY AIRCRAFT - A top NFL quarterback, an "American Idol" winner and Miss America are making their first voyage around the globe to bring cheer to deployed service members.

Indianapolis Colts quarterback Andrew Luck, Season 11 "American Idol" winner Phillip Phillips, and Miss America 2015 Kira Kazantsev are among the celebrities traveling with Navy Adm. James A. Winnefeld Jr., the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, on his third USO tour.

them, ask them questions, see how they are doing. It makes a heck of a difference," Winnefeld said.

"It's a break from the routine, and it really shows these wonderful people who have given so much to our country that they really do matter," he added.

Winnefeld, who spoke to DOD News as he and the crew headed for Germany, the troupe's first stop, said he looks forward to thanking the deployed men and women in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard who have given so much in service to the nation.

"They've raised their right hand. They've volunteered to serve. They're overseas, actor Dennis Haysbert, who is making his he said. "They're serving their country and they're sacrificing a lot while they are doing it."

out the people serving," Young added.

Just to be invited on the tour is an honor, DeGarmo said, citing the USO's historical significance and the happiness and joy the tours have brought to service members far from home all over the world.

"To be back now for our fourth time is wonderful, and it's a great organization to be a part of," she said." As you can tell, we are very happy to be here."

The USO is a nonprofit organization that supports service members and their families with an extensive range of programs in 160 locations in the United States and abroad.

"Thousands of USO volunteers do everything possible to provide a home away from home for our troops and to keep them connected to the families they left behind," the organization's website reads.



Others in the traveling troupe include sixth USO tour; "American Idol" runnerup Diana DeGarmo, on her fourth tour; and DeGarmo's husband, Ace Young, an "American Idol" finalist, who is on his third USO trip.

On his second USO tour is film and television personality Jason "Wee Man" Acuna, while the goodwill trip marks the first such travel for Indianapolis Colts tight end Dwayne Allen, Pittsburgh Steelers guard David DeCastro, and Indianapolis Colts head coach Chuck Pagano.

Thanking Troops for Their Service, Sacrifice

Before they departed March 2 on their world tour, Winnefeld and some of the celebrities visited Arlington National Cemetery and then spent time with wounded warriors at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

"It's always terrific for the wounded warriors to be able to see these people who are so successful in life (and) don't have to do this, but take the time to come speak with

The tour will be special for Winnefeld and his wife, Mary, who is also on the trip, as it is his last as the nation's second-highest-ranking military officer. The admiral, whose term ends later this year, predicted this will be the "best one yet."

"This is a tremendous treat for us to be able to do this," he said.

DeGarmo and Young said they always look forward to participating in the USO tours.

"It's the least we can do for our troops and our service members who do so much for us," DeGarmo said.

It is a humbling experience, Young said, considering the incredible sacrifice made by both the service members and their families.

"It's just a big eye-opener for me, it really humbles me (and) makes me grateful for every opportunity that I have back home, because none of it would be available with-



Miss America 2015 Kira Kazantsev and singer Diana DeGarmo arrive in Germany as part of a USO Tour hosted by Navy Adm. James A. Winnefeld Jr., vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, March 3.

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**GOLD STANDARD** Soldiers compete to become Olympians

Story on Page D3



## Volunteers sought to breathe new life into old trails

#### **By Jeremy Henderson** *Army Flier Staff Writer*

The Fort Rucker Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation hopes to reclaim forgotten trails in 2015 with the aid of volunteers and the Adopt-A-Trail program.

"Volunteers can earn recognition by helping MWR maintain the running and biking trails on Fort Rucker," Lori Ciranni, Fort Rucker sports, fitness and aquatics manager, said. "The volunteers visit their trails and do minor clean up, document maintenance needs, report acts of vandalism, interact with trail users, promote trail safety and encourage an overall positive use of public trails."

Commuters along Farrell Road may notice the scenic expanse of Parcours Youth Lake, but few realize an adventurous expanse of trails exists within the wooded area surrounding the water. Those trails are one of two locations volunteers can help maintain.

"Adopting one of our trails is a great way to give back to your community," Ciranni said. "In doing so, you not only gain that sense of pride of giving back, but it is a program that promotes healthy living. It is a way for a couple or family to be with each other without the hustle and bustle of modern technology.

