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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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POST HONORS GOLD STAR FAMILIES

Community pays homage to fallen at luminary service

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Remembering fallen service members and their families is perhaps the best way to honor their sacrifice to the nation, and Fort Rucker did just that with a Gold Star Service Luminary Service Sunday.

In honor of Gold Star Mothers Day, Fort Rucker senior leadership, Soldiers, family members and friends came together at the Main Post Chapel to honor those who have been lost in service to the nation, as well as the families who were left behind.

“The families of these members carry the burden of their loss, and carry forward the legacy of their service member’s bravery and courage,” said Beth Gunter, Survivor Outreach Services financial counselor. “In recognition of Gold Star Mothers Day and Gold Star Family members, we salute your resiliency and your inspiration. You are, and always will be an integral part of the military family. Your loved ones have not been forgotten, and you have not been forgotten.”

During the service, Chaplain (Capt.) Shawn Droge, 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment chaplain, provided a message of scripture from Isaiah 41:10, which reads, “Fear thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Members of the Blackman family honor their lost loved one by lighting a luminary during the Gold Star Service at the Main Post Chapel Sunday.

righteousness.”

From that scripture, he said people should be able to draw strength, and used his own personal account of loss to share with the congregation.

In January of 2013, Droge received a text message from his sister-in-law, informing him that his brother had been in a fire. Although his brother survived the fire, he remained in the hospital on life support, but after a few days it became evident that his brother wasn’t going to pull through and he passed on, he said.

“His death left a hole in my heart. How do we deal with this? How do we move on?” he asked. “One thing I found is to celebrate their lives and don’t let the memories fade – don’t let them go because they’re still with us. Talk about the good memories.”

In doing so, Droge said those who have

lost will be able to help their loved one’s memories live on and help mend the hole left in their hearts.

“The sting never completely goes away, but the hole that is left in our heart can be filled with love and remembrance,” he said.

Remembering, along with the continued support of the military and SOS, is what also helped the family heal, according to Droge’s wife, Becca.

“To be able to honor both him and the other Soldiers who’ve been lost in the past is a real privilege,” she said. “During the funeral, he was able to have military honors, and it was almost a sacred experience for our family because the military means so much to us, and to know that we have their support in this time really meant a lot to us.”

Becca said that support was important because although her brother-in-law was young, it helped solidify his legacy.

“His life was cut short and he didn’t get to do so many of the things that he’d dreamt of doing,” she said. “To be able to honor him and honor the life that he did have is the best way we have to remember him.”

After the service, a luminary lighting ceremony was held outside the chapel where families of fallen service members were able to light a luminary in honor of their lost loved one.

“The Gold Star Luminary Initiative began as a pledge of support,” said Gunter. “Most of us cannot even imagine the burden that you carry, but through the lighting of the luminaries, we can show our support for you – the families of our fallen.”



PHOTO BY JAY MANN

Zoey Miller takes command of a fire truck during Fire Prevention Week last year on Fort Rucker, as her mother, Shawna, stands ready to assist.

Post events highlight fire prevention week

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Safety is always a top concern on Fort Rucker and home safety is no exception.

That’s why during Fire Prevention Week, which runs Sunday through Oct. 10, Fort Rucker will host events throughout the week to help educate and inform people on how to avert potential disaster, according to Greg Taylor, Fort Rucker fire inspector.

This year’s theme for the week is Hear the Beep Where you Sleep, and focuses on encouraging people to check their smoke detectors regularly.

“Every home needs working smoke alarms,” said the fire inspector. “Roughly half of all home fire deaths result from fires that occur between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., while people are asleep,” and a working smoke detector can mean the difference between life and death.

Taylor said that all homes on post should have working smoke detectors, but to be safe, people living on post should make sure that they have a working smoke alarm in their home, and be sure to check them at least once

a month. Also, people should remember to change the batteries in their detectors when the time changes, twice a year.

To help inform the public, firefighters will host events throughout the week to bring awareness to the community.

Starting Monday, firefighters will be at the post exchange from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. through Oct. 9. While there, they will have tables set up to inform people on fire safety and prevention, as well as provide an opportunity for people to meet the robotic Sparky – a robotic version of Sparky, the Fire Dog.

The robotic sparky comes in his own little fire engine, and can move around and even spray people with his fire hose.

Additionally, throughout the week, all fixed fire stations will host an open house from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and fire prevention personnel will visit Fort Rucker schools to educate teachers and children on fire prevention, as well as provide the teachers materials to develop their own fire prevention programs for their students.

Also, fire evacuation drills will be

SEE PREVENTION, PAGE A5

BE READY

Officials urge get a kit, make a plan

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

As cooler temperatures make their way into the South, with it comes severe weather that can catch many off guard if unprepared.

That’s why Fort Rucker officials want to make sure its citizens are ready for any weather-related danger that might accompany the season, which can include thunderstorms, lightning, flooding and tornadoes, according to Willie Worsham, Fort Rucker emergency manager.

