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ARMY FLYER

SERVING THE U.S. ARMY AVIATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE AND THE FORT RUCKER COMMUNITY SINCE 1956

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FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

JULY 9, 2015



Fireworks explode over Fort Rucker during Freedom Fest at the festival fields July 2.

PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

FREEDOM RINGS

Post celebrates Independence Day

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The threat of rain and thunderstorms wasn't enough to deter thousands from celebrating the nation's freedom during Fort Rucker's Independence Day celebration.

Fort Rucker's Freedom Fest went off without a hitch as people from all across the Wiregrass packed the festival fields July 2 to celebrate the nation's independence with music – provided by the post's own 98th Army "Silver Wings" Band – food, fun and the one of the area's largest fireworks displays.

"Freedom Fest is Fort Rucker's opportunity to share with the Wiregrass, and our friends on and off post the ability to enjoy our country's freedom," said Col. Stuart J. McRae, Fort Rucker garrison commander. "Fort Rucker is not just an island by itself. We are part of the Wiregrass community and we want to share the opportunity to enjoy the freedoms that we have with the Wiregrass community."

In addition to celebrating the nation's birth and freedoms, the festival was also a chance to honor the fallen, as well as their families for the sacrifices they have made to the nation in support of those freedoms.

"It's an honor to remember the fallen ser-

vice members and connect with their families," said Rick Kohl, Survivor Outreach Services coordinator. "We exist to provide support for family members who have lost a Soldier, and part of what we do is to connect them to the Army and Army services through outreach events, such as Freedom Fest."

Part of that outreach included a meet-and-greet with Fort Rucker and Aviation leaders, including Maj. Gen. Michael D. Lundy, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, who met and conversed with Gold Star Families in the survivors tent before festivities kicked off.

There was also the Field of Flags, where a flag was placed to honor the 529 Alabama service members who volunteered their service to serve the nation who were lost in service to their country, said Kohl.

Tricia Harden, military family member, said it's because of those sacrifices that she's able to enjoy the freedoms she does today.

"If it weren't for those who were brave enough to fight for our freedom against those who would seek to deny them from us, then we might not even be able to enjoy

SEE FREEDOM, PAGE A4

NEWEST WARRIOR

110th Avn. Bde. welcomes new commander

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The 110th Aviation Brigade welcomed a new commander as Soldiers, families and community members looked on during a ceremony at Howze field July 1.

Col. Kelly E. Hines assumed command from Col. Jayson A. Altieri as the unit colors passed from one commander to the next, and Maj. Gen. Michael D. Lundy, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, presided over the ceremony.

"This is a very important occasion as it marks the end of one team's tenure and the start of another's. When you think about the Altieris and the impact that they've had on our Army and our Branch over the last two years, it is absolutely phenomenal," said the commanding general. "As we bid farewell to one team, we welcome another great Army family to our team. I've known Kelly and Shannon for a long time and there's nobody that I can think of who is better to bring into this team."

SEE WARRIOR, PAGE A5



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Col. Kelly E. Hines, 110th Aviation Brigade commander, accepts the unit colors from Maj. Gen. Michael D. Lundy, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, as he assumes command from Col. Jayson, A. Altieri during a change of command ceremony on Howze Field July 1.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Juvenile bald eagles sit perched on their nest around the recreational vehicle park on Lake Tholocco. The parents of the two young eagles (who have yet to grow into the familiar bald eagle look) have claimed Lake Tholocco as their family home for about 20 years.

Eagles claim Lake Tholocco as family home

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

There is an abundance of wildlife that calls Fort Rucker home, but one unlikely family has taken up residence on one of the installation's most popular recreation areas.

Mostly keeping a low profile, a pair of bald eagles call Fort Rucker's Lake Tholocco home, and have done so since at least 1995, according to John McClamma, outdoor recreation NAF maintenance manager.

The eagles, seen by many Americans as a symbol of freedom, can be seen hunting across the

SEE FAMILY, PAGE A5



COMMISSARY OPENS

PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Bobby Ward, Fort Rucker Commissary store director, provides a tour of the new commissary to community members June 15. The grand opening for the new store will be Wednesday, starting with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 8:30 a.m. Between now and the last operating day for the old store, which is Sunday, some products will not be available due to the move. Officials ask for people's patience during the transition to the new store.

PERSPECTIVE

JOB FAIR

Opportunity for employment success

By Mike Kozlowski
*Army Community Services
Employment Readiness Program
Manager*

(Editor's note: This is the second in a two-part series on preparing for job fairs. Fort Rucker will host its job fair Wednesday.)

Job fairs traditionally come in all sizes and flavors – from the small half-day employer days to student career fairs at local high schools to full-blown, multi-day community job fairs that offer breakout sessions on a variety of employment-related topics for interested attendees.

In last week's article, I wrote about researching companies you want to work for, bringing multiple copies of your resume to the job fair, and the importance of having and practicing your personal pitch to prospective employers.

Here are some more things to think about while preparing for the upcoming 12th annual Fort Rucker Area Job hosted by Fort Rucker Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Center and Army Community Service.

Dress for success

This strategy should go without saying, but I have to bring it up. I have personally observed job fair attendees arriving in tank tops – showing off their colorful and

message-infused tattoos – cut-off shorts and sandals. I've seen other examples of revealing clothing on men and women alike.

These folks probably did not get the memo that job fairs give the company reps the opportunity to meet, greet and evaluate candidates for their positions. So, with that being said, I challenge you to ask yourself a couple of questions: Would I hire me if I came dressed for an interview in Saturday-casual attire? Am I trying to draw attention to my appearance, or am I trying to impress the representatives with my skills – with what I can bring to their companies?

Wearing jeans, T-shirts, muscle shirts, or ill-fitting or bad-looking clothing, wearing pink sunglasses to match your Capris that have a large embroidered pink flower on the leg, wearing excessive perfume, or smelling like you've smoked a pack of cigarettes before your arrival – habits that send potentially negative signals to prospective employers at the job fair.

Besides, many people are allergic to perfumes and no one likes the smell of stale cigarette smoke. As far as dress is concerned, it's always wise to show up at any employment event wearing a conservative business suit – either blue or gray – that communicates success and seriousness on your part. Treat the event as if you were going to an interview.

FORT RUCKER AREA JOB FAIR

The 12th annual Fort Rucker Area Job Fair is scheduled for Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Enterprise High School Gymnasium. This event will be hosted by Fort Rucker Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Center and Army Community Service. The event is open to the public and free to all job seekers. Representatives from government contractors, employment agencies, the federal government and local companies will be at the fair. For more information, call 255-2558 or 255-1117.

Other considerations

We live in a day and age where personal contact is almost frowned upon in social settings. We have virtual friends on Facebook. We would rather leave a voicemail message on someone's line than actually talk with that person. Texting, even fraught with grammar errors to the max, has replaced the face-to-face meeting in many instances, even when the person who receives the text message is sitting next to you.

Before you classify me as an anti-tech old fogey, hear me out on this. The rise of technology has also given rise to atrophied interpersonal skills – skills that are vital to your successful job hunt strategies, especially where job fair events are concerned.

So, here are some other considerations you need to keep in mind – and practice – before the date of

the job fair rolls around.

Be direct and enthusiastic when you meet company representatives. Introduce yourself, including your name and career interests. Remember to use good eye contact and a firm handshake with these reps. Much about who you are is communicated through subtle body language.

Avoid poor communication habits. Ditch the chewing gum. Control your rocking and fidgeting in the presence of the company rep, as a matter of fact, do not exhibit any nervous habit that may distract the rep from hearing you – jangling car keys or loose change, using inane filler words like “Um,” “and,” and “uh,” and remember to never use profanity when speaking to the reps.

Always ask pertinent questions of the reps, such as where they believe their firms are headed long-range. Never ask any questions

concerning salaries and benefits – you haven't earned the right to ask those questions until you are given an employment offer.

Ask the company representative for the next steps in the recruitment process. Try to obtain the representative's business card and hand write a personal thank you note as soon as you get home. Do not email, type or text these thank you notes. A handwritten note of thanks is rare in our modern tech-ridden culture, and I'm of the opinion that it's the rare things that set people apart from others insofar as the job hunt is concerned.

You've probably heard it said, “We never plan to fail, we just fail to plan.” Allow me to give you a target to shoot for, to plan for in earnest. The Fort Rucker Area Job Fair is slated for July 15th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Enterprise High School Gymnasiums.

Details about the event's vendors are available from the Enterprise Chamber of Commerce. Call Lisa Fenner, president of the Enterprise Chamber of Commerce, at 334-347-0581 (work) or 334-806-6607 (cell) for other event details. You can also contact Bryan Tharpe, director of the Fort Rucker Soldier for Life Center, 255-2558, or me at 255-2594.

Use the job fair preparation techniques I've outlined and, as always, happy job hunting!

Rotor Wash

“A ScreamFree Marriage Workshop will be held each Monday in July from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Bowden Terrace Community Center beginning July 13. Why is communication important in a relationship?”



Sgt. 1st Class Shane Cook, Defense Contract Management Agency Boeing

“If you don't communicate, then there's a barrier between you and your spouse and you're not able to get through problems — all of that has to be communicated properly.”



Catherine Boyd, Army spouse

“Good communication helps to manage expectations on both ends.”



Sgt. Colee Sibley, 769th Engineer Battalion, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

“If you can't talk to each other, then how do you know there's a problem?”



Alain Perez-Majul, civilian

“You have to know how to talk to one another, so if problems arise, you know how to work through it with your partner.”



Jason Pfau, civilian

“Communication is key to getting to know the person you're in a relationship with on a much deeper level than what's on the outside.”

COMMAND

Maj. Gen. Michael D. Lundy
FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

Col. Stuart J. McRae
FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

Lisa Eichhorn
FORT RUCKER PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Jim Hughes
COMMAND INFORMATION OFFICER

David C. Agan Jr.
COMMAND INFORMATION OFFICER ASSISTANT

EDITORIAL STAFF

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CLASSIFIED ADS (800) 779-2557

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RENTERS BEWARE

Prepare properly when house hunting

Army Flier
Staff Report

Just about every renter has a story, and many don't end as well as they should.

Some renters end up paying for repairs, losing their deposits, running into scams online and hashing things out in small claims court, and, to be sure, landlords have their own horror stories about tenants.

But Van Danford, chief of housing, wants to share some expert tips for would-be renters that could prove beneficial in the long run.

"We are here to take care of Soldiers and their families. We just want to get them the right house for their needs, whatever those needs are," said Danford. "The biggest thing that I would advise Soldiers to do is to come into the housing services office so we can make sure they are going to sign a lease that's legal."

Nowadays, many families like the convenience of shopping for a new home online, and while that is a great feature of modern technology, Danford said people need to be careful.

"There are some great and reliable websites to find homes on – realtor sites, www.militarybyowner.com and www.housing.army.mil – are all great sites to find rental homes. The HSO also has listings of local rentals available," he said.

Danford said to never put any money down or sign anything with sight unseen.



ARMY GRAPHIC

"Pictures can be deceiving on the Internet," said Danford. "And pictures can be really old and outdated."

Danford added to always shop and compare houses or apartments, and to drive by the property at night to see how it looks.

"If it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is," said Gaye Hines, HSO office resident liaison. "Just because you are afraid to miss out on a great deal you found on the Internet, don't put money down on a rental without going inside it first."

Even if a Soldier is renting from a friend, coworker or another Soldier, they are advised to bring in the lease so officials can make sure the family is protected and that they are signing a lease with a military clause.

Whether it is a permanent change of station or finding a new residence in the area, if a Soldier begins to have difficulty negotiating with their landlord about deposits and damages, they are encouraged to pay a visit

to the HSO.

"When renting, families need to decide for sure if a certain house is the one they want. Once they put down a security deposit, the deposit will be nonrefundable if they change their minds," Hines said. "Don't rush into a home. All Soldiers are authorized 10 nights of temporary lodging expense between each duty station to stay in a hotel while they find suitable housing."

Danford suggests taking a new lease home to look over before it is signed.

"Don't feel pressured to sign your lease then and there. Bring it to us and we will be happy to check it out for you," he said. "If your realtor or landlord doesn't understand why you would want to take the lease to look over, then you probably don't want to rent from them in the first place."

One of the most important steps in moving into a rental home is to make a very detailed checklist of everything that is wrong

with the house, Hines said.

"It does not matter how big or small the issue is – protect yourself. Something that might not have been a big deal to you when you first moved in might be a huge deal when you try to move out," she said. "Don't be too busy to do that critical step, and always try to take date stamped photos."

Hines suggests asking for the last occupant's checkout list.

"That way you will have an idea of what to look out for and be aware of," she said. "It is especially helpful if you viewed the home when water and power were not hooked up. Once you get that turned on and move in, you might notice more discrepancies that need to either be noted or taken care of."

If a Soldier feels like they are going to have a problem or is currently having a problem, Hines said they can come to HSO and ask for a staff member to be a third party at the checkout.

HSO is inside the Soldier Service Center in Rm. 160. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

"Sometimes we can get things fixed with just a phone call because of our relationships with most of the property managers in town," she said.

HSO not only helps Soldiers renting off post, but assists Soldiers having problems with Corvias Military Living, as well.

For more information, call 255-1854 or 255-2224.