"While walking and working on the trails, you get the added benefit of beginning or maintaining a healthy lifestyle, and could possibly spark an interest in biking, hiking or running," she added. "Maintaining the trails can also be used to learn the plant life and wild life in our area. The society we live in unfortunately is a lot about taking. This is a great chance to learn or teach someone the rewards received from giving."

Volunteers are asked to commit three months of maintenance to their assigned trail. Volunteers are asked to visit their trail each month to document maintenance needs, report acts of vandalism, interact with trail users, promote safety and encourage positive use of the trails.

"As a result of concerns brought up as part of the installations Army Family Action Plan, Fort Rucker's DFMWR community recreation division developed the program to gain assistance from the concerned individuals and organizations," Ciranni said.

Volunteers will be required to attend orientation in late January before volunteers begin visiting the trails in February.

"The program is open to anyone wishing to volunteer," she said. "It can be an individual, a family, an organization wishing to use this as their community project or anyone with an interest in giving back to their community. Participation in this program not only promotes community stewardship, it helps maintain our highly used, difficultto-maintain trails."

Applications are accepted for the spring season until Jan. 12. DFMWR will follow up with applicants the week following the application deadline.

For more information or to register for the program, call 255-9567 or visit http:// www.ftruckermwr.com/fort-ruckeradopt-a-trail-program/.





PHOTOS BY JEREMY HENDERSON

Trails behind Parcours Youth Lake, once bustling with Soldiers training, rest somewhat forgotten and partially overgrown. Adopt-A-Trail asks volunteers to help breathe new life into this old trail system, filled with various paths and more than a dozen exercise stations.





## Health fair aims to improve community's overall health

**By Jenny Stripling** *Lyster Army Health Clinic* 

will be opportunities at the health fair to learn about improving

PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAL

Sgt. Derek Haldeman captures the bronze medal by defeating Kuwait's 2000 Double Trap Olympic bronze medalist and 2012 Trap Olympic Silver medalist Fehaid Aldeehani during the International Shooting Sport Federation Shotgun World Cup.

## ON TARGET

#### Army shooter wins gold, earns Olympic quota slot

#### By Sgt. 1st Class Raymond J. Piper

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs

FORT BENNING, Ga.— U.S. Marksmanship Unit shotgun shooters led Team USA to gold and bronze medal victories for Men's Double Trap during the 2015 International Shooting Sports Federation Shotgun World Cup in Acapulco, Mexico, March 5.

Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Holguin's 52-target shoot-off against teammate Sgt. Derek Haldeman placed him in the gold medal match against China's Hu Binyuan.

"I didn't know if I was ever going to make it." Holguin told reporters after the match. "First the qualifications, then the semi-final, a shoot-off, the medal match and another shoot-off ... I don't know how many targets I had to break. It has been tough, but I was confident all the way through."

The gold-medal competitors would tie with 28 hits and Holguin went into his second shoot off of the day. He would come out ahead eight to seven – winning the gold medal.

"After the semi-final, during the shoot-off with my teammate Haldeman, for a moment I thought I was going to be tired at the end, but I stopped myself immediately, because I knew it was going to hurt me," Holguin said.

He explained that the last time he went through a long final, similar thoughts led him to perform poorly in the medal match. He said this time he told himself he was shooting great and to keep going.

The victory earns the United States its second and final Olympic quota slot for Men's Double Trap. Sgt. 1st Class Josh Richmond earned the first quota in the 2014 International Shooting Sport Federation World Championship in Granada, Spain. Slots are awarded to national teams based on wins at qualifying international marksmanship events. Team members will be selected by a national committee before the 2016 games. A shooter can earn a spot on the team through points by winning international competitions.

"At least one Olympic quota will go back to our selection process, so we have to shoot for it back home," Holguin said. "But if one of us can do really well at World Cups this year, he can qualify for one of the two quota spots by points. I just got a pretty good score today, I believe, so this has been a very good first step."

Holguin is scheduled to compete in the next two ISSF Shotgun World Cups in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, and Larnaca, Cyprus.

During his first World Cup final, Haldeman met and beat Kuwait's 2000 Double Trap Olympic bronze medalist and 2012 Trap Olympic Silver medalist Fehaid Aldeehani in the bronze medal match. The two medal contenders ended up tied with 28 hits each at the end of the round and it was once again a shoot-off - leading to Haldeman's victory with 12 to 11 hits.