As the seasons transition, polar front jet streams push further south and move frontal systems into the southern states, said Worsham. The fronts come through and

collide with the moisture that comes up from the Gulf of Mexico to create volatile weather patterns, and the best way to combat these unpredictable weather patterns is through preparedness, said the emergency manager.

“Make sure that you have a plan,” he said. “Go on the Ready Army website – it gives you all kinds of information on what to expect, how to make a kit, how to get prepared for the very things that occur around here – spring and fall severe weather seasons and even hurricane season.

“Army Ready is a good site you can use to help you make a plan,” he added. “There are forms on there, checklists and what ac-

SEE READY, PAGE A5

Clinic promotes suicide prevention

By Jenny Stripling
Lyster Army Health Clinic Public Affairs

Lyster Army Health Clinic shared information and helped spread awareness of suicide prevention Friday.

Employees and patients alike shared how they help others who may be in need or have suicidal thoughts. The event was held at the front of the clinic with informational pamphlets, posters and guest speakers. Anyone who stopped by was encouraged to share how they help bring awareness to suicide prevention with one photo, six words or less, and utilize the hashtag #TakeActionFortRucker to spread the word on social media.

“Holding valuable information events such as this helps our community put names and faces together, so when, or if, there is a time they need help, we hope they will feel more comfortable reaching out to those who can assist them,” said Traci Dunlap, Fort Rucker Army Substance Abuse Program suicide prevention program manager.

For more photos and information from the event, visit LAHC on Facebook. People in need of help or who know someone who is should call the National Suicide Prevention LifeLine at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).



PHOTO BY JENNY STRIPLING

Myrtle Lister, Lyster Army Health Clinic beneficiary, shares how she does her part to help others who may be at risk of suicide Friday.

PERSPECTIVE

Learn to identify, act on warning signs

By Anita Spiess, Dr. Eren Watkins
and Lt. Col. David Bowerman
Army Public Health Center (Provisional)

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Maryland — Your boss gives you a poor performance review.

Your girlfriend says, “That’s it. I’m gone.”

You’re afraid your pay won’t stretch to cover both your rent and your credit card bill.

We have all experienced blows to our self-esteem, problems at work, losses of people important to us and anxiety about how to pay our bills. So if these things are happening to a friend, you can understand how they are feeling. But how do we recognize when that friend is considering suicide?

Here are some scenarios that illustrate warning signs and some stressors that might put someone at risk for suicide.

- Mike was always punctual, safe and careful. These days, he is often late to work and has been missing meetings. He’s also driving his motorcycle irresponsibly, as if it was a game, cutting in and out of traffic. He had set his sights on Ranger School, but recently learned he was not accepted.

Major changes in behavior and reckless behavior may signal that a person is contemplating suicide.

- Jane usually has a glass of wine with dinner. Now she is putting away a pint of bourbon every night. It’s solitary drinking – she is not hanging out with friends like she used to. Her mother died a couple of months ago, so maybe it is related to that.

Withdrawal from friends may be a sign of suicidal ideation, and self-medication with alcohol or drugs increases

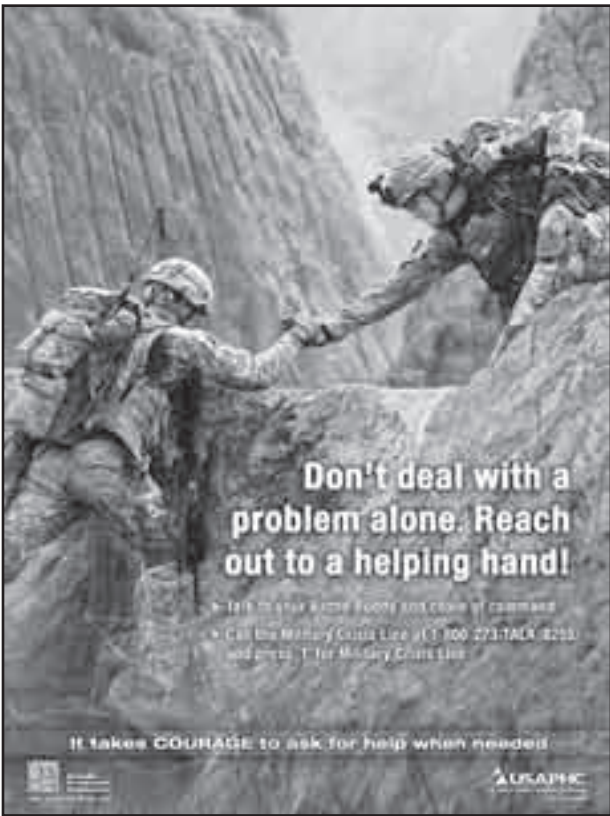


PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

the risk of negative moods and impulsive behavior.

- Recently, every conversation with George ends up with a story of some death he has heard about. He even tried to give his guitar to Graham. That seems weird: he used to talk about how proud he was to have such a beautiful instrument. His wife has been

threatening divorce this last year.

Brooding on death may indicate suicidal thoughts and giving away treasured possessions suggests the threat of suicide is imminent.