NCOER: Senior raters may identify just 24 percent 'most qualified'

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — New policy for the NCO evaluation report due out in January, includes a limit on how many "most qualified" ratings can be handed out by a Soldier's senior rater.

Under the new system, a senior rater may rate only as many as 24 percent as being most qualified. That limit applies when those being rated are in the rank of staff sergeant through sergeant major. The expectation will be to make the rating of "highly qualified" as the "new norm," said Sgt. Maj. Stephen McDermid, the evaluations branch sergeant major for the Adjutant General Directorate, Human Resources Command.

"It's important to understand that the 'highly qualified' selection will be the norm and that noncommissioned officers will remain competitive for promotion with highly-qualified NCOERs, given they complete their required professional military education," McDermid said.

The senior rater profile is new on the NCOER, and similar to what is already being done on officer evaluation reports. Army leaders hope that implementation of a senior rater profile will help reduce "rating inflation" within the enlisted evaluation system, which makes it difficult for promotion boards to select the most qualified for promotion.

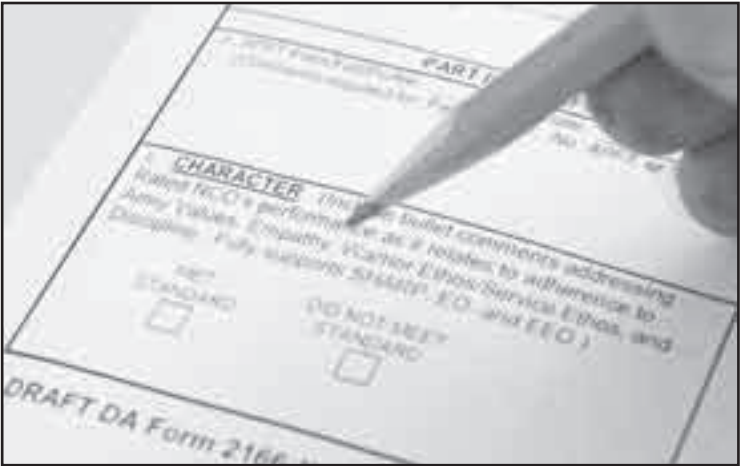


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID VERGUN

"It's hard to use (the NCOER) as a determiner of success and for potential for promotion when everybody is a 1," said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey. "That should be the No. 1 thing we are using to decide promotion potential. And unfortunately, because it is so equivalent for everybody, you can't. You have to go to other things like school reports, awards and decorations, and all those other things."

McDermid said the limit of 24 percent is designed to reflect the promotion percentages common across various military occupational specialties within the enlisted ranks. The intent is to make it easier for promotion boards to identify those Soldiers, who are most qualified to be promoted.

The decision to set the limit to 24 percent was made by the sergeant major of the Army and his senior enlisted council. The

recommendation was passed to both the Army's chief of staff and Army secretary, who both agreed with the recommendation.

"It'll give promotion boards the ability to see who actually are the best by using the NCOER as a true discriminator of talent – what it's supposed to do," Dailey said.

The NCOER includes a block labeled "Senior Rater Overall Potential." That block includes check boxes where senior raters are asked to compare an NCO's "overall potential" to that of other NCOs of the same grade that the senior NCO has rated in his or her career. For the NCO being rated, senior raters may select from: "most qualified," "highly qualified," "qualified," or "not qualified." They may choose only one of those ratings, and may rate up to 24 percent of their Soldiers as "most qualified."

Another change to the NCOER

includes the supplementary review.

Army leaders have asked for a supplementary review on NCOERs when the senior rater is a sergeant first class, first sergeant, master sergeant, warrant officer one, chief warrant officer two, second lieutenant or first lieutenant.

"This supplementary review will be performed by a uniformed Army Soldier, senior to the senior rater within the rated NCO's organization," McDermid said. "As designed, the supplementary reviewer will monitor evaluation practices and provide assistance and/or advice to rating officials as needed."

Counseling required

With the implementation of the new NCOER, counseling will remain critical in reviewing the Soldier's demonstrated performance and potential while focusing on leader development throughout the rating period.

Raters must counsel the rated Soldier initially and quarterly, while the senior rater should counsel the rated NCO twice during the rating period.

"Ideally, this will occur within the first 30 days of the rating period and then at the mid-point," McDermid said. "To account for this, senior raters will have a section on the form to annotate comments from any counseling sessions conducted with the rated NCO."

The requirement for counseling

is also expected to help curb rating inflation, Dailey said, because senior raters, who in the past have neglected to engage in counseling with an NCO for an entire rating period, have been reluctant to rate that Soldier as anything less than the best.

"That's why they got 1 blocks in the past," Dailey said. "(Senior raters) didn't do their job counseling, so they just gave them a 1 block."

Dailey said that when senior raters hold counseling with the Soldiers they senior rate, they are more comfortable providing an honest rating at the end of the year.

"If I tell you all throughout the year in counseling that you are not doing a good job, I have no problem at the end of the year telling you that you are not doing a good job," Dailey said. "But if I haven't done my job in telling you what you have done wrong, then we tend to shy away from that when it is performance evaluation time."

The new NCOER was at one point expected to hit the streets at beginning of the new fiscal year, which is Oct. 1. But Dailey asked the Army's chief of staff and Army secretary to move the date to Jan. 1. The additional time will allow for a fine-tuning of the process and procedures for tracking senior rater profiles to ensure Soldiers have a fair chance at promotions while also preventing rating inflation.

News Briefs

Commissary grand opening

The new Fort Rucker Commissary will celebrate its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. The Fort Rucker community is invited to attend the opening of the new store.

Suicide prevention presentation

The Fort Rucker Army Substance Abuse Program will host Kevin Hines, author of "Cracked, Not Broken," as a speaker on suicide prevention July 21 and 22 during two sessions each day, 10-11:30 a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m., at the post theater. Hines survived a suicide attempt – jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge – when he was 19, according to his official website. All Soldiers, civilian employees and family members – ages 18 and older – are encouraged to attend and hear Hines' story of overcoming adversity and "living mentally healthy."

People need to register by July 17. To register or get more information, call 255-7919.

Men's health challenge

June is Men's Health Month and Lyster Army Health Clinic has a health challenge to all male beneficiaries. Males who participate in any one of the following healthy activities between now and Friday will be

entered into a drawing for the Men's Health Active Summer Giveaway.

- Try out the IN-BODY 570 body composition analysis machine at LAHC, 255-7986.
- Men 50 and older: have a colonoscopy, schedule a colonoscopy or turn in 3 Fecal Occult Blood Cards to LAHC, 255-7715.
- Diabetics and pre-diabetics: attend a diabetes basics program class at LAHC, 255-7986, and/or complete an A1C lab, 255-7715, or retinal exam, 255-7185.
- Attend a nutrition care class at LAHC (weight control, healthy heart management or healthy cooking), 255-7986.
- Participate in a Zumba or yoga class at LAHC, 255-7715.

The Active Summer Men's Giveaway pack includes:

- Five 18-hole rounds of golf at Silver Wings Golf Course;
- Three games of extreme bowling at Rucker Lanes Bowling Center; and
- Fitbit Flex wristband.

People should call the telephone numbers provided above to schedule individual activities. Once people have scheduled their activity, they should call 255-7715 or 255-7913 to have their name entered into the

giveaway drawing. The more activities people do, the more chances they have to win. The giveaway drawing will be held Monday. The winner will be notified by phone.

School physical appointments

Lyster Army Health Clinic will offer after-hours school physical appointments during the dates and times below to help ensure the highest continuity of care possible while providing timely access for patients requiring a school physical. The slots will fill quickly, so people are advised to book appointments as soon as possible.

The dates include: July 21, 4-6 p.m.; Aug. 13, 4-6 p.m.; Aug. 28, 4-6 p.m.; and Sept. 11, 4-6 p.m.

People should make sure to bring any required documentation to the appointment, with the patient portion filled out completely. The appointment will be for the school physical only. Any other issues will need to be addressed with people's primary care providers.

Retirement ceremony

Fort Rucker will host its next quarterly retirement ceremony July 31 at 2 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. All are welcome to attend and thank the post's latest retirees for their service.



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFAU

The 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band gives a live performance before the fireworks display during Freedom Fest at the festival fields July 2.

FREEDOM FEST 2015



Chloey Duffy, military family member, sits in an armored truck as Spc. Zac Christianson, 6th Military Police Detachment, helps and her mother, Jordan, snaps a photo.



Hayden Harrison, military family member, goes down the zipline.



Layla Ard, civilian, makes her way over the climbing wall of the Warrant Officer Career College Confidence Course with the help of WO1 Brandon McLaurin, warrant officer candidate.



Maj. Gen. Michael D. Lundy, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, speaks with Gold Star Families in the survivors tent.

Freedom: Families enjoy safe entertainment, fireworks

Continued from Page A1

the simple things in life that we normally take for granted every, single day,” she said. “It’s because of those men and women that we can choose to live our lives in the greatest country in the world.”

Much of those freedoms were exercised during freedom fest, such as the freedom to enjoy oneself and gorge on festival favorites.

Festival goers were treated to all types of entertainment in the form of live music, static displays, a children’s confidence course, a zip line, bounce houses and much more, as well as a whole host of culinary indulgences ranging from fair favorites like

funnel cakes and fried desserts, to polish sausages and corn dogs.

The 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band provided a performance that had many attendees dancing in their seats, and Louis Timmerman, civilian, said it was just what she needed to get her Independence Day weekend going right.

“What more could you ask for on a day like today?” asked the Enterprise native. “The skies cleared up and we’ve got this great band to listen to with all of these people. It really gives you a sense of freedom – that we’re able to enjoy our lives without the fear of persecution for whatever we believe. Also, I just love fireworks, and that’s always going to bring me out here.”



Warrior: Former USAACE director takes reins

Continued from Page A1

“Shannon and I are both honored and privileged to be joining the Warrior family today,” said Hines. “Jayson, many thanks to you and Shelly for handing me such a fine unit – I couldn’t have asked for more. I look forward to continuing your track record of providing the ground force with the best possible Aviation Soldiers in the world.”

Hines began his military career as an Infantryman in the Oklahoma Army National Guard in 1985 where he began his leadership career as a machine gunner, fire team leader, squad leader and platoon leader.

His Aviation leadership career includes assignments from flight section leader and operations officer for Multinational Force and Observers in Sinai, Egypt, and platoon leader and liaison officer for the 5th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, to company commander and battalion S3 for 3rd Bn., 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia, Iraq and Afghanistan, and commander of the 2nd Bn., 25th Combat Aviation Brigade at Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii, and Afghanistan.

Hines is no stranger to Fort Rucker and the Wiregrass, as he served as the director of the

USAACE Directorate of Evaluations and Standardization – a job that Lundy feels has prepared him for the task ahead.

“I can’t think of a better job to prepare you for this command,” said the commanding general. “As we think to the future and what this brigade has already accomplished over the last two years as we transition through (the Army Restructuring Initiative) and asked it to do a lot, we’ve got an even tougher mission ahead.”

The 110th has what Lundy called the “most difficult mission of any flying brigade” in the Army, with over 600 aircraft of every Army airframe, launching hundreds of aircraft a day, and

training new students daily in all hours of the day and in all conditions, despite having a limited amount of resources.

“This brigade does a lot with very little, and they deliver every day and they’ve done it absolutely superbly under the leadership of Jayson. Jayson, I really appreciate your dedication,” he said. “What I’ve seen over the last two years and what I know we’re going to see in the future, I’m absolutely confident that this brigade is going to be able to answer the call and be able to continue to do the mission to the same level of standards that they have.”

As Altieri takes his leave, he also expressed full confidence

in the incoming leadership as he bid a final farewell to the Soldiers he commanded over the last 24 months.

“It’s been an honor to lead the Warrior brigade Soldiers and department of the Army civilians,” he said. “This brigade is the cornerstone by which USAACE and Fort Rucker trains the best combat Aviators in the world, and, Kelly, as you and your family take the controls, know that you are commanding a great organization. You will feel the pride that we have every day knowing that these Soldiers and civilians are leaving a mark of excellence on the Army that will be felt for years to come.”

Family: Nest provides local glimpse of rare bird of prey

Continued from Page A1

lake and have built their nest nearly 100 feet up in a tree in the area located around the recreational vehicle park where they raise their offspring every year. John Clancy, outdoor recreation manager, said the birds of prey have claimed the entire 640-acre lake as their territory.

“They’ve probably got a good 5-square-mile territory in the area and the lake is predominantly theirs,” he said. “If you visit any of these other big lakes in this area, such as Lake Eufaula, you’ll notice other birds of prey, like Osprey, but you won’t find any of them here because of the bald eagles that have nested here.”

Currently, the eagles have two young juveniles who are about three months old nesting with them. The adults spend most of their time hunting other birds, fish and small mammals around the lake

to feed their young, and Clancy said it’s because of the eagles that the lake has a smaller population of cowbirds and American Coots, a type of duck.

Cowbirds are usually an easy target for the eagles, as they fly in large numbers close to the lake, and the eagles take advantage of this by working together to single out a target.

“They work as a great team,” said McClamma. “Sometimes I’ll go out there and watch them hunt, and the female will fly way up in the air while the male will sit in the tree to wait for a group of cowbirds to fly by.