2008 Olympic Gold Medalist Staff Sgt. Glenn Eller, Team USA's third semi-finalist, finished in sixth place with 25 hits, while Great Britain's firsttime finalist Matthew French closed the semi-final in fifth with 26 hits.

USAMU is part of the U.S. Army Accessions Brigade, Army Marketing and Research Group, and is tasked with enhancing the Army's recruiting effort, raising the standard of Army marksmanship and furthering small arms research and development to en-

#### Public Affairs Officer

Soldiers, families and civilians are invited to attend the Fort Rucker Health Fair and Safety Stand Down Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Yano Hall. The location was moved after officials determined inclement weather was likely Friday.

"There will be a post run, health fair and safety stand down designed to promote comprehensive health and wellbeing of Soldiers, families and civilians," said Maj. JoAnn Ward, chief of Preventative Medicine at Lyster Army Health Clinic. "Our focus will also be on safety awareness training for Aviation and ground topics."

According to Ward, the health fair will aim to focus on the five dimensions of strength within the Army Resilience Program: Physical, Emotional, Social, Family and Spiritual, as well as injury prevention and risk reduction.

Taking care of oneself emotionally is just one aspect of Friday's health fair.

"Emotional health and physical health are closely connected and strongly influence one another," said Capt. Krista Hernandez, licensed clinical psychologist at Lyster.

"When a person is experiencing a problem with physical health, this takes a toll on emotional health. Stress levels increase, anxiety and worries about the medical condition and prognosis may arise, and depression can set in. Focusing on nutrition, sleep and exercise is a great way to start building up core strength that not only decreases the chances of facing emotional and physical problems down the road, but also provides a toolkit of approaches in managing these problems if they do occur," said Hernandez.

According to Hernandez, there

health with emotional resources including yoga and other exercise classes. Additionally, with focus on the Army Medicine performance triad, information on nutrition and sleep will be readily available.

"The department of behavioral health will provide education on specific resources which are available to target behavioral health problems and improve overall health and wellbeing. This will include education and demonstration of tools such as Alpha-Stim treatment and smart phone applications to aid in relaxation, sleep and mood," she said.

Not only will the health fair highlight ways to maintain and increase overall health, but also safety.

"The benefits of maintaining a safe work environment are many, but first and foremost, safety is about what you can do to protect our Soldiers, families and civilians," said Robert Johnson, air safety investigator at Fort Rucker Aviation Branch Safety Office.

Johnson said an effective training program can reduce the number of injuries and deaths, property damage, legal liability, illnesses, workers' compensation claims and missed time from work.

Safety training classes help establish a safety culture in which Soldiers, families and civilians themselves help promote proper safety procedures both while on the job and at home.

During the health fair, there are several safety training activities scheduled that may include heat illness prevention training, driver safety training or the implement the Five-Step Risk Management Process into everyday activities.

The health fair is free of charge and everyone is invited to attend.

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by Dave T. Phipps

1. LITERATURE: Who wrote "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"?

2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of India?

3. HISTORY: In what year were East and West Germany reunified?

4. MUSIC: What pop music artist's first live album was titled "11-17-70"?

5. ANATOMY: What is a synapse? 6. ART: What are putti?

7. FAMOUS QUOTATIONS: What 18th-century doctor and writer once said, "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel."

8. NATURAL WORLD: What kind of creature is a merganser?

9. ENTERTAINERS: What was Bob Hope's real name?

10. LANGUAGE: What are the two shortest words in English that contain the letters a, b, c, d, e and f?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

#### Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle 9 3 4 2 6 8

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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

# KID'S CORNER

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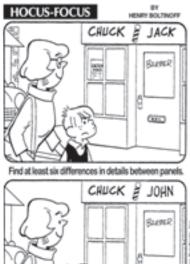
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HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6,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

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## **Soldiers compete to become Olympians**

#### **By David Vergun**

Army News Service

WASHINGTON - Three female Soldiers have their sights set on going to the Olympics next summer in Brazil - two boxers and one wrestler.