Warning signs of suicide include:

- Changes in behavior;
- Increases in drug or alcohol use;
- More frequent talk about death;
- Mood swings;
- Reckless behavior or risky activities ;
- Anxiety or agitation;
- Giving away possessions;
- Withdrawal from friends ;
- Rage, desire for revenge;
- Hopelessness;
- Feeling trapped; and
- Feeling there is no reason for living, having no sense of purpose.

Suicidal intent or behavior often occurs following a number of stressful events and circumstances. There is no magic solution or special indicator to determine when someone is suicidal.

However, learning to identify and act on warning signs can be the first line of defense for a battle buddy who may be in need of extra support during a difficult time.

Although Army leadership continues to implement programs and strategies to address this issue, the pulse of the force remains at the grass-roots level. Suicide prevention starts with you and your attention to the Soldiers you know best.

You may not know why someone is having problems, but you are close enough to Ask, Care, and Escort, if necessary.

Army works to prevent suicide through education, intervention

By Kate J. Ray
Kenner Army Health Clinic

FORT LEE, Va. — The International Association for Suicide Prevention and the World Health Organization’s theme for World Suicide Prevention Day Sept. 10 was Preventing Suicide: Reaching Out and Saving Lives.

The observance acted as a call to action to both individuals and organizations that suicide can be prevented through education and intervention.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported in 2008 that the rate of suicide among Army service members was nearly double the civilian rate. This led to the largest military-based mental health study ever undertaken, which involved the Army partnering with the National Institute of Mental Health to study

the factors leading to Soldiers ending their own lives.

This year, some of the data from the “Army Study to Assess Risk and Resiliency in Service Members” was released, and it is helping to drive changes in the way the Army views suicide.

Several risk factors for suicide occur among civilian and military populations, including: an existing diagnosis of depression or severe anxiety, recent behavioral health hospitalization, alcohol or substance abuse, chronic pain or a serious medical condition, experiencing a highly stressful life event, relationship conflicts, and bullying at work or among peers.

In addition, Army STARRS showed some military-specific risk factors, e.g., being an enlisted Soldier, having a recent demotion or having deployed, put troops at a higher risk for suicidal acts. The Virginia

Department of Health reports veterans account for 22 percent of all suicide victims in Virginia older than 18.

Many times, people who attempt suicide show warning signs that they are at immediate risk. Indications include talking about wanting to kill themselves, buying a gun, hoarding medicine, talking about feeling trapped in an intolerable situation, withdrawing from friends and family, giving away their possessions, or distinct changes in typical mood or behavior.

While knowing the risk factors is important to identify people at higher risk for suicidal behavior, it is often difficult for most people to figure out what their role is in helping to protect someone they have identified as high risk. With suicide, it is better to be safe than sorry.

If anyone believes someone they know is at high risk for suicide, it is vital to act

immediately.

An easy to remember acronym for intervening is ACE:

(A) Ask the person if he or she is thinking about suicide;

(C) Care for that individual by expressing concern about him or her; and

(E) Escort them to a behavioral health clinic or hospital emergency room for evaluation and intervention. Do not leave the person alone.

Additional suicide prevention and intervention information is available at Military One Source at 1-800-342-9647.

For those seeking immediate help regarding suicidal thinking, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at (800) 273-8255 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

To learn more about Army STARRS, visit www.armystarrs.org.

Rotor Wash

“Fall is officially here and cooler temperatures are on the way. What is your favorite fall time activity?”



Logan Paul,
military family member

“I really like that the weather cools down. It makes it easier to exercise outdoors for the time being.”



Joseph Hatsberg,
civilian

“I actually like to grill out more during the fall when the weather has cooled a bit.”



Vivian Door,
military spouse

“I love the fall colors, so I love to decorate my house in a fall theme.”



Jennifer Hadley,
military spouse

“Halloween! It’s my absolute favorite time of year. I love to dress up.”



James Ludin,
military family member

“Thanksgiving — enough said.”

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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 DIRECTOR702-2631
jmorgan@dothaneagle.com

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

Mable Rutllen
DISPLAY ADVERTISING.....393-9713
mrutllen@eprisenow.com

CLASSIFIED ADS.....(800) 779-2557

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President praises retiring Dempsey, incoming Dunford

By Lisa Ferdinando
Department of Defense News

JOINT BASE MYER-HENDERSON HALL, Va. — In an armed forces full-honors retirement ceremony, Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey closed out 41 years of service and Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr. succeeded him as the highest ranking U.S. military officer.

Dempsey swore in Dunford Sept. 25 as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

President Barack Obama and Defense Secretary Ash Carter were among the dignitaries who attended the retirement and change of responsibility ceremony.

“We all owe this great country our very best and our fellow citizens our very best,” Dempsey said. “It was humbling to accept this job four years ago and it’s humbling to relinquish it today.”

Dunford said he was humbled for the opportunity to represent the men and women in uniform. “They are a true national treasure. My focus in the coming days will be to provide them with the leadership and the support that they deserve,” he said.