“The male will round them up and chase one out of the flock, and as soon as one is singled out and flies over the top of the trees, the female will swoop down and nail it,” he said. “Then she’ll take it straight back to the nest to feed their young.”

During the spring and summer, when they are

primarily raising their young, other bird populations will see a decrease because of the eagles and their need to feed their offspring, said Clancy.

“You’ll be hard pressed to find too many of those birds around during their prime hunting season,” he said. “This lake was full of coots three months ago, but once the eagle’s offspring hatched and they needed to start feeding their young, the population of other birds typically drops due to the hunting.”

American coots typically feed on grass and seeds found at the bottom of the lake, and in order to get to its main source of food, the coots developed the ability to dive, which is also useful to escape from the eagles. But despite their ability to dive, Clancy said that oftentimes the tactic isn’t enough to outsmart the national bird.

“Even though the coot can dive down to escape, the eagles will typically

fly around to wait for the coots to resurface. They’ll chase them until they run out of breath,” he said.

When the birds aren’t hunting, they’re usually busy building their nests, which can grow to the size of a small car, said Clancy. Each time their young grow mature enough to leave the nest, they must find their own territory and the residing eagles will rebuild their nest to prepare for the next set of offspring.

As rare as it may seem to see bald eagles in the area, people can observe the birds around the lake and even catch glimpses of them hunting if they know where to look.

McClamma said the best area to observe the birds of prey is by the pier at the RV park during the evening hours. If people do decide to try and catch a glimpse, McClamma and Clancy ask that they in no way disturb the birds or their nest, as doing so is a

federal offense.

The birds are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, which was enacted in 1940, and harassing the birds can be considered a felony and can carry a maximum fine of \$250,000 and up to two years imprisonment, according to the Fish and Wildlife Service website, www.fws.org.

The law prohibits the “take, possession, sale, purchase, barter, offer to sell, purchase or barter, transport, export or import, of any bald or golden eagle, alive or dead, including any part, nest, or egg, unless allowed by permit,” according to the site.

As long as people can abide by these rules, they should be able to observe the birds safely, but Clancy also advises to keep small pets close by on a leash, so as to not get them snatched up by the eagles, which can grow to have a wingspan of up to seven feet.

“It’s not something that’s ever happened, but they do eat small mammals, so you might want to keep them close,” he said.

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BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

Black Hawks, Apaches fly training mission in Lithuania

By Sgt. James Avery
16th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

PABRADE, LITHUANIA — As multinational land forces mass in the forests and open plains of Lithuania for exercise Saber Strike 2015, air power defined multinational partnerships in the skies over Pabrade.

In the air above the training grounds at the Gen. Silvestras Zukauskas Training Area, two AH-64 Longbows operated by A Company, 2-159th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, guarded a German reconnaissance platoon on the ground awaiting pickup of simulated wounded by five UH-60M Black Hawks flown by B Co., 4-3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division.

As the Black Hawks touched down in a massive swirl of yellow sand and debris kicked up by the spinning rotors of the helicopters, crew chief Staff Sgt. Carlos Cruz

slid the side door back on his Black Hawk and, with hand and arm signals, gave the German medic the OK to come out into the open with her wounded Soldiers.

“Working with other units, especially multinational ones, is hard sometimes,” said Cruz, a native of Mangilao, Guam. “The language barrier slows things down sometimes, but we got there in the end. Everyone speaks ‘army.’”

As soon as the German medic had her patients secured in the aircraft, pilot Maj. Patrick Wilde pulled up on the elevator arm and Chock 4 lifted into the air. Patrick, the 4-3rd’s executive officer and detachment officer in charge for Saber Strike 2015, said that assets like his in the air, ready to go at a moments notice, was key to a sustainable partnership with allied forces.

“Being able to bring our knowledge and expertise to our partners and allies is a huge step in continuing interoperability in



PHOTO BY SGT. JAMES AVERY

CW2 Justin Warren and Maj. Patrick Wilde, B Company, 4-3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, fly a UH-60M Black Hawk while on a training mission with a German reconnaissance platoon near Pabrade, Lithuania, June 14.

SEE TRAINING, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY SHERMAN HOGUE

WORKING TOGETHER

The Fort Wainwright Fire Department was joined by the Steese Volunteer Fire Department and the Chena Goldstream Volunteer Fire Department, both part of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Fire Department system, June 6 to conduct medical evacuation hoist training with C Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment (Air Ambulance). The training familiarized the various first responder crews in the area on what is required of them prior to aircraft arrival and how to keep the patient safe during the transfer of care to the MedEvac team while performing hoist operations.

Warrant officers critical to transformation



PHOTO BY ALFREDO BARRAZA

Army Gen. Dennis L. Via, commanding general of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, speaks during the Army’s Senior Warrant Officer Summit at the Mark Center in Alexandria, Va., June 29.

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — With a shrinking end strength and budget, the Army will need to relearn how to sustain what it has, rather than depending on contractor logistics support or replacements, and warrant officers will be key to that transition, said the commanding general of Army Materiel Command.

“I recall (that) warrants maintained everything in the division,” Gen. Dennis L. Via said. “Maybe you had some advisers, but you maintained it all – and your Soldiers. But we’ve gone the other way.”

Via spoke to an auditorium full of senior Army warrant officers in Alexandria, Virginia. The warrant officers were part of a first-ever “Army Senior Warrant Officer Summit,” June 28-29.

Via said as a result of 14 years of war following 9/11, the Army has become accustomed to a large budget, to

SEE TRANSFORMATION, PAGE B4

Army Research Laboratory explores hoverbike

By Staff Sgt. Sean Callahan
U.S. Army Alaska Public Affairs

ADELPHI, Md. — The U.S. Army Research Laboratory has been exploring the tactical reconnaissance vehicle concept for nearly nine months and is evaluating the hoverbike technology as a way to get Soldiers away from ground threats by giving them a 3-D capability.

The Army is interested in this disruptive technology because it has the potential to increase Soldier protection at the squad level and below.

The TRV concept could unburden Soldiers while increasing their capabilities regardless of the environmental conditions, in manned and unmanned operations. Besides mitigating the dangers of ground threats, capabilities for the TRV concept could include aiding in communica-



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MALLOY AERONAUTICS

tion, reconnaissance and protection – sensing danger or even lightening the Soldiers’ load.

The feasibility study of the technology recently concluded and indicates successful performance. During the next three to five years, ARL, a part of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, will partner with Malloy Aeronautics, a United Kingdom-based aeronautical engineering company, and SURVICE Engineering Company, a

Maryland-based defense firm, to deliver full-sized prototypes and analysis for evaluations and assessments in military applications.

This is one of many examples of ARL taking a look at novel and cutting-edge ideas that have the potential to bring new and disruptive capabilities to U.S. land forces decades from now.

As the TRV concept progresses through the proof of principle phase, it could transition to partner organizations within RDECOM, which mature technologies into defense capabilities. ARL would continue to support the TRV project.

People can send an email to public_affairs@arl.army.mil with TRV in the subject line to be added to the mailing list for developments regarding the Tactical Reconnaissance Vehicle project.

Aviators work with NATO allies in Poland

By Sgt. Brandon Anderson
13th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

SWIETOSZOW, Poland — Soldiers of 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment (Assault Helicopter Battalion) and Dutch Soldiers of the 11th Infantry Battalion conducted air assault operations together at the Swietoszow Airbase June 17 during operation Noble Jump.

During the exercise, the Soldiers of 4-3rd AHB, out of Fort Stewart, Georgia, and currently attached to the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, are in Europe providing Aviation support for exercises being conducted in the area.

During this mission, they transported the Dutch Soldiers to conduct detainee and casualty evacuation missions. The Dutch soldiers are part of a spearhead package designed by NATO to deploy within 48 hours in support of NATO operations.

Lt. Col. Phillip W. Mazingo, commander of 4-3rd AHB, said working with the Dutch soldiers during this exercise was been a growing experience for his unit.

“We’ve been able to get in here and understand how each country fights and this has done a great deal to improve our ability to work with other nations,” said Mazingo. “We use their techniques for sling loads, the practice of transporting equipment underneath a helicopter, so we can understand their equipment and how they do it.”

Mazingo said he was grateful for the opportunity to train with the Dutch Soldiers during the exercise.

“It’s been fantastic and I’m very pleased with the ease of integration on all the training exercises,” said Mazingo. “We’re a very powerful alliance through NATO, and we’re able to get the mission done as a team.”

Integrating with U.S. Soldiers is not a new concept for the Dutch soldiers as they conduct regular training at Fort Hood, Texas, throughout the year in order to meet their training requirements as part of the NATO Reaction Force.

Danish Sgt. Maj. Van Nierlo, the helicopter operations NCO for the 11th Infantry Battalion, said that he and his unit have completed many levels of training prior to coming to Noble Jump, but this exercise has allowed members of his unit to help train American Soldiers, as well.

“They’re really willing to fly and do the things we need to do,” said Van Nierlo. “They needed to do some certifications on sling loads, and we’ve got enough stuff to sling and troops to sling with.”

One of the U.S. pilots flying the Dutch soldiers during

SEE ALLIES, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY SGT. BRANDON ANDERSON

Dutch soldiers of the 11th Infantry Battalion exit a UH-60L Black Hawk after conducting an air assault operation June 17 at Swietoszow Airbase, Poland, during Noble Jump.

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Rhino 16 ft. 2000 V Pro: Suzuki 40hp 4 stoke motor. Hummingbird fish finder. Minnkota trolling motor. Excellent condition. \$8,500. For more information call 334-655-4270.

CAMPERS & TRAVEL TRAILERS



Keystone 2014 Montana 3100RL: Like new 4 season, 35 ft, 5th Wheel. GVWR 14,600, Paramount package, Moving to Montana package, Full time living package,

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TRANSPORTATION

AUTOS FOR SALE

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Chevrolet 2011 Camaro 2SS:

MUST SEE!! Rally Yellow with black leather, 6.2 liter, automatic with paddle shifter, sunroof, gauge package, Brand new Pirelli tires. One Owner, Clean

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Ford 2002 F-150: Harley Davidson Crew Cab. Triple Black, New Tires, 2 Owner, Clean Carfax, Non Smoker. RARE HARD TO FIND. Miles Only 89,000. \$15,500 OBO Call Scott at 334-685-1070



BMW 2005 325Ci: Velvet blue with metallic/gray leather, automatic, power convertible top, new tires, VERY NICE, DON'T MISS.

132,000 miles. \$9,500. Call Scott 334-685-1070



Cadillac 2002 Deville:

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Call Scott for more information 334-685-1070.



Ford 2001 Windstar LX, blue with cloth interior, 6 cylinder, good tires, CD player, very good condition, extremely nice & very clean, 78k miles \$3,800 NEG. Call 334-790-6852

Ford 2003 Taurus: Extremely nice, low miles, new tires & brakes, dealership maintained. Will consider trading for nice truck. \$4,400. FIRM 334-774-3582.



GMC 2005 2500HD SLT:

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Steve Hatcher @ 334-791-8243.



Lexus 2005 LS 430: Silver/ Gray Leather, heated/ cool seat, sunroof, rear sunshade. Dr. Owned, non smoker, Clean Carfax. Miles 134,000. \$14,000 Call Scott for more info. 334-685-1070.

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Nissan 2014 Altima, full warranty, must sell! \$200 down, \$269 per month. Call Ron Ellis @ 334-714-0028.

Nissan 2014 Altima, under warranty, must sell. \$200 down, \$279 per month. Call Ron Ellis 334-714-0028.

Pontiac 2003 Bonneville fully electric, keyless entry, cloth interior, AC, excellent condition \$3500. 334-671-0435.

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**TRANSPORTATION**

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VW 2002 Passat : Great car in good condition, leather interior, sun roof, V6, new tires, 169,000 mileage, needs heater core for winter months. Green exterior (looks almost new), tan/black interior. \$3,500 334-475-6683


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Trailer 2008 7x20 dual axle with ramps \$1900. 850-557-2918.

Trailer 5.5x12 single axle with gate \$600. 850-557-2918.

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Chrysler 2007 Town & Country Touring Van, loaded, extra clean, like new, 79,800 miles. \$7495. 334-790-7959.

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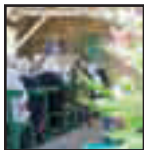
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LEMON LOT

Many deals on wheels, boats, more

Army Flier
Staff Reports

Moving to a new location can be cumbersome, but Fort Rucker's Lemon Lot strives to ease the transition by providing a place for Soldiers and their families to sell their big-ticket items.

The lot, located on Andrews Avenue, provides a space for Soldiers to sell boats, cars, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, trucks, all-terrain vehicles, tow trailers and more to anyone who has access to Fort Rucker.

Soldiers and families members, retirees, DOD employees, even contractors are eligible to utilize 146 lots available to rent, said Joan Varner, program manager at the arts and crafts center.

The secure gates of the paved space currently protect more than 20 used vehicles and trailers day and night.

"This lot sells the car for them. It couldn't get any simpler. The vehicles basically walk off the

lot," she said, adding that even a plane was once sold on the lot.

The price to place an item in the lot varies depending on how large the item is, and spaces are available for rent by the month. Large travel trailers and boats are \$35 a month, and motorcycles, cars, trucks and smaller spaces are \$25 a month.

Customers seeking a vehicle can also find many of the vehicles on the Lemon Lot website at www.ftruckermwr.com/lemon-lot-2/.