Gail McCabe, Army Broadcasting, interviewed the Soldiers and others March 3-5 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where they are training as part of the Army's World Class Athlete Program. McCabe's interview with the WCAP chief, Willie Wilson, can viewed on the iSoldier program on YouTube. It can also be watched on the ARNEWS video player.

All three of the female Soldiers expressed a great deal of commitment and passion for their sport and for the Army, McCabe said.

"They want to become Olympians," she said. "They're very proud that they're able to represent the Army and that they're Soldiers as well."

The two boxers are Spc. Alexandra Love, who is in the 112-pound weight class, and Spc. Melissa Parker, a member of the 132-pound class. The wrestler is Staff Sgt. Iris Smith, who happens to also be a two-time national champion.

The training for all three of them is really intense, she said, with a typical training day being from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. During that time, they lift weights, practice their sport and receive mental training, which allows them to focus and keep positive.

"All of these women have a strong competitive edge. They want that medal," McCabe said.



Sgt. Iris Smith, right, of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program, battles Ali Bernard, of the Gator Wrestling Club, in the women's 72-kilogram/158.5-pound freestyle finale of the U.S. Open Wrestling Championships April 9, 2011, at Public Hall in Cleveland, Ohio. Smith, a two-time national champion, was recently interviewed for an upcoming segment of iSoldier.

In addition to their training, which is considered a full-time job, they also have to meet all of their military requirements as well, she added.

Besides normal military requirements, including physical fitness tests and inspections, they also visit schools and attend special events, where they represent the Army to the local community, she said.

During these special event visits, young girls come up to them and want to talk, McCabe said. They look at these Soldier athletes as female role models for them.

Smith, 35, is the oldest of the three, McCabe said. She realizes that this is her last shot at making the Olympics because of her age and like the others, she is giving it her all.

To make it to the Olympics, the three must compete at a number of state and national events and when it is all over, the Olympic committee will make the final selection, she said.

The thing that sets the three apart from other athletes, McCabe said, is that they developed a high level of confidence that they didn't have prior to joining the Army. "Being part of this sports training program has given them an even higher level of confidence in themselves and what they can accomplish."

Their coaches believe these women have what it takes to make it and they are highly confident that they will, she said.

The three Soldiers will be featured in separate iSoldier segments during the next month, the show's producer said.

Besides the female Soldiers, McCabe also spoke with Marko Lara, who is trying out for the men's wrestling team. Lara enlisted in the Army and is now an NROTC cadet, she said.

In her interview with the WCAP director, Wilson said that since 1997, WCAP has developed 65 Soldier-athletes who became Olympians.

Wilson related to her that the Army has a long history of producing Olympians, dating from the early 20th century. First Lt. George S. Patton competed in the pentathlon in the 1912 Olympics. He would later become a famous general during World War II.

And now, these female Soldierathletes have a chance to make history as well, McCabe said.

In addition to the interview with the WCAP chief, the recent iSoldier features two other news segments.

One shows Operation Spartan Pegasus, in which Soldiers of the 40th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, jump into Dead Horse, Alaska - the closest U.S. Army airborne operation to the Arctic Circle in 10 years.

The other, Operation United Assistance, features Maj. Gen. Gary Volesky and the 101st Airborne Division headquarters casing their colors in Liberia and heading home to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, at the completion of their humanitarian assistance mission to help west Africa nations affected by the Ebola outbreak.

Sgt. Rachel Badgeley produced this week's newscast and Sgt. Audrey Santana anchored the program.

## FORT RUCKER SPORTS BRIEFS

#### **Gobbler Classic Turkey Hunt**

Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation will host its Gobbler Classic Turkey Hunt Saturday 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.

#### St. Patrick's Day run

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host the

briefing at 7:15 a.m. and a 7:30 a.m. shotgun start. Registration for the second session begins at 10:45 a.m. with a 12:15 p.m. briefing and a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. The awards ceremony will be at 5 p.m.

People need to register by Monday. The entry fee is \$75 – \$65 for SWGC members. To register or get more information, call 475-0338 or 808-348-6828.

#### **ABCD Golf Scramble**

Silver Wings Golf Course will host a blind-draw, fourperson golf scramble March 21 with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. The event includes a barbecue lunch at 11:30 a.m. and awards presentation at 5:30 p.m. The scramble is limited to 60 golfers. A U.S. Golf Association handicap is required. Entry fees are \$45 for members and \$55 for non-members. The cost includes lunch, tee gifts, prizes, range balls, and applicable cart and green fees. Deadline to sign up is March 18.

are held at Fortenberry-Colton PFC at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 255-3794.