Obama praised Dempsey for his vision for the military, his moral fiber, and deep commitment to American strength and values.

Dempsey served during a time of many challenges, the president

said, and managed each one with “integrity and foresight and care.” America has reassured its global allies, ended the combat mission in Afghanistan, and forged new partnerships to fight terrorism, the president noted.

“We built a coalition that is combating ISIL in Iraq and Syria and have we bolstered our cyber defenses. We helped halt the spread of Ebola in west Africa,” Obama said. “None of this would have been possible without Marty’s guidance and leadership.”

Obama described Dempsey as “one of the finest men that I know.” He picked Dempsey to be chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and previously chief of staff of the Army, he said, because the general had the “steady hand” needed in the moment of transition.

“I can’t tell you how much I have appreciated your candor and your counsel, and I have seen you build that trust not just with me, but across our military with our troops and their families, with Congress and our allies abroad, and with the American people,” Obama said.

“Over the last four years, Marty’s wisdom, his vision and his character have helped lead the greatest fighting force the world has ever known,” Obama said.

Defense Secretary Ash Carter said that before Dempsey became



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS CLYDELL KINCHEN

President Barack Obama, Defense Secretary Ash Carter and Marine Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr. render honors during the change of responsibility ceremony between the outgoing chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin E. Dempsey at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Arlington, Va. Sept. 25.

chairman, he was already a proven military leader who led the 1st Armored Division during “difficult days,” returned to reconstitute the Iraqi army, and had been chief of staff of the Army.

“Every decision the military leader makes, large or small, touches the lives of our troops. It touches the lives of countless families, it changes the nature of the world and the destiny of the country,” Carter said. “For the men and women who operate during a time of rapid change and uncertainty, this is the constant weight and responsibility of leadership.”

Thanks to the unwavering ser-

vice and commitment of Obama, Dempsey and Dunford to the military, “our nation is nobler and stronger, and will be forever more,” Carter said.

All the speakers at the event lauded Dempsey and his wife Deanie for their unwavering commitment to the military, military families and their own family, which includes three children who have served in the Army and nine grandchildren.

Dempsey said it has been his privilege to serve the nation. The men and women who serve the nation are “most precious treasure,” he said.

“They and their families inspire

us. Today, we entrust them to our new chairman,” he said.

“Our nation and its armed forces remain the world’s foremost symbols of strength, of hope, and of freedom,” Dempsey said. “The generation that is now blessed to serve will do its duty and will ensure that our nation remains strong.”

Dunford commended Dempsey for his service to the nation.

“We’re all indebted to General Marty Dempsey for his extraordinary leadership, commitment and service, and on a personal note, for many years he has been a great friend, mentor and role model,” Dunford said.

Dempsey forever honors the 132 Soldiers who lost their lives under his command in Iraq, Obama said, explaining how Dempsey has a box that contains each Soldier’s picture and story.

“And on top of the box are three words: make it matter,” Obama said.

“Every morning, Marty places three of the cards in his pocket, so that every moment as chairman, every meeting, every trip, every decision, every troop review, every moment of every day, some of those fallen heroes are with him,” the president said.

Dempsey, in closing his speech said, “To all who will continue to serve after, I ask only this in parting – make it matter.”

IMCOM educational institution transforms for higher learning

By Jessica Marie Ryan
Installation Management Command Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO — The U.S. Army Installation Management Command, as a part of its commitment to developing a more agile and adaptive workforce, is restructuring its internal educational system.

A big step forward in the transformation is renaming the command’s existing educational institution to the College of Installation Management, said Lt. Gen. David D. Halverson, commanding general for IMCOM.

The college will be comprised of three schools: the School of Installation Management; the School for Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; and the School for Service Culture.

“Our goal is to build a premier educational institution,” Halverson said. “The College of Installation Management will further the Army’s commitment to cutting-edge adult education described in the Army Learning Model.”

The college will nest itself within the Army University system and become the single source provider for military and civilian education programs related to installation management disciplines, and Department of Defense Expeditionary Base Operations Support, said Robert Kiser, the IMCOM G7 Training director who serves as the college dean.

“The defining challenge of the 21st century is developing our human capital,”



PHOTO BY NEAL SYNDER

Former Lt. Gen. Stephen Speakes, president and chief operating officer of Kalamar RT Center, LLC, described his ongoing experience with change management to garrison leaders at the U.S. Army Installation Management Academy, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 12.

Kiser said. “It is our job to develop the next generation of leaders for IMCOM.”

Courses offered in these schools are for appropriated and non-appropriated fund IMCOM employees. Military employees outside of IMCOM may enroll in select classes on a space-available basis at <http://www.imcomacademy.com>, he added.

“This college is more than a brick and mortar institution,” said Kiser.

Since military installations are worldwide, he explained, the college provides an array of residential and online courses which meet the needs of a geographically-dispersed workforce and minimize travel costs. IMCOM employees worldwide can take these courses in the convenience of their office or at home.