An additional \$5 charge is added to list items on the site. If patrons just want to be on the website and not place their vehicle in the lot, then the charge is \$15 a month.

Proof of ownership of the vehicle is required either to place it on the lot or on the website.

"They need their registration, a title or a bill of sale to show ownership," she said. Clients also need to have a matching I.D.

Varner confirmed that there is



FILE PHOTO

Michael Odom, civilian, checks his Ford Mustang one last time before he leaves it at the Lemon Lot last year.

heavy foot traffic at the lot, adding that when one person leaves, another person drives in to take a look.

"The fact that it's on base and super accessible is great. Plus, Soldiers and veterans trust each other," she said.

The benefits of selling a vehicle on the Lemon Lot are notable and Varner said that clients usually walk away happy.

Buying and selling at the Lemon Lot can be a speedy process with vehicles coming and going every day.

"Soldiers price it themselves and sell it themselves by putting their contact numbers on the vehicle," said Varner. "People buy every day. I had a man who sold his vehicle after two days on the lot. If you price it right, it will definitely sell."

Varner added that since Soldiers are always coming and going, there is always someone wanting to buy or sell, and that two trips to the lot are never the same, especially during the high permanent change season of summer.

Things turn over quickly on the lot, according to Varner, because they are priced to sell. "If you have anything you want to sell and sell now, come place it on the Lemon Lot."

The Lemon Lot is located on Andrews Avenue between the Soldier Service Center and Army and Air Force Exchange Services gas station towards Enterprise on the left beside the motorcycle safety course lot.

To register a vehicle, visit the arts and crafts center in Bldg. 9205 on Ruf Avenue.

Illusionist 'demonstrates the impossible'



COURTESY PHOTO

Wayne Hoffman, mentalist and illusionist, returns to The Landing Friday. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The show is 7-8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$16 at the door.

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

Mind-boggling fun and pulse-racing excitement can be found at The Landing when mentalist and illusionist Wayne Hoffman returns to The Landing Friday.

Aida Stallings, Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Community Recreation Division business manager, said it will be a night to remember.

"Wayne has been here in the past and received rave reviews," she said. "What makes his show so entertaining? His shows are always different, so you won't see the same one twice. He truly enjoys performing for the military and families of the military."

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show runs from 7-8:30 p.m.

Hoffman is a multi-award winning performer recognized as one of the top mentalists in the world. He currently tours the world with his stage show "Mind Candy" and his motivational speech, "The Power and Potential of The Human Mind." He is also the author of the best-selling book "Mind Candy."

According to Stallings, Hoff-

man's performance is a unique form of entertainment that is intriguing for people of all ages.

"Hoffman is an American mentalist, illusionist, and motivational speaker," she said. "Between 2007 and 2015, he appeared on many national television shows and three television shows in Japan. He appeared in the official trailer for America's Got Talent season 10 on April 2 and has made it to the next phase."

Hoffman's passion for the mysterious was sparked at a young age and led him to study the art of magic. Later, through extensive self-studies in sociology, psychology, and human behavior, Wayne was able to develop the foundation of his skills today, according to his website. He now travels the world performing and speaking for exclusive events, theaters, cruise ships, television, casinos, universities and top corporations.

According to his website, Hoffman's show is a high-energy presentation that involves body language, human behavior, and visual magic that will make your head explode. The audience experiences seeming-

ly supernatural phenomena in a fun and upbeat way.

He continues to be acknowledged as one of the top speakers in his field and wows audiences with his combination of magic and psychology. He was featured on NBC's hit TV show "Phenomenon", The Glenn Beck Show, TLC, Animal Planet on The Discovery Network, The Howard Stern Show, CBS, The Ellen Degeneres Show, Beverly Hill's Pawn, "The Numbers Game" on National Geographic, CNN Money, Yahoo! Finance, TV Asahi in Japan, and countless radio shows in the US and Canada, according to the site.

"Hoffman's show demonstrates the impossible," Stallings said. "His show is a must-see for anyone wanting mind-boggling fun and excitement."

The event is open to the public, but a gate access pass is required for anyone without DOD-issued identification. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$16 at the door.

For more event information, call 255-9810. For additional ticket information, including purchasing a VIP table, call 598-2426.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Silver Wings Golf Course

Project: Volunteers needed for Pro AM Aug. 14-16 and Ladies Professional Golf Tournament Aug. 18-20.

For more information, call 598-2449

Special event

Project: SHARP 5K

Duties: Involves working with children or youth on a short-term basis. Volunteers working with children or youth on a short-term basis are not required to have a background check, but must be under line of sight supervision by an individual who has a completed full background check.

For more information, call 255-3957.

Army Community Service

Position: Spouse and Family Master Resilience Trainer

Duties: Candidates will attend a 10-day MRT course instructed by experts in the field of positive psychology. Classroom instruction is generally eight hours per day with a one hour break for lunch. Start time is generally at 8:30a.m. and the class ends

at 4:30 p.m. Each course may be slightly different based upon the guidance from local command. Instruction is split between plenary sessions, which introduce specific skills, and didactic sessions, where participants learn the application and education of the skills.

For more information, call 255-1307.

Position: Army Family Action Plan Conference (Nov. 4-5) Marketing Coordinator

Duties: Attend required ACS and AFAP volunteer training sessions. Attend AFAP Advisory Council meetings. Submit AFAP marketing status report during advisory council meetings. Develop promotional advertising to enhance the visibility of AFAP, including media relations with flyers, posters, pamphlets, newspaper, television and installation briefings. Attend after-action review meetings and provide input for the final AAR. Serve as a spokesperson for the AFAP program. Adhere to guidelines as outlined in Army Regulation 608-47, AFAP Program Handbook and the installation AFAP Program standard operation procedure.

For more information, call 255-9637.

Position: Observer for the AFAP Conference, Nov. 4-5

Duties: Attend required volunteer training sessions. Observe proceedings. Work with AFAP program manager to ensure facilitator, transcriber, issue support, staff support personnel, subject matter experts and delegates are not holding the AFAP process back. Attend after-action review meetings and provide input for the final AAR. Serve as a spokesman for the AFAP program. Adhere to the guidelines as outlined in AR 608-47, AFAP Program Handbook and the Fort Rucker AFAP Program SOP.

For more information, call 255-9637.

Position: Family Advocacy Program Activities Support

Duties: Support FAP by assisting personnel with general tasks, such as stocking inventory and organization. Conduct inventory and stocking, assist with organizing resource library, and help with shredding and box breakdown. As a benefit, ACS officials said the volunteer will gain knowledge of Family Advocacy Programs.

For more information, call 255-3246 or 255-1429.

ON POST

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

Financial readiness training

Army Community Service will host its financial readiness training Friday from 7:20 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, Rm. 284. Personal financial readiness training provides a practical approach to help Soldiers manage their money more effectively. This training is required for all first-term junior enlisted Soldiers (E-1 through E-4). Spouses are also welcome to attend.

For more information, call 255-9631 or 255-2594.

Resilience Training

Army Community Service will host resilience training Tuesday from 9-11:30 a.m. at The Commons to help people learn the skills that will help them and their family become resilient. Participants will receive training in two to three skills, such as real-time resilience, identifying character strengths in self and others, and challenges and leadership. People need to register by Friday.

For more information or to register, call 255-3735.

‘The Little Mermaid’

MWR Central will host a trip to Montgomery July 16 for a matinee production of Disney’s “The Little Mermaid” at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. The bus will leave Fort Rucker at 8 a.m. First, there will be a stop at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts where attendees will have lunch – not included in the pricing –or people may bring a lunch to eat at the surrounding grounds. The play begins at 2 p.m. Prices are \$45 for adults and \$35 for children, ages 4 and up. The trip is limited to 27 people.

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

Corvias movie night

Corvias Military Living will host a movie night July 17 at the Bowden Terrace Community Center pool with a showing of “Big Hero 6.” The event will also feature free games, giveaways, food and freeze pops for residents.

Illusionist show

Illusionist Wayne Hoffman will perform July 17 from 7-8:30 p.m. at The Landing. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The show is billed as family friendly for ages 12 and older. Ages 12–17 must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets are \$12 in advance until noon July 17. Tickets sold after that at the door will be \$16. Tickets may be purchased at The Landing, Coffee Zones or MWR Central.

For more information, call 255-9810.

Newcomers welcome

Army Community Service will host a newcomers welcome July 17 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.

Volunteer recognition ceremony

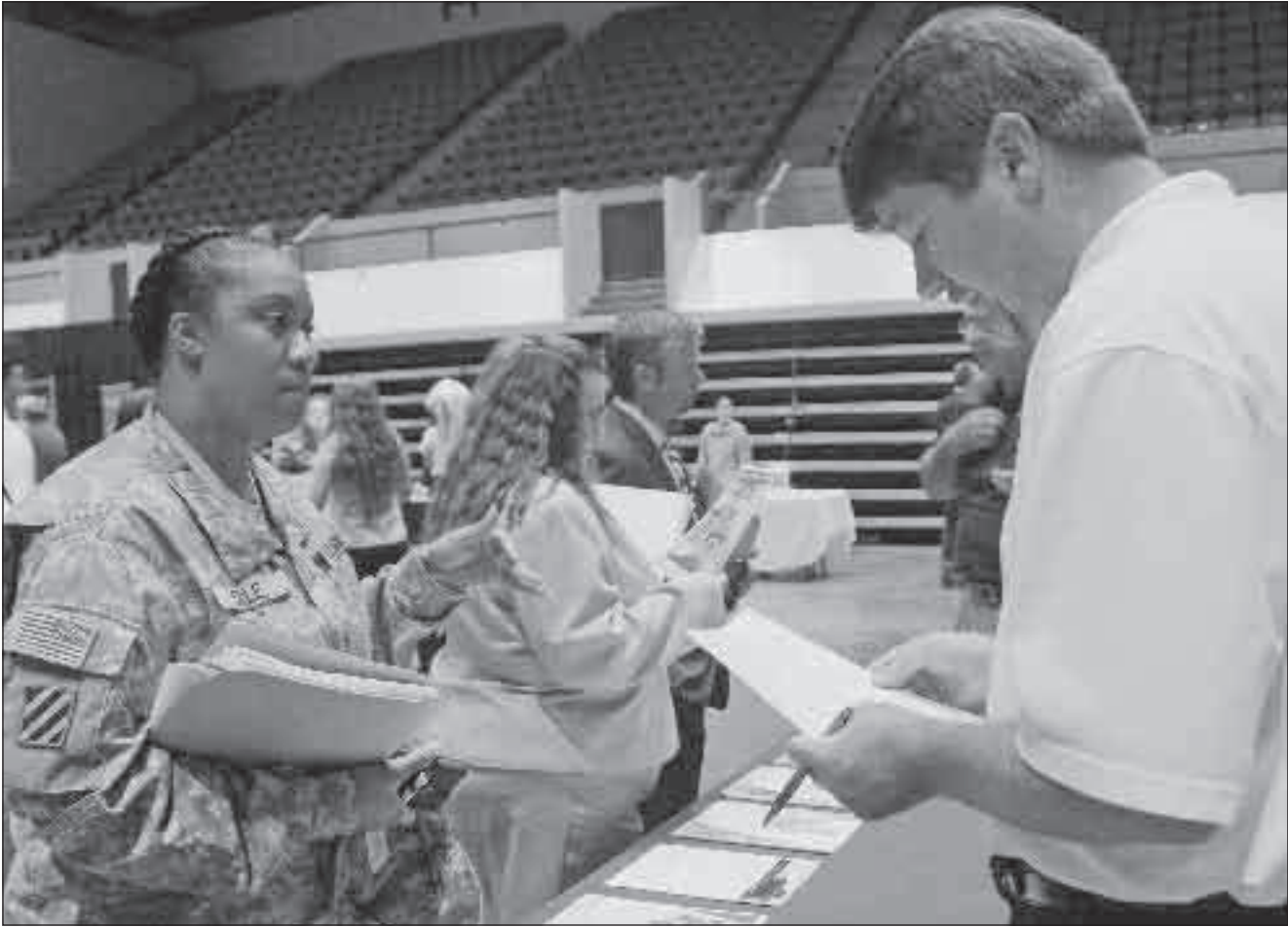
Army Community Service will host its quarterly Army volunteer recognition ceremony July 23 at 10:30 a.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. For more information, call 255-1429.

ACS 50th birthday

Army Community Service will celebrate its 50th birthday July 24 at 11 a.m. Officials welcome people to join past and current staff members for cake at The Commons, Bldg. 8950, while supplies last. For more information, call 255-3817.

Deep sea fishing trip

Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation will host a deep sea fishing trip aboard the Vera Marie in Destin, Florida, July 25. All trip goers need to do is sit back, relax and enjoy a day of fishing, according to ODR staff. The bus will depart Fort Rucker at 3 a.m. from the West Beach, Lake Tholocco parking lot and return at 8 p.m. ODR recommends people bring a small cooler with drinks and snacks (no glass). The staff plans to stop on the way back to get food,



FILE PHOTO

Fort Rucker Area Job Fair

The 12th annual Fort Rucker Area Job Fair is scheduled for July 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Enterprise High School Gymnasium. This event will be hosted by Fort Rucker Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Center and Army Community Service. The event is open to the public and free to all job seekers. Representatives from government contractors, employment agencies, the federal government and local companies will be at the fair. For more information, call 255-2558 or 255-1117

but the cost for food is not included in the price. The cost is \$65 per person, plus a tip. The price includes transportation to and from Destin, bait, rod, reel, fishing license, six-hour fishing trip, and people’s fish cut and cleaned at the end of the trip. The trip is open to the public, but limited to 36 participants.