#### 2-Man Buddy Bass Tournament

Outdoor recreation will host a Two-Man Buddy Bass Tournament March 28 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.

annual St. Patrick's Day 5K/10K and 1-Mile Fun Run Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Race Day registration is 7:30-8:45 a.m. at the Fort Rucker PFC on Andrews Avenue. Participants are encouraged to pre-register at either physical fitness center. The fun run will begin after the 5K/10K race is complete and will be open to all children free of charge. Each fun run participant will receive a medal. Costs per individual are \$12 with the no-shirt option, and \$25 with shirt, while supplies last. Cost for teams is \$160 and includes shirts, while supplies last. Refreshments will be provided. The event will be open to the public. Trophies will be awarded in various categories.

To register or get more information, call 255-2296, 255-2997 or 255-9517.

#### **AAAA golf tourney**

The Army Aviation Association of America will host its annual Scholarship Golf Tournament March 20 in two sessions at Silver Wings Golf Course. The tournament will be in four-person scramble format with 27 teams per session, and is a flighted tournament with no handicap. Registration for the first session starts at 6 a.m. with a For more information or to register, call 598-2449.

#### Softball coaches meeting

Intramural men and women softball coaches meetings will be held March 24 at 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center Conference Room, Bldg. 4605. The meetings are open to anyone interested in coaching an intramural softball team. Games will be played Mondays-Thursdays at 6, 7, and 8 p.m., depending on the number of teams entered.

For more information, call 255-2296.

#### Fitness challenge

Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center instructors will hold a two-hour fitness challenge each month, with the next scheduled for March 26. The challenges are open to all authorized fitness center patrons. Each class is \$3.50, or people can use their class cards. Each session will feature door prizes and refreshments. All challenges

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

#### SHARP 5K run

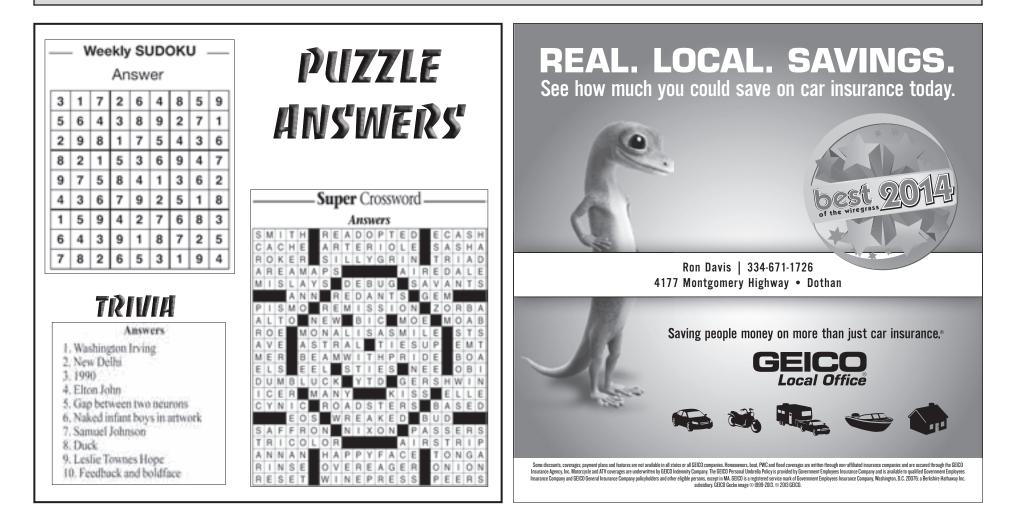
The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention 5K race April 4 in awareness of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The campaign slogan this year is "Eliminate sexual assault: Know your part. Do your part." The race will start at Howze Field at 8:15 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.

#### Member Guest Day at Silver Wings

Silver Wings Golf Course Members can invite up to three guests for a round of golf at a discounted rate from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month from March to December. The cost is \$25 per guest, which includes cart rental, green fee, one bucket of range balls and lunch. Members that bring a guest will receive 50-percent off lunch at Divots.

For more information, call 598-2449.





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