Kimberly Williams, a program analyst in the Family and MWR office at U.S. Garrison Daegu, Korea, began taking courses in the School of Family and MWR when

she was a management trainee. She started her MWR career in marketing and later transitioned to working in other areas such as business operations and community recreation.

“The Army Family and MWR financial planning course helped me tremendously in my new role as a program analyst,” she said. “My marketing experience gave me transferable skills, like trend analysis; however, my new job requires me to dive deeper into our program data.”

For employees like Williams, easy accessibility to the college’s website makes it possible for graduates – even after taking the courses – to revisit the class modules and apply the content into their current duties.

“On any given day, I am in my office reviewing standard management information reports for finance and simultaneously clicking through the financial planning course,” she added. “Though the course was informative when I initially took the training, it was not relevant to me at the time. Now, I truly appreciate the information because it is helping me in real time.”

According to Kiser, most online courses are currently in the School of Family and MWR, but the other schools will offer online courses in the future.

Residential courses will continue to be held at the Maj. Gen. Robert M. Joyce IMCOM Academy building at Joint Base San Antonio. These courses provide training in specialized areas in installation management where in-classroom training is essential.

News Briefs

Gate closures

The Newton and Faulkner gates will close for Columbus Day Oct. 12. All other gate hours remain the same as normal.

Change of command

The 1st Warrant Officer Company will host a change of command ceremony Oct. 9 at 11 a.m. at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. CW4 Jerry D. White will assume command from CW4 Joseph R. Scarpill. People need to RSVP by Oct. 2 by calling 255-2646 or 255-3432.

Lyster cooking demonstrations

Lyster Army Health Clinic’s free healthy cooking demonstration is scheduled for Oct. 23 at 11 a.m. Everyone, including children, is invited to attend.

Lifespace Center classes

The Lyster Army Health Clinic’s Lifespace Center will host the following classes.

- **Army Move!** – Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. The next six-part series begins Oct. 13 from 1-3 p.m.
- **Diabetes Basics** – A new series that begins every month with Class No. 1 always being the first Thursday of the month from 9 a.m. to noon.
- **Healthy Heart** – This class is currently on hold. Lyster officials tentatively expect the class to resume Nov. 13 from 9-11 a.m.

Breast cancer awareness

Lyster Army Health Clinic will promote breast cancer awareness during October. Information tables will be set up in the clinic and the post exchange sporadically throughout the month of October.

Mammogram bus dates: Oct. 26, Nov. 9, 16 and 30. Patients can call 255-7000, No. 4 to schedule and get eligibility information.

Clinic closure

Lyster Army Health Clinic will close for its monthly training Oct. 21 at noon. The clinic will also be closed starting at noon Oct. 9 for organization day.

Lyster update

People can check out the Lyster Army Health Clinic Facebook page for the healthy tip of the day and other clinic information, such as class dates and times. People can also check out its Twitter feed at @LysterAHC.

AAFES loyalty program

To celebrate the launch of the MILITARY STAR® rewards program, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service is pumping up gas savings by doubling the discount for MILITARY STAR cardholders. From Oct. 9-11, drivers fueling up with a MILITARY STAR card at Fort Rucker gas stations will receive 10 cents off per gallon instead of the everyday 5-cents-per-gallon discount.

“The extra savings are a part of the exchange’s launch of its new MILITARY STAR rewards program,” said Beate Bateman, Exchange Express manager. “The rewards program – and extra fuel discounts, such as this one – help the exchange give back to Soldiers and their families.”

Siren test

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

Retiree council meetings

The Fort Rucker Installation Retiree Council meets the first Thursday of each month in The Landing at 11:30 a.m. The meeting is an open forum and all retirees are invited to attend. Retirees are also encouraged to apply for one of the open positions on the council.

For more information, call 255-9124.

Thrift shop

The Fort Rucker Thrift Shop is open Wednesdays-Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The thrift shop needs people’s unwanted items. People can drop off donations at any time in the shed behind the shop (former Armed Forces Bank building) located in front of the theater next door to the bowling alley. Donations are tax deductible.

For more information, call 255-9595.

ID card appointment system

To help reduce wait times, the Directorate of Human Resources recently changed its ID Card Section to an appointment-only system Mondays-Fridays for people seeking to get ID cards.

The only walk-in customers who are seen are those who have lost their cards, need a personal identification number reset, need a DD Form 1172 issue, are in- or out-processing, and retirees renewing their cards – all other walk-in customers will be asked to make an appointment.

To make an appointment, people just need to go online and visit <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/appointment/building.aspx?BuildingId=876>.

People with questions on using the appointment system or who need to verify the documents required to get an ID, should call 255-2182.

Library fax service change

The Center Library recently changed its policy regarding sending faxes for patrons. There is now no charge for sending faxes to local or DSN phone numbers. Long distance faxes cost \$2 for the first page (not including the cover page) and 50 cents for other pages. The Center Library is open Mondays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturdays from noon to 5 p.m.

For more information, call 255-3885.

Army hosts largest-ever, joint-combined network exercise

By David Vergun
Army News Service

FORT BLISS, Texas — The Network Integration Evaluation 16.1, which takes place now through Oct. 8, is the largest NIE since the exercises started in 2011, said the commanding general of the Brigade Modernization Command.