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

Employment readiness class

The Fort Rucker Employment Readiness Program hosts orientation sessions monthly in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, in the Army Community Service multipurpose room, with the next session July 23. 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.

Right Arm Night

The Landing Zone will host Right Arm Night July 30 from 4-6 p.m. Right Arm Night is an Army tradition, promoting a night of camaraderie and esprit de corps as leaders come together and treat those who help them accomplish the mission. Complimentary appetizers will be served while supplies last. Right Arm Night is held every month, and both military and civilians are welcome. For more information, call 598-8025.

Relocation readiness workshop

Army Community Service will host its relocation readiness workshop July 31 from 9–10 a.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371D. Soldiers and spouses will receive information from the military pay office on benefits, entitlements, advance pay, government travel card and more. They will also receive information on Army Emergency Relief and budgeting, preparing for employment before moving (for spouses), compiling the necessary documents and forms for exceptional family members moving overseas, and relocation checklists and websites to help prepare for a move.

Space is limited, so people should register early by contacting the relocation readiness program at 255-3161 or 255-3735.

SPLASH!

SPLASH! Pool and Spray Park is open 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. six days a week, closed on Tuesdays. Daily and season passes can be purchased at SPLASH!, MWR Central

DFMWR Spotlight

Upcoming Family & MWR Events and Activities

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**Tickets:
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for purchase at The
Landing, Coffee Zones,
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**FRIDAY,
JULY 17**
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**For event information, (334) 255-9810
For ticket information, (334) 598-2426**

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT, OPEN TO AGES 12+
Ages 12–17 must be accompanied by an adult.

www.ftruckermwr.com

and the Fort Rucker physical fitness centers. SPLASH! is open to the public. For more information, call 255-9162.

West Beach Hours

West Beach is open Fridays-Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. now through

Aug. 4. The beach will be open weekends and holidays only Aug. 8 to Sept. 7. Daily admission fees are \$1.50 for ages 3–9, \$2.25 for ages 10–17, and \$3 for ages 18 and older. Children ages 2 and younger are admitted for free.

For more information, call 255-9162.

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR JULY 9-12

Thursday, July 9

Terminator Genisys (PG-13)
.....7 p.m.

Friday, July 10

Terminator Genisys (PG-13)
.....7 p.m.

Saturday, July 11

Entourage (R)
.....7 p.m.

Sunday, July 12

San Andreas (PG)
.....1 & 4 p.m.

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

Chapel builds international bonds

By Sgt. Sinthia Rosario
5th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

ROCKHAMPTON, Australia — Australian and American service members gathered at St. Christopher's Chapel in Nerimbera, Australia, to celebrate the chapel's 60-year commemoration July 5.

Built in 1943, the chapel was constructed by the 542nd Engineers Ship and Shore Battalion under the supervision of four chaplains to bring solace to U.S. service members recovering from injuries.

"The chaplains consecrated St. Christopher's Chapel as a place of Divine Worship where non-denominational services could be held, with each chaplain contributing to the service," said Chaplain Steve Cloudsdale, garrison chaplain for Talisman Sabre 15.

In 1984, more than 170 American veterans left their homes in the U.S. to visit the chapel in Australia.

Cloud went on to say, "These veterans of WWII were returning to the site that had given them strength of mind and body – that was St. Christopher's Chapel."

Throughout the years, the chapel has been maintained in honor of the relationship between Australia and the United States.

June and Graham Bell, a married couple, return to this event every year to keep the tradition alive.

"I think it's important to honor the strong relationships and friendship forged and to pause for a moment to remember the bonds that go back to WWII," said Graham.

Graham comes from a military family. His grandfather was a Marine engineer who served in 1910, and Graham and his wife also both served in the Australian army.

"As two people who have served in the military, we both understand the importance of this ceremony, of remembering the past, maintaining new and future relationships," added Graham. "We are proud to be here today and you'll be seeing us next year."



PHOTOS BY SGT. YOUTOY MARTIN

Members of the U.S. and Australian militaries, as well as local civilians in the Rockhampton community, support the 60th annual commemorations of St. Christopher's Chapel in Rockhampton, Australia, July 5. The chapel was finished and consecrated in 1943.



Brig. Gen. Brian Alvin, U.S. Army Pacific exercise commander, Australian Army Lt. Col. Michael Scott Camp Rocky exercise control commander, Tony Williams the deputy mayor of Rockhampton and other distinguished guests give a round of applause during the 60th annual commemorations.



Wayne William Carter Australian army retired special forces and dual Australian-U.S. citizen, speaks during the commemoration.

Religious Services

WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday.

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

Main Post Chapel, Building 8940
9 a.m. Catholic Mass Sunday
11 a.m. Liturgical Protestant Service
12:05 p.m. Catholic Mass (Tuesday - Friday)
4 p.m. Catholic Confessions Saturday
5 p.m. Catholic Mass Saturday

Wings Chapel, Building 6036
8 a.m. Latter-Day Saints Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Wings Crossroads (Contemporary Worship Protestant Service)
12 p.m. Eckankar Worship Service (4th Sunday)

Spiritual Life Center, Building 8939
10:15 a.m. CCD (except during summer months)

BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesdays
Crossroads Discipleship Study (Meal/Bible Study)
Wings Chapel, 6:30 p.m.

Protestant Women of the Chapel
Wings Chapel, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Adult Bible Study
Spiritual Life Center, 7 p.m.

Wednesdays
Catholic Women of the Chapel
Wings Chapel, 8:30 a.m.

Above the Best Bible Study
Yano Hall, 11 a.m.

1-14th Avn Regt Bible Study
Hanchey AAF, Bldg 50102N, Rm 101, 11:30 a.m.

164th TAOG Bible Study
Bldg 30501, 11:30 a.m.

Adult Bible Study
Soldier Service Center, 12 p.m.

Youth Group Bible Study
Spiritual Life Center, 5:30 p.m.

Adult Bible Study
Spiritual Life Center, 6 p.m.

Thursdays
Adult Bible Study
Spiritual Life Center, 9 a.m.

Latter-Day Saints Bible Study
Wings Chapel, 6:30 p.m.

Saturdays
Protestant Men of the Chapel
Wings Chapel (1st Saturday), 8 a.m.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Puss n Boots. She is a 2-year-old, orange female tabby cat available for adoption at the Fort Rucker stray facility. She is extremely friendly and affectionate. Adoption fees vary per species and needs of animal, which includes 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/fortruckerstrayfacility/> for constant updates on the newest animals available for adoption.

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1 Corinthians 11:1

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Alabama Road Trip: Childersburg, Sylacauga feature family fun

By Alabama Department of Travel
Press Release

Sylacauga and Childersburg are located 10 miles apart along a stretch of highway that is both U.S. Hwy. 280 and U.S. Hwy. 231.

Sylacauga is best known for being located on top of a bed of pure white marble and as the spot where a meteorite struck a woman resting inside a home in nearby Oak Grove. Childersburg proclaims to be the “Oldest Continually Occupied City in America” with history dating back to the Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto.

People can take their family to explore a cave that’s 12 stories deep. Along the way, you can see how ice cream is made and the location where “stars fell on Alabama.” This road trip takes you along U.S. Hwy. 280 between Sylacauga and Harpersville and includes a stop at a vineyard.

Childersburg — Covered Bridge and Cavern Fun

Childersburg is believed to be the location of a Coosa Nation village visited by the Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto in the fall of 1540. Childersburg calls itself “The Oldest Settlement in America.” Named for the explorer, DeSoto Caverns Family Fun Park (5181 DeSoto Caverns Parkkway, (256) 378-7252, www.desotocavernspark.com) is a magnificent 12-story cave. Guided tours of the cave include a light, sound and water show on every tour. The more than 25 attractions outside the caverns include a maze and wacky water golf. The park also includes a butterfly house. In warm weather, you can watch the butterflies as they scurry from place to place.

Also on the outskirts of Childersburg are the histor-

ic 1864 Kymulga Grist Mill and the adjacent Covered Bridge built in 1860 (7346 Kymulga Grist Mill Road, (256) 378-7436). Visit the mill site, walk across the covered bridge that spans Talladega Creek and then explore the nature trails. The Kymulga Grist Mill grounds are the home of the annual Coosa Fest held in late September.

Vineyard, ice cream

Drive on U.S. Hwy. 280 across the Coosa River and as you head north toward Harpersville (less than 10 miles), you will reach Morgan Creek Vineyards (181 Morgan Creek Lane, Harpersville, (205) 672-2053 www.morgancreekwinery.com). This Family-owned vineyard and winery offers free guided tours.

Start your trip in Sylacauga with a fun walking tour of the Blue Bell Ice Cream factory (423 N. Norton Ave.; (256) 249-6100). Blue Bell is located a block from city hall and offers tours Mondays through Fridays, with the first tour at 9 a.m. and the last starting at 1 p.m. You should call ahead to schedule your place on the 45-minute tour.

Since you are in Sylacauga, which sits atop a bed of mostly white marble, take time to visit the Isabel Anderson Comer Museum and Arts Center (711 North Broadway, (256) 391-1352, www.comermuseum.weebly.com). This museum, containing works of art by the Italian sculptor and quarry investor Giuseppe Moretti, is a great place to learn about Sylacauga’s marble history. It also has a “Nabors Room,” which celebrates native son Jim Nabors, who gained national fame as both an actor and a singer. Be sure to tour the upstairs gallery inside the museum, where you will see a copy of the Hodges

Meteorite and newspaper clippings that tell the story of the 8 1/2-pound rock that fell from the sky and struck Ann Elizabeth Hodges as she napped in a farmhouse in Oak Grove just outside of Sylacauga.

You can also view Sylacauga marble sculptures at the B.B. Comer Memorial Library (314 N. Broadway; 256-249-0961, www.bbcomerlibrary.net) where the sculptures from visiting Italian artists are on permanent display. They can be found in the lobby around the stairwell. Another must-see are the 17 paintings that ran as advertising for Avondale Mills in The Saturday Evening Post. These paintings by Douglass Crockwell reflect the American way of life in 1948 and are in a similar style to that of Norman Rockwell.

Where “Stars Fell on Alabama”

From Sylacauga, travel north on U.S. Hwy. 280 to the adjacent community of Oak Grove, the site of a rare occurrence. An 8.5-pound meteorite crashed into the home of the Guy family on November 30, 1954, striking Elizabeth Ann Hodges. A farmer found another meteorite nearby. These two Oak Grove rocks from the sky are the only known meteors from that day.

To find the location of this unusual event and see the “Stars Fell on Alabama” historical marker (<http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=44229>) commemorating the occurrence, travel U.S. 280 N. from Sylacauga. When you see the Nissan automobile dealership, exit to the right onto the Old Birmingham Highway. The historical marker will be on your right just before you reach Odens Mill Road.

(For more on this or other Alabama Road Trips, see <http://www.alabama.travel/road-trips-and-trails/>)

WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ANDALUSIA

JULY 10-11 — The World Championship Domino Tournament begins at 8 a.m., with registration beginning at 6:30 a.m., at the Kiwanis Fair Complex. People may attend for free, but fees apply to enter the tournament. For more information, visit <http://www.worlddomino.com>.

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 80 hosts a dance with live music every Saturday from 7:30-11:30 p.m. For more information, call 222-7131 or visit www.andalusiale-gionpost80.org.

DALEVILLE

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

DOTHAN

NOW-JULY 25 — The Poplar Head Farmers Market takes place Saturdays (except for July 4) from 8 a.m. to noon at the Dothan Civic Center. The open-air market features fresh vegetables, fruits, flowers, locally prepared foods and specialty items. For more information, visit www.poplarheadfarmers-market.com.

ONGOING — Disabled American Veterans Chapter 87 will host a dinner and meeting at 6 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the Doug Tew Recreation Center. For more information, call 836-0217, Ext. 123, or send an email to davchapter87@gmail.com.

ONGOING — Ballroom dancing lessons are offered Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Center. Lessons will teach the Fox Trot, East Coast Swing, Rumba and Waltz.

The cost will be \$2 per person per night. For more information, call 791-9407.

ENTERPRISE

ONGOING — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6683, John Wiley Brock Post, membership meetings are at the post headquarters on County Road 537 every third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. For more information, call 406-3077, 393-6499 or 347-7076, or visit the VFW Post 6683 on Facebook.

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

GENEVA

ONGOING — The Geneva County Relay for Life meets the last Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Citizens Bank. For more information, call 248-4495.

MIDLAND CITY

ONGOING — Residents are invited to town hall meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall, 1385 Hinton Waters Ave. For more information, call 983-3511.

NEW BROCKTON

JULY 23 — Disabled American Veterans Chapter 99 will meet at 6 p.m. in the New Brockton Senior Center, which is located one block behind the New Brockton police station. Food and drinks will be served, followed by regular chapter business and election of new leaders for the next year. Officials invite veterans throughout the Wiregrass to join as new members. For more information, call 718-5707.