Normally, there are between 3,500-3,800 participants in NIE, said Brig. Gen. Terry McKenrick. NIE 16.1 has more than 9,000 U.S. and coalition soldiers, supported by more than 3,000 civilians participating primarily at Fort Bliss, but also other locations around the U.S. and the world.

Among the many Army units participating this time are I Corps Headquarters; 1st Armored Division Headquarters, along with several 1st Armored Division brigades; a brigade headquarters from the United Kingdom, along with a company of Strykers being used by the United Kingdom’s Scots Guards; 82nd Airborne Division to conduct a joint forcible entry; and, 101st Airborne Division, to conduct an airborne assault.

The U.K. and Italy join U.S. units on the ground with 12 other nations, as well as other U.S. military units, some of which are participating virtually, using a variety of simulations.

Some 300 platforms, including just about all the vehicles in the Army’s inventory, as well as experimental vehicles, loaded with a of radios, satellite communications gear and mission command applications, are being evaluated, along with radios carried by dismounted Soldiers, McKenrick said.

NIE 16.1 is assessing manned and unmanned teaming – the ability to increase situational understanding, lethality, and sustainment of maneuver forces while reducing manpower and risk, he said. In all, three unmanned ground systems are being evaluated, as well as several networked unmanned aircraft systems.

Network provides the ability for Soldiers in command posts, mounted and dismounted to download situational awareness data from the unmanned air systems.

While NIE 16.1 is about experimentation, an equally valuable focus is on readiness, McKenrick said. The realistic training is equivalent to a combat training center rotation, with a hybrid threat featuring combined-arms maneuver and wide-area security against an opposing force. Weapons of mass destruction scenarios are also being incorporated.

McKenrick said the Army is going through an “assessment process” of accrediting White Sands-Bliss-Holloman as a “joint-multinational training capability. That will help us bring in more joint and multinational partners in future exercises.”

Now and in the future, the Army will operate as part of a joint and coalition force, he said. It’s spelled out in the Army’s keystone doctrine known as the “Army Operating Concept: Win in a Complex World.”

To do that effectively requires compatibility across network architectures that each of the armies use, he said. That’s why this exercise and getting it right is so important to the U.S. and its partner nations.

Besides Fort Bliss, the exercise also spills over to adjacent Holloman Air Force Base and White Sands Missile Range, both in New Mexico. To give a sense of scale, White Sands is 3,200 square miles, Fort Bliss 1,700, while the entire state of Rhode Island is 1,214.

Test restrictions lifted

NIE 16.1 is different from any other previous NIE, McKenrick said. NIE 16.1 is the “final proof of concept” for a new annual exercise, which will start at the beginning of fiscal year 2017. That new exercise will be called the Army Warfighting

NIE MAJOR MILESTONES

NIE 11.2, June-July 2011

July 15, 2011, the Army concludes the first NIE, its largest tactical network exercise to date unites the Army acquisition, requirements and test communities in one venue to integrate and improve the network based on Soldier feedback. Four systems under test and 25 emerging technologies slated as Systems Under Evaluation, including: radios, satellites, sensors and mission command applications.

NIE 12.1, October-November 2011

Included two systems under test: the Rifleman Radio and the Soldier Radio Waveform Net Manager; 47 SUEs were evaluated. Industry participation builds, with 43 industry candidates responding to Sources Sought notices.

NIE 12.2, June 2012

First NIE to feature a full brigade-level validation of Capability Set 13. Three formal operational tests, including the Initial Operational Test and Evaluation for Warfighter Information Network-Tactical (WIN-T) Increment 2. Some 36 systems received informal evaluations. The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) acted as the higher headquarter for the 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, just as it would in combat operations. And 105 industry candidates respond to Sources Sought notices.

NIE 13.1, October-November 2012

NIE network is replicated in the lab environment at Aberdeen Proving Ground for risk reduction efforts prior to NIE 13.1. Initial baseline network for Capability Set 14 evaluated. Nett Warrior conducts its IOT&E evaluation of mid-tier radio waveforms, network operations convergence and assessments of operations-intelligence application convergence. Some 20 industry and government capabilities participate as SUEs and 146 industry candidates respond to Sources Sought notices.

NIE 13.2, May 2013

Executed the follow-on OT&E for WIN-T Increment 2. Four additional systems under test: Joint Battle Command-Platform, Nett Warrior, Area Mine Clearance System-Medium Flail, Tactical Communication and Protection System; 12 additional industry and government systems under evaluation and in demonstration. NIE focus begins to transition to executing program of record tests in an integrated environment.

NIE 14.1, October-November 2013

Command Post “Big 4” demonstrated, including consolidated hardware, wireless communications, efficient shelters, intelligent power. Set conditions for joint and multinational participation during NIE 14.2. Combination of live, virtual, constructive and distributed operations are beefed up, with 40 percent of the total exercise being conducted as a virtual operation to increase efficiencies. The Vehicle Tactical Router contract marks the first time the Army used the request for proposal process as a formal mechanism for streamlined, competitive procurement of commercial systems that performed well at an NIE.

NIE 14.2, April-May 2014

Formal follow-on tests for the Manpack radio and the Common Data Link/Universal Ground Station; and, joint testing of the Joint Battle Command-Platform, 12 systems under evaluation. Fifteen demonstration systems, including solutions to improve cyber defense, enhance command posts and improve home station training capabilities. About 900 Marines fight alongside the Army’s 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, as part of an increased joint and multinational participation. For the first time, NIE runs in conjunction with the joint staff-led Bold Quest exercise at White Sands.

NIE 15.1, October-November 2014

Follow-on OT&E 2 for WIN-T Increment 2, including enhancements designed to improve system reliability, simplicity and usability based on Soldier feedback. Network-equipped Stryker vehicles evaluated. Transition to AWA in 2016 announced. SUEs/Demonstrations include Initialization Tool Suite, Unified Data, Unified Trouble Ticketing System and USCOUT. Emphasis placed on designing new capabilities to be simple and intuitive.

NIE 15.2, April-May

Testing of the Distributed Common Ground System – Army and a the Mid-Tier Networking Vehicular Radios. Demonstrations include Command Post Wireless, Mobile User Objective System on the HMS Manpack radio, the Mounted Computing Environment and transport convergence.

NIE 16.1, September-October

Final proof of concept for AWA. No formal program of record tests, but lays the groundwork for improvements to Army modernization through AWAs beginning in the fall of 2016. Demonstrations and evaluations to include: Command Post Computing Environment Unified Data, Joint Enterprise Network Manager, Command Post Wireless, Modular Communications Node-Advanced Enclave, Nett Warrior and operational energy solutions.

Assessment, with the first being AWA 17, which will be conducted in October 2016.

NIE 16.1 and AWA will not focus on the traditional NIE programmatic testing required for systems to become or not become programs of record, or go back into development, he said. AWA-17 will focus on 38 concepts and capabilities that U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command identified, he said.

Strict testing requirements, in other words, will be lifted to give industry and the Army’s own lab engineers the freedom to explore new capabilities with Soldier feedback in realistic settings.

So, NIE 16.1 and AWA will focus on experimentation involving integration of U.S. and coalition networks to see what works, what doesn’t, why it doesn’t and what solutions might be possible.

Another difference between NIE 16.1/AWA and past NIEs, is that there will be a lot more stakeholders present on the ground, said McKenrick. They include the requirements and acquisition communities, TRADOC and industry partners, as well as eight of the Army’s centers of excellence – with heavy participation from the Mission Command, Maneuvers, Fires and Cyber COEs. It will be a “truly collaborative environment – a team-of-teams effort.”

Industry and Army Research and Development Centers will be eliciting Soldier feedback on some 73 systems, reviewed by Plans and Operations, Army G-3/5/7, that

will be evaluated, he said. Also, TRADOC will be looking to see how new technology could drive doctrine and how doctrine could influence new technology.

New technology could be software,

hardware, app-like devices, security solutions, wireless capability to replace hardwiring, energy-saving devices and so on – items needed to enable the Army to be more expeditionary – a key cornerstone of Force 2025 concept.

Bold Quest aligns with NIE 16.1

For the second time, the Bold Quest exercise is “aligning with NIE,” according to John Miller, Bold Quest operational manager, Joint Fires Division, Joint Staff, J-6.

Bold Quest capability demonstrations and assessments began in 2003, with a narrow focus on technology to identify friendly forces for purposes of avoiding fratricide, he said. It has since grown significantly. “When a forward observer has need of supporting fires and he places that call for fire, we want to make sure that request, no matter what the nationality, provides the fire support that individual needs at that time.”

Since that call for fire goes over the network, it makes sense for Bold Quest to be involved in NIE, Miller said.

“Digital interoperability brings the J-6 into this in a big way,” he said. “Communicating digitally allows that call for fire and the response to be accelerated greatly. It also allows you to overcome the language barriers (that voice would pose).