ONGOING — Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 9-11 a.m., Disabled American

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

OZARK

ONGOING — The Ann Rudd Art Center offers free art lessons for children ages 5 and older. The young student class is Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon, and the adult-teen class is from 12:30-3 p.m. Slots are on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call 774-7922.

ONGOING — Every Thursday at 5:30 p.m., yoga with Sandra Bittman is at Perry Recreation Center for \$5 a person.

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.

PINCKARD

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

SAMSON

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

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

p.m.

TROY

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

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

WIREGRASS AREA

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

ONGOING — The U.S. Army Officer Candidate School Alumni Association, Inc., located in Columbus, Georgia, and adjacent to Fort Benning, represents and supports all Army officers commissioned through an Army Officer Candidate School, regardless of location or branch. Meetings, activities and reunions are conducted throughout the year. The annual USAOCS Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and USAOCS Alumni Association Reunion is scheduled for April 26-30 at Fort Benning. For more information, call 813-917-4309 or send an e-mail to ocsa-lumni.com.

Beyond Briefs

Turtle Talk

Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve will offer free weekly talks about sea turtles, their nesting habits, how the nests are identified and protected, and how visitors and residents can help sea turtles have a successful nesting season. Turtle Talk – nesting sea turtles of Franklin County beaches – takes place Wednesdays now through Aug. 26 at 2 p.m. at the reserve located at 108 Island Drive in Eastpoint, Florida.

For more information, call 850-670-7700.

Zoo summer camp

The Montgomery Zoo Summer Camp is billed as a fun-filled, educational wildlife experience geared for

children ages 5-12. Half day and full day camps are available now through July 31. Advanced reservations are required.

For more information, visit www.montgomeryzoo.com.

Dinosaurs Alive!

Downtown Gadsden becomes pre-historic when 13 life-like animatronic dinosaurs inhabit the Hardin Center for Cultural Arts now through Aug. 3 as part of Dinosaurs Alive! Creatures will be featured in period sets and include: Apatosaurus, Apatosaurus baby, Dilophosaurus, Triceratops, Triceratops baby, Parasaurolophus, Parasaurolophus baby, Parasaurolophus nest with hatchlings, Stegosaurus, Detrodon, a baby T-rex robot (joy-stick activated), Velociraptor and Protoseratops scenario, T-rex, static T-rex head, and static T-rex leg.

The center is located at the corner of 5th and Broad Streets. Cost is \$8 per person and \$4 for center members.

For more information, visit <http://www.culturalarts.org>.

Nature Connects LEGO® Bricks Exhibit

Now through July 26, the Huntsville Botanical Garden features certified LEGO® Artist Sean Kenney’s exhibit consisting of 27 sculptures, making up 14 displays, created from nearly 500,000 LEGO® bricks. Inspired by the garden and wildlife, the exhibit ranges from six inches to nearly eight feet. See birds to flowers, butterflies to garden tools. The garden is located off of I-565 Exit 15 on Bob Wallace Avenue. Admissions is free for members, and costs \$12 for adults and \$8 for children ages 3-18.

For more information, visit <http://hsvbg.org/>.



JULY 9, 2015

ARMY VS. AIR FORCE

1-13th's Foul Play beats 23rd FTS' Nite Nailers, advance to final

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Fort Rucker Intramural Softball season nears completion as two of the teams left standing took to the field to see who's got what it takes to make it to the championship game.

The C Company, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment team, Foul Play, took on the Air Force 23rd Flying Training Squadron's Nite Nailers during a semi-final bout Tuesday that kept players and spectators on the edge of their seats.

Foul Play would come out victorious, edging out the competition, 3-2.

Despite having a few errors that allowed the Nite Nailers to bring in a couple runs and get runners on base, Foul Play was able to rally and tighten their defense to keep their opponents from advancing any further as the Army Aviators achieved victory, which, according to Christopher Weber, coach of Foul Play, was no easy feat.

"That was the best team we've played all year. We played them earlier in the year and we beat them, 15-3, but this was the closest game we've played all year," he said. "We had a couple small errors, but we kept them to a minimum and we pulled out a win — now it's time for redemption."

The game started as Foul Play took to the plate first and started



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Joey Rivera, player for Foul Play, slides into home plate to bring in a run during their game against Nite Nailers in the semi-final game of the Fort Rucker Intramural Softball Season at the Fort Rucker softball fields Tuesday.

strong with a two-base hit. Another ground ball to second base allowed the runner to advance to third, but gave the Nite Nailers their first out with the play at first.

Despite their efforts, however, the 1-13th couldn't get past their opponents defense and were sent to the outfield without any runs.

The 23rd FTS didn't fare much

better with their time at bat, as they hit two pop ups directly into the hands of Foul Play. Although they managed a ground ball, they weren't quick enough to beat the play at first for their third out, giving the 1-13th their chance at the plate once again.

Going into the second, Foul Play came back with an aggressive offense, managing base hit after base hit to get runners on base, before Russell Smedley, Foul Play player, hit a ground ball through the hands of the opposing short stop to bring in the first run for the team.

Although they managed to continue to put runners on base, they weren't able to beat the throws to first and were soon sent back in the field, up 1-0.

Determined not to fall too far behind, Nite Nailers picked up the pace and managed to keep the ball on the ground to get some base hits, but as things were looking up, three consecutive pop ups stopped the 23rd FTS in their tracks as they went into the top of the third, scoreless.

Foul Play now had a chance to further extend their lead, but Nite Nailers weren't having it as their defense remained tight, quickly racking up three outs to get back up at the plate.

Foul Play followed suit with an aggressive defense, including a diving catch and a double play to take the game into the fourth.

The 1-13th started the inning strong with a triple, bringing in a run, but the Nite Nailers wouldn't allow their opponents to pull too far ahead, catching two pop flies to go back on offense, trailing 2-0.

The 23rd FTS were able to keep the ball on the ground in the bottom of the fourth to get runners on base, and errors by both Foul Play's shortstop and outfielders allowed the Nite Nailers to bring in two runs and tie the game. A walk by Foul Play allowed their opponents to load the bases, but a play at home, followed by a pop fly, stopped the Nite Nailers in their tracks.

Now anybody's game, the 23rd FTS team's defense remained tight as Foul Play took to the plate, racking up two outs early into the inning, but determined, the 1-13th team managed to keep the ball out of their opponents hands to bring in another run to retake the lead before a play at home ended their time at bat.

Nite Nailers tried desperately to bring in runners, but despite getting multiple runners on base they couldn't break through their opponent's defense.

Although they managed to hold off Foul Play's advance in the final inning, the 23rd FTS hit the ball directly into the hands of their opponents during their final at bat, ending the game 3-2 and sending Foul Play into the championship game.

Army takes Chairman's Cup in medals blowout

By Keith Oliver
Army News Service

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. — The Army ruled almost every category on its way to grabbing the Chairman's Cup for the second straight year at the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games held at this historic Marine Corps base.

"That very first event, cycling, is what really brought this team together," said Sgt.

1st Class Keoki Smythe, the noncommissioned officer in charge at the Alexandria-based Warrior Transition Command.

"Then our track athletes and swimmers gave us a huge lead and our archery team had a gold medal sweep," the Seattle native said.

Other events included wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball and shooting. Wheel-

SEE ARMY, PAGE D4



PHOTO BY KEITH OLIVER

Team Army raises the Chairman's Cup trophy in celebration at the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games June 28.

FTNESS TO UR

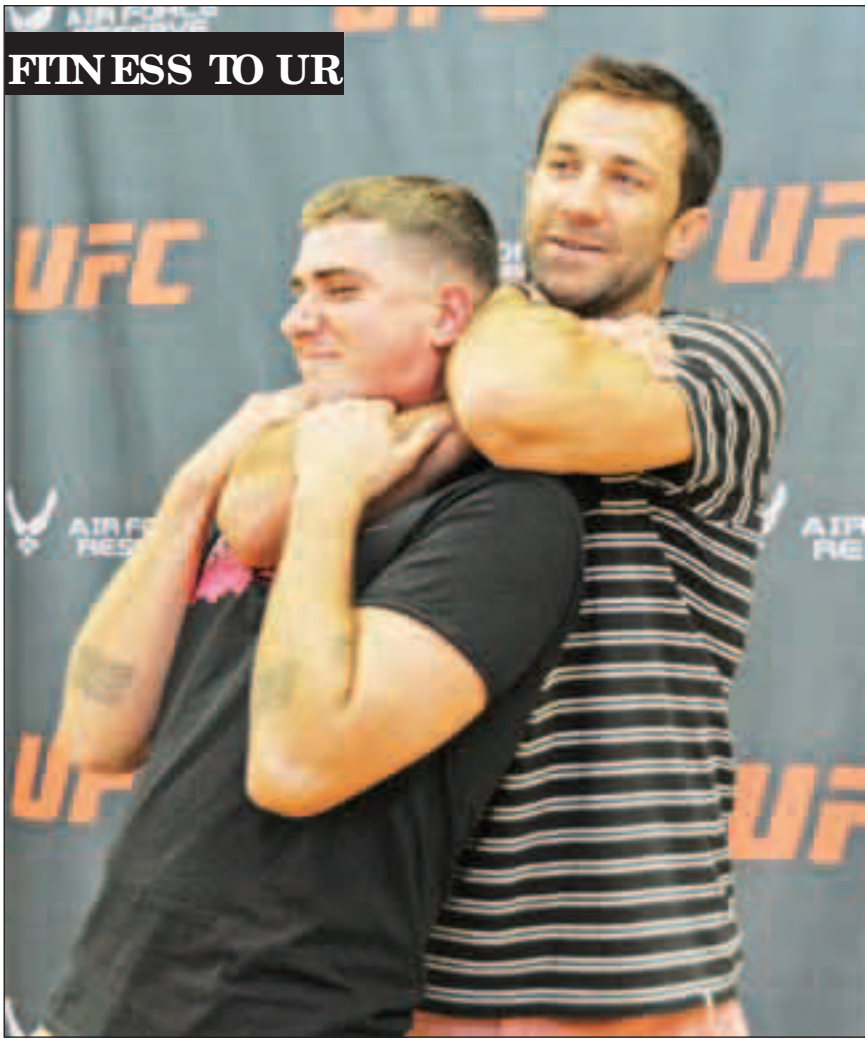


PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Sgt. Nick Free, 164th Theater Operations Airfield Group, gets put in a headlock by Luke Rockhold, UFC fighter, during a fitness tour and meet-and-greet at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center Tuesday.

Summertime means stepping up skin protection

By Molly Francis
U.S. Army Public Health Command

You probably put on sunscreen before going swimming or going to the beach because you know that the sun's ultraviolet rays can damage your skin in just 15 minutes. But wait, not so fast! You are in danger from the sun's UV rays any time you are outside.

Ultraviolet radiation is defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as the "part of sunlight that is an invisible form of radiation." There are two types of harmful UV rays: ultraviolet A and ultraviolet B. While UVA is the most dangerous type, the CDC cautions that UVB rays can also have negative health effects.

Too much exposure to UV rays can cause sunburn, where the radiation literally burns your skin and causes it to age prematurely. Along with being painful, sunburn can have long-term consequences. The World Health Organization warns that UV rays cause damage to skin cells that can result in skin cancer along with other harmful effects to your eyes, skin and immune system.

The National Cancer Institute cautions that skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States and getting just one blistering sunburn increases your risk.

The UV rays can reflect off a variety of surfaces like water, sand and pavement and cause havoc year round and anywhere outside. It is important to safeguard against the sun's harmful rays to protect yourself and your skin. Here are some tips to protect yourself.

Sunscreen — Always wear sunscreen. The CDC recommends wearing sunscreen with a sun protection factor of at least 15, and offers protection from both UVA and UVB rays. Sunscreen should be worn any time you go outside for the most protection.

Use sunscreen correctly — Apply sunscreen at least a half an hour before going into the sun. Also make sure to reapply sunscreen at least every two hours or more often if you are swimming. If you are swimming, reapply sunscreen every time you dry yourself off.

No expired sunscreen — Always make sure to check your sunscreen's expiration

date, as all sunscreens expire. If you cannot find one, replace the sunscreen after three years or if the sunscreen appears discolored.

Sunglasses — Wear sunglasses. Look for sunglasses that offer 100 percent UVA and UVB protection. Sunglasses can help protect your eyes from cataracts and yellowing of the lens.

Have and wear protective clothing — Protective clothing includes a wide-brimmed hat that shields your face and neck from the sun, long sleeves and pants. The American Cancer Society advises that clothes that are dry, darker and have tighter knits are better at protecting your skin from UV rays. However, also wear sunscreen for ultimate protection.

Inside — Avoid being outside from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. when possible. These are the peak hours for UV rays. If you are going to be outside during this time of the day, take precautions like staying in the shade.

No tanning beds — Tanning beds produce UV rays just like tanning outside. Getting a base tan before going to the beach does not protect your skin from the sun while at the



CDC PHOTO

People play at a beach in Honolulu, Hawaii.

beach.

Examine your skin — Look for moles that are growing larger, black or uneven in color and look for discolored skin patches. These marks could be signs of melanoma, a particularly dangerous type of skin cancer and should be discussed with your doctor.

Although sun safety is important in the summer, remember UV rays can find you year-round. If you follow these SUNSHINE tips, you can be sure to enjoy your summer responsibly and protect your skin — the largest organ in your body.