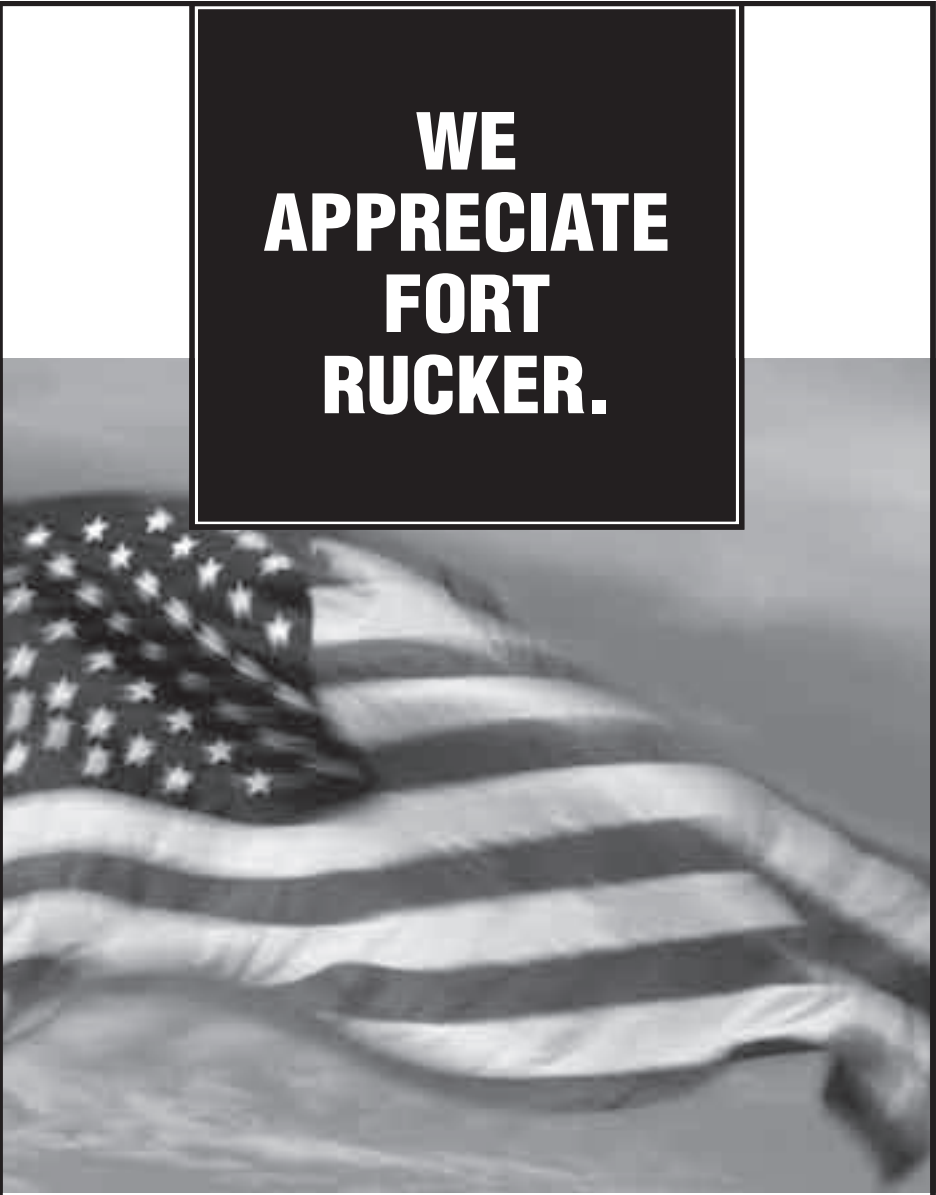
“Bold Quest by itself is challenging. Aligning it with NIE and the multinational exercise adds another layer of complexity, but the rewards are worth the planning and executing for something of this magnitude,” Miller said.

Going forward

NIE 16.1 will be followed next spring by NIE 16.2. That exercise and NIEs to follow, McKenrick said, will return to the traditional role of NIEs: to evaluate network systems in a formal test environment to determine if the product is doing what the vendors have said it will do and that will inform programmatic decisions.

Instead of the traditional two NIEs per year, NIE 16.2 will be the only NIE next year and, in years to follow, there will be just one NIE per year. As mentioned, there will also be one AWA each year.

While this year’s NIE has heavy NATO participation, next year’s will focus more on partner nations within the U.S. Pacific Command’s area of responsibility, McKenrick added. Sea-basing, along with Marine Air-Ground Task Force experiments, will be included as well. Units are still being identified that will participate. Australia has already “signed up.”



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Who: Open to the public

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with a rain date of Friday, October 9th 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Where: Fort Rucker Thrift Shop parking lot (corner of Red Cloud & Ruf / Next door to Bowling Alley)

Vendors: AB Photography • Advocare • Bare Biquities doToierra • First Impressions Market • Mary Kay Jewelry In Candles • Mische • Origami Owl Pampered Chef • Perfectly Posh Premier Designs Jewelry • Scenisy Sweet Jubilee • Thirty-One • The Chosen Nest Thrive (Le-Vel) • Tupperware Usborne Books & More • Younique

Food & Opportunities!!!
100% of the proceeds for the Food and Opportunities will go to our Honoring Wiregrass Veterans program!

The Hidden Treasures Shopping Showcase & Expo is a venue where Home Based Businesses can sell their items and network.

President: U.S. to provide more support to U.N.

By Jim Garamone
Department of Defense News

WASHINGTON — The United States will provide much more support to U.N. peacekeeping efforts, President Barack Obama said Sept. 27 at the United Nations in New York.

As the president spoke to the U.N. General Assembly, the White House released a memo he signed pledging more support to United Nations Peace Operations.

In the memo, the president said he will “strongly consider” providing military, police and civilian personnel to support or participate in U.N. peace operations.

There are caveats. The direct personnel support would happen only if the need is in a capability in which the United States has specialized expertise and only if U.S. personnel