DOWN TIME



A GRADUATE OF THE JOE KUBERT SCHOOL, JIM KEEFE STARTED HIS CAREER AS THE HEAD COLORIST AT KING FEATURES SYNDICATE. FROM 1999-2003 HE WAS THE WRITER AND ARTIST OF FLASH GORDON FOR KING FEATURES. TEACHING AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS INCLUDE SVA IN MANHATTAN, HOPSTRA'S UCCS YOUTH PROGRAMS, THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AND MOST RECENTLY THE MINNEAPOLIS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN. KEEFE CURRENTLY IS THE ARTIST OF THE SALLY FORTH COMIC STRIP, WRITTEN BY FRANCESCO MARCELLANO.



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phippe



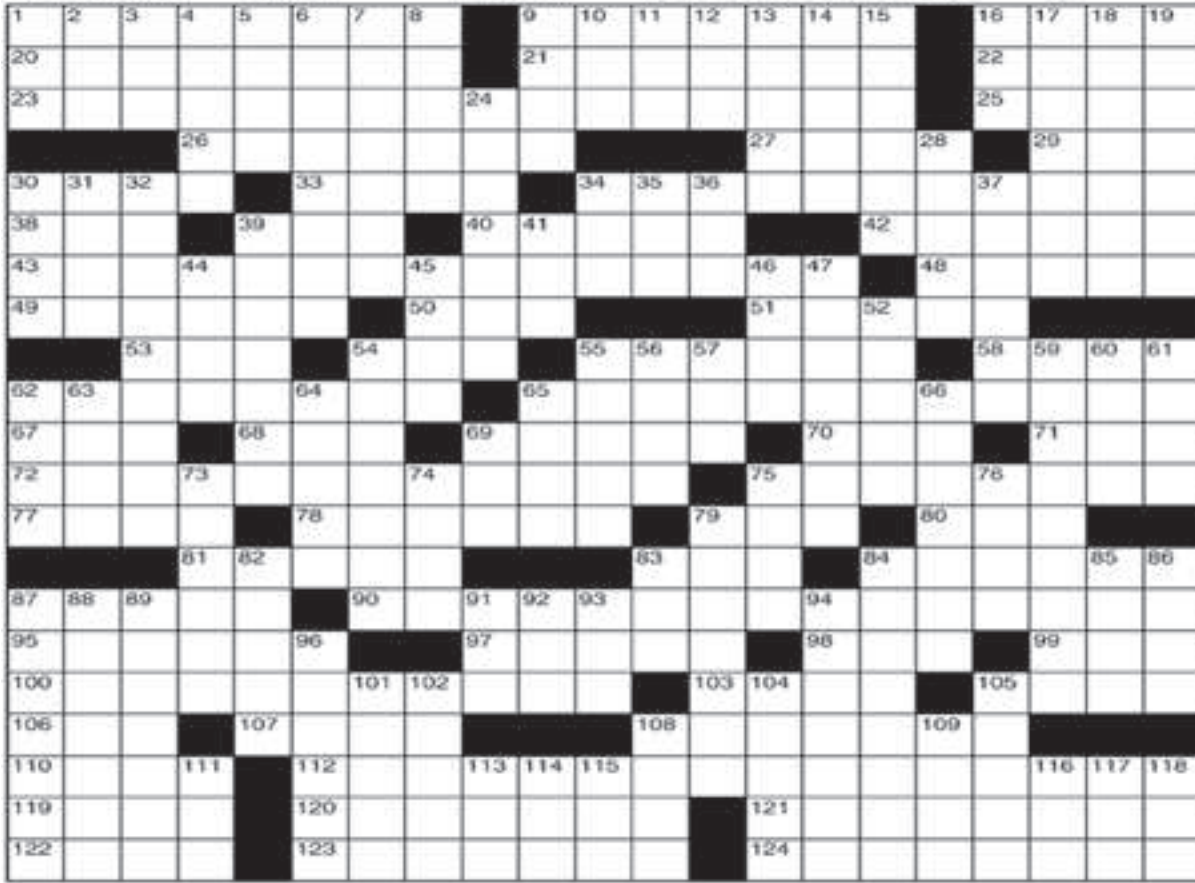
TRIVIA

1. ADVERTISEMENTS: What kind of product did the animated character Toucan Sam sell?
2. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "Watership Down"?
3. MOVIES: Who plays the title character in "Nanny McPhee"?
4. ANATOMY: The temporal bone would be found in what part of the human body?
5. MEASUREMENTS: How long is a cubit?
6. ASTRONOMY: Which planet in our solar system is closest in size to Earth?
7. MUSIC: What is an anthem?
8. INVENTIONS: Who invented the modern-day assembly line?
9. LANGUAGE: What is the only word in English that has three consecutive double letters?
10. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Arkansas?

See Page D4 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword BUG-INFESTED

- ACROSS**
- 1 Subject to quizzing
 - 9 Analyzed, as ore
 - 16 A little of a lot
 - 20 Not positive about
 - 21 Placards and posters
 - 22 Scheme
 - 23 Insect from East Sussex?
 - 25 Bucket
 - 26 Mechanical twisting
 - 27 Singer Young
 - 29 Thurman of "Bel Ami"
 - 30 Cato's 2,002
 - 33 Ho-hum grades
 - 34 Insect enjoying a novel?
 - 38 Tiny charged thing
 - 39 Had life
 - 40 Plains tent
 - 42 Diner activity
 - 43 Think it's terrific when insects wed?
 - 48 Iowa, for one
 - 49 Bell sounds
 - 50 It's "just a number"
 - 51 Form a bloc
 - 53 Use a couch
 - 54 Use a bed
 - 55 Fire-starting stones
 - 58 Puppy bites
 - 62 Joins, redundantly
 - 65 Insect with a shiner?
 - 67 Low-graphics
 - 68 — Jima
 - 69 Opposite of everybody
 - 70 — Blu Dipinto di Blu (1958 hit song)
 - 71 USSR's Cold War foe
 - 72 Insect mailing a package?
 - 75 Stabs, so to speak
 - 77 Baseballer Martinez
 - 78 Chides
 - 79 Cry to a matador
 - 80 Alternate spelling of a wd.
 - 81 Remove from a mailing list, informally
 - 83 All — sudden
 - 84 Oater bar
 - 87 See 105-Across
 - 90 More sizable lake swimmer, from an insect's perspective?
 - 95 Triple Crown town on Long Island
 - 97 Chicago air hub
 - 98 Iowa college
 - 99 Grafton's "— for Evidence"
 - 100 Don't notice an insect?
 - 103 Martha of old comedy
 - 105 With 87-Across, Jerry Stiller's wife
 - 106 Laugh half
 - 107 Faith faction
 - 108 Mortars' mates
 - 110 — for the long term
 - 112 Insect that's an agent to celebrities?
 - 119 "Ixnay"
 - 120 Ductile
 - 121 Mends
 - 122 Increase
 - 123 Turn traitor
 - 124 Having vowel rhyme
 - 3 Erie-to-Raleigh dir.
 - 4 "— Frutti"
 - 5 Guthrie of folk
 - 6 Bar recyclables
 - 7 Least tense
 - 8 Escort in "The Hunger Games"
 - 9 Slippery — eel
 - 10 Auntie, to Dad
 - 11 USMC NCO
 - 12 Singer DiFranco
 - 13 One-named New Ager
 - 14 Urged (on)
 - 15 Craving
 - 16 Angry Birds, for one
 - 17 Supermodel Schiffer
 - 18 Apparel
 - 19 Increase
 - 24 Kidnappee, at times
 - 28 Slightest
 - 30 "1%" drink
 - 31 Europa, e.g.
 - 32 Buys, as stock
 - 34 Mar. follower
 - 35 Architect I.M. from China
 - 36 — from man, made — woman"; Genesis 2:22
 - 37 Go to
 - 39 Racecar driver Darrell
 - 41 Previous to
 - 44 Tahari of fashion
 - 45 Chief
 - 46 Icky stuff
 - 47 Multination cooperation
 - 52 "The best — to come"
 - 54 Pride baby
 - 55 See 57-Down
 - 56 Lang of Smallville
 - 57 With 55-Down, frozen floating sheets
 - 59 Adul is a brand of it
 - 60 Irking insect
 - 61 A whole lot
 - 62 Once, once
 - 63 Longtime soda brand — chard
 - 65 Fearless
 - 66 Give a lift to
 - 69 Pro Bowl gp.
 - 73 Add abundantly, as salt
 - 74 Desert in east Asia
 - 75 Jai tai?
 - 76 St. — (resort near Rennes)
 - 79 Bidding one
 - 82 Some iPods
 - 83 Bobby of the NHL
 - 84 Barefoot, perhaps
 - 85 Actor Ken
 - 86 NASDAQ counterpart
 - 87 Fitting together
 - 88 The Beatles' Rigby
 - 89 Italian explorer Vespucci
 - 91 URL ending
 - 92 J preceders
 - 93 Ending for ether or arbor
 - 94 Crop loppers
 - 96 Dweabs
 - 101 Collège or université
 - 102 Net sales?
 - 104 "Ad — per aspera"
 - 105 — Martin (James Bond's car)
 - 108 Shelley, e.g.
 - 109 This, in Peru
 - 111 Triple-A job
 - 113 Hitler Ripken
 - 114 "Girls" ailer
 - 115 Winter bug
 - 116 Parseghian of football
 - 117 "— and Stimpy"
 - 118 Onetime JFK jet



See Page D4 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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See Page D4 for this week's answers.

KID'S CORNER

Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman

000 LOT! You are asked to place the consecutive odd numbers from 1 through 17 in the diagram at right so that the sum of three numbers across, down and diagonally is 27.

These numbers are in black. Those to be inserted are 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17. Remember, straight line rows are to total 27.

Time limit: Two minutes.

WHAT'S HOT! Find the five-word secret message if code word is WELLCOPTER and code is 756-498-0198. To solve, P.S.: Number code word letters 0 to 9.

Let's do this! (clapping)

CAMELOT WORKOUT

Letters of five words, the first of which is CAMELOT, are used to form a word square below. How quickly can you find these words? (words are all five letters)

1. Decent animal (already in place).
2. Over one's head.
3. Downward slope of a design.
4. Equal from home or property.
5. Another name for a southwest.

Remember: words for a word square read across and down.

Let's do this! (clapping)

HAT STUFF! Our article says there are as many as 15 persons wearing hats in the picture above. How many did you find?

Wishing Well

SEA, HERE! Business has its ups and downs at Joe's place. Add these colors by number: 1=Red, 2=Light Blue, 3=Teal, 4=Light Brown, 5=Light Green, 6=Light Green, 7=Dark Brown, 8=Purple.

SPELLBINDER

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

ELEPHANT

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

Try to score at least 30 points. (No time limit; answers optional)

Wishing Well

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

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 8 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HERBERT BOLTHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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Army strikes sitting volleyball gold

By Tim Hipps
Installation Management Command

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. – Team Army’s sitting volleyball squad came together like a “family of one” to win the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games tournament.

Army rallied from a one-set deficit in the gold-medal match to defeat Team Air Force, 16-25, 25-20, 15-6, June 28. The resilient group of Soldiers for life went 7-1 in the four-day tourney against Air Force, Navy, British Armed Forces, Special Operations Command and the host Marines – the lone squad to defeat Army.

“We set out with a goal to win one game at a time, one point at a time, and that came through for us in the end,” Team Army Coach Uros Davidovic said. “We had amazing effort, amazing physical and mental resiliency. These athletes competed in so many sports, and to put this kind of performance together on the very last day of competition says you’ve got something special.”

After losing 25-16 to Air Force in the opener of the best-of-three championship match, Team Army rode the serve of co-captain Monica Southall to a 5-0 lead in the finale and never looked back.

“This atmosphere is electric,” Southall said of the loud crowd at Barber Gym. “Sometimes the moment gets really big, and you have to say, ‘Hey, calm down, relax, and play volleyball like you know how to play volleyball – how we’ve been doing all Warrior Games.’ We finally calmed down, relaxed and got the victory.”



PHOTO BY TIM HIPPS

Veteran Alexander Shaw spikes the game-winner to lift Team Army to a 25-20, 13-25, 15-8 victory over Team Marines in the semifinals of the 2015 Department of Defense sitting volleyball tournament on Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., June 27.

“This is the only way we know how to play: suffer through the first part and kick butt the last part,” co-captain Randi Gavell said. “Every game we played, it’s always come from behind. I don’t know why we do it to ourselves. I don’t know why we do it to our crowd. I don’t know why we give ourselves heart attacks.”

Dustin Barr served for three consecutive points, giving Team Army an 11-8 lead in the second game. From there, the Soldiers never trailed.

“I think losing that first game was good for us,” said Barr, a veteran from Jamesville, North Carolina. “It turned on a switch we didn’t have turned on the first game. We kept it ignited and kept going to the end.

“We did our thing: communication, teamwork and having fun,” Barr said. “Having fun is the main thing. If we’re not hav-

ing fun, we’re not playing our game.”

Although Team Army grounded Air Force in two games before losing a three-game match to the Marines, Thursday, the Soldiers were forced to regroup to secure the gold.

“This match was just as hard as the Marine match, and we were down,” Southall said. “The first game of the Marine match, we actually won the first set and lost the second. This time, we were down. So I felt like we had to fight harder to come back to actually pull this match out.”

“We knew what we had to do,” Davidovic said. “We made some small adjustments. The team was confident, regardless of losing the first game. We came out there and just performed so well the second and third games. The mental aspect of this is very important because you have to be

resilient, and these guys were strong as rocks throughout the whole thing.”

Gavell served Team Army to a 4-0 lead in the equalizer, and said the Soldiers “knew” they would prevail in a rubber game.

“In that third game, we knew we had to come out strong because we didn’t have a chance to come back,” Gavell said. “At the very end of the first game, we started to get our momentum. The second game, we started to pick it up, and it was real close. As soon as we knew we were playing a third game, that was it for us – we knew.”

Southall was a member of Army’s gold-medal-winning sitting volleyball squad at the 2012 Warrior Games. She went 3-for-3 at this year’s 2015 Warrior Games, striking gold in sitting volleyball, shot put and discus, with personal-best marks of 11.93 meters in

the shot and 33.69 meters in the discus.

“All of it means the most to me,” said Southall, a veteran from Suffolk, Virginia, who at one point could not walk or stand. “I’m going to have my 13th surgery on July 7 on my right knee, so for me it’s been a long recovery process. Just to be able to come here and even be able to compete is a true testament in itself.

“This is amazing to make it back to the gold-medal match. Beating the Marines (in the semifinals) was awesome. Just to pull it out with a three-set victory was awesome, as well. I couldn’t be more proud of this team that really pulled together.”

Gavell believed that the “pulling together” Southall spoke of made all the difference in the world.

“Our team has come a really long way from never having met each other to going to travel camps, getting to know each other, to becoming eventually a big Family,” said Gavell, a native of Grand Junction, Colorado, who lives in Oklahoma City. “To be able to celebrate something so huge the last day of the games with your Family is amazing. And to have our family come and support us is over the moon.”

Davidovic was elated by his team’s nearly flawless performance.

“I could not be prouder of their resiliency and mental focus, especially on this last day of competition,” he said. “They are an amazing group. We were just happy to be there for the ride and enjoy it.”

“This is a great way to end the Warrior Games,” Southall concluded.

Multi-sport star credits DOD Warrior Games for re-instilling resilience

By Tim Hipps
Installation Management Command

QUANTICO, Va. – Army veteran Staff Sgt. Randi Gavell credits the Department of Defense Warrior Games for re-instilling resilience in wounded warriors.

“The ability it gives people to show that they are worth so much more than they might feel after their injuries,” said Gavell, about what she likes most about the DOD Warrior Games.

Gavell helped Team Army defeat Team Air Force in the sitting volleyball gold-medal match at Barber Gym June 28.

“Every time somebody gets hurt or sick or injured or they have a disability, it starts to wear on you because you remember what you used to be able to do, not what you can do,” she said.

Gavell battles nerve damage, post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries sustained while deployed in 2006 to Ramadi, Iraq.

“The games show everyone that you’re still capable of accomplishing greatness,” she said. “You just have to do it a little differently. You have to find a different way to do things.”

Gavell brilliantly did her things in sitting volleyball, on the track and in the swimming pool at the 2015 DOD Warrior Games, an adaptive sports competition for wounded, ill and injured service members and veterans.

Gavell, who competed in the inaugural games at Colorado Springs, Colorado, returned this year after a four-year hiatus.

“I got out of the military and I didn’t realize I could still be a part of the games when I got out,” she said. “A really close friend brought me back to it and here I am.”

Gavell swam for gold in the 50-meter freestyle, 50-meter backstroke, 50-meter breaststroke and struck silver in the 100-meter freestyle. She helped Team Army win gold in the swimming relay event. She also won her divisions of the 100 and 200 meters on the track.

Gavell was also a stalwart on Team Army’s gold-medal-winning sitting volleyball squadron. She served Team Army to a 4-0 lead in the second of three games against Team Air Force in the finale. She said the Soldiers “knew” they would prevail in a rubber game.

“In that third game, we knew we had to come out strong because we didn’t have a chance to come back,” she said. “At the very end of the first game, we started to get our momentum. The second game, we started to pick it up and it was real close. As soon as we knew we were playing a third game, that was it for us – we knew.”

She also knew Team Army had secured the Commander’s Cup Trophy before the sitting volleyball squad took the court for the gold-medal match because she was part of the Soldiers’ dominance in the pool and on the track earlier in the games.

A hurdler in high school, Gavell ran the 2008 Army 10-Miler, two years after getting injured in Iraq.

“I’ve been an athlete my whole life,” said Gavell, who retired as a staff sergeant stationed in Kaiserslautern, Germany. “Sports have just always been something I turn to. Actually, the water has always been what I turn to. It has always been therapy for me, so I learned how to scuba dive and it just brought me out of a hole.”

Camaraderie was the buzzword of the week at the DOD Warrior Games and Gavell was quick to confirm that sentiment.

“Our team has come a really long way from never having met each other to going to travel camps, getting to know each other, to becoming eventually a big Family,” said Gavell, a native of Grand Junction, Colorado, who now lives in Oklahoma City. “To be able to celebrate something so huge the last day of the games with your family is amazing. And to have our Family come and support us is over the moon.

“The games bring that, and the camaraderie. Family is the key here,” she said.



PHOTO BY TIM HIPPS

Army veteran Staff Sgt. Randi Gavell serves for Team Army at the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games at Barber Gym on Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

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Athlete defeats injuries with willpower

By Lisa Ferdinando
Army News Service

QUANTICO, Va. — Above-the-elbow amputee Sgt. 1st Class Michael Smith has no regrets about being injured in 2011.

“It was probably the best thing that could have ever happened to me,” said Smith during the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games June 23. At the games, he competed in the field events. He also competes in swimming and cycling events.

Smith, who was injured in a hit-and-run crash on his motorcycle, said he has a new insight on life. He has made life-long friends with two Army veterans, who were supporting him during his competition.

“It made me a better person, a better man, a better father to my daughter, a better son to my mother, a better friend to my friends,” he said. “They say God doesn’t make mistakes so I just take it, embrace it and run with it.”

Smith is still on active duty. He is in charge of a recruiting company in Little Rock, Arkansas. He was the first above-the-elbow amputee to receive a fit-for-duty assessment, which allowed him to continue active-duty service.

He lives every day to its maximum potential now, he said. “I plan for the future rather than just living for right now.”

Smith hopes to become the first above-the-elbow amputee to do the skeleton competitively. Skeleton is a winter sport involving a sled.

By his side were retired Staff Sgt. Michael Cain, a double below-the-knee amputee, who was injured in 2003 in Iraq and who will be competing in the Warrior Games next year; and world-champion para-bobsledder, retired Sgt. Jason Sturm, a below-the-knee amputee, who is supporting Smith with his skeleton training.

“It’s a very humbling experience, just to come out here and see other guys and women participate,” Smith said. “Just knowing that they’ve overcome their injuries, I think that’s the highlight.”

Despite the competition, at the end of the day, he said, “it’s about assisting and helping other athletes get over their injury.”

“It’s a tremendous experience because when I do my workouts or when I do a lot of things, people look at me and are like, ‘oh well, if this guy can do it with one arm, then I have no excuses,’” he said.

“The only handicap we have is the one we create on our own,” Smith said.

Sturm was injured in a training accident on Fort Drum, New York, in 2002, when an errant round landed near him. After multiple surgeries, he had his left leg amputated below the knee.

Sturm was a self-described “fat body” following his injury. Today, in addition to being a champion bobsledder, he also does crossfit and serves as a full-time strength coach, who works with adaptive athletes. Being involved in sports has helped him and others, he said.

“Beyond the competitiveness, it’s introduced me to more adaptive athletes and more people, and it’s allowed me to motivate people and also to have people understand that when you are injured, it’s not a permanent injury,” he said.

“It might be a permanent injury on the surface, but the only injury you create is in your mind,” he said. “It’s allowed me to prove that an injury or at least a surface injury isn’t something that is going to slow you down.”

Sturm is firm believer in his convictions, pointing out the quote tattooed on his forearm: “Reject your sense of injury, and the injury itself disappears.”



PHOTO BY LISA FERDINANDO

Retired Staff Sgt. Michael Cain, Sgt. 1st Class Michael Smith and retired Sgt. Jason Sturm are shown during the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games on Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., June 23.

Army: Competition promotes camaraderie, healing

Continued from Page D1

chair rugby had been slated as an exhibition sport but fell victim to hasty schedule changes in deference to two days’ severe downpours and tornado activity in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Begun in 2010 to test — and showcase — the resilience and adaptability of combat-wounded, ill and injured Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, the first games were dominated by the Marine Corps before the Army surged to a victory last year.

This time, it was a Soldiers’ competition from start to finish as the Army notched 69 gold medals to the Marines’ 47.

The Army out-medaled all competitors in the silver and bronze categories, as well, rolling to 141 points for the Chairman’s Cup over the Marine Corps’ 96. The Air Force, with 65 points total, finished next. The British Armed Forces had 62 points, Special Operations Command had 34 and the Navy/Coast Guard team finished with 30.

Led by team captain Frank Barroqueiro and assistant team captain Samantha Goldenstein, the Army was presented with the monster-sized Chairman’s Cup by Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and former Army chief of staff.

In a touch of friendly rivalry, the Army beat a Marine Corps contingent in the presence of the hosts’ service

chief, Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Joseph Dunford. Like Dempsey before him, Dunford has already been tapped by President Barack Obama to ascend to the chairman’s job.

But Dunford was quick to minimize the competition piece in favor of underscoring the healing power and heartfelt nurture brought to bear through the athletes’ families, friends, physical therapists and other caregivers — many of whom were in the bleachers for the closing ceremonies.

Smythe also alluded to an almost spiritual intangible that superseded scores, times and photo finishes.

“Truly, it is an honor, I feel very fortunate, just to be around these Soldiers, the way they support each other,” he said.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Open Championship Match-Up

Silver Wings Golf Course will host its Open Championship Match-Up July 18. Players will play a normal Saturday round of golf, but before they tee off, they choose someone from the Professional Open Championship in the Britain field as a partner, and pay \$5. At the end of their round, Silver Wings Staff calculate the two-man team’s best ball score from the Fort Rucker player’s score and the professional’s round score. Prizes will be given for both gross and net scores. All rounds must tee off by 9 a.m.

For more information or to sign up, call 598-2449.

Post golf championship

The post championship at Silver Wings Golf Course will be held July 25 with tee times from 7–9 a.m. People can play with their regular group or SWGC can assign people to a group. The post champion will be the active duty low gross score. All other prizes – gift certificates – will be net scores. Entry fee

is \$5. The event is open to the public. People must register by 4 p.m. July 23.

For more information, call 598-2449.

Youth sports registration

The registration dates for upcoming youth sports – football, cheerleading, tennis and fall soccer – are now through July 31. All interested participants must have a valid child, youth and school services registration and a current sports physical to participate. Fall soccer practices will begin on Aug. 10. Football and cheerleading practices will begin Aug. 17. Tennis practices will begin Sept. 9.

For more information, including available age groups, call 255-0950.

Ladies League golf

Silver Wings Golf Course will host Ladies League golf every Wednesday in July from 6–7 p.m. The cost is \$60 for all sessions, or \$15 per night. Cost includes range balls, group and private instruction, green fee and

cart fee. All levels of players are welcome to take part.

For more information or to sign up, call 598-2449.

Enterprise baseball

Enterprise’s semi-pro baseball team needs players. For more information, call Joe Jackson at 464-1729.

Adult swim lessons

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will offer adult swim lessons Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout July. Beginner level lessons will be held from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 5:15–6 p.m. Intermediate level lessons will be held from 12:45–1:30 p.m. and 6:15–7 p.m. People can register at the Fort Rucker PFC front desk or MWR Central three days prior to the start of the session. Cost is \$40 and there is a minimum requirement of three participants to conduct the course.

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

Senior Golf Tournament

Silver Wings Golf Course will host a senior tournament every third Thursday of the month with a 9 a.m. shotgun start now through December. The format will alternate between scramble and better ball formats with two-person teams. The cost is \$35 for members, or \$45 for non-members, and the cost includes cart fee, green fee, one bucket of range balls, lunch and prizes.

For more information, call 598-2449.

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 now through 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.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

TESTABLE	ASSAYED	ACRE
UNBURNED	FRIGNAGE	PLAN
REBELLOUS	FASTING	PAST
TORSTON	FASTING	PAST
MTTICE	FASTING	PAST
LOWWAS	FASTING	PAST
LOVEANT	FASTING	PAST
KNELL	FASTING	PAST
ENTERING	FASTING	PAST
RESE	FASTING	PAST
SHIPPING	FASTING	PAST
TIND	FASTING	PAST
MEAR	FASTING	PAST
ELMONT	FASTING	PAST
SEENOW	FASTING	PAST
HAR	FASTING	PAST
IN	FASTING	PAST
NOOD	FASTING	PAST
GROW	FASTING	PAST

TRIVIA

Answers

1. From Loops until
2. Richard Adams
3. Emma Thompson
4. The dead
5. The length of a forearm, from the middle finger to the elbow
6. Verbs
7. A piece of music intended to be sung to express patriotism, love or sentimentality
8. Ransom Note, who used it to build the first mass-produced automobile
9. Bookends
10. Little Rock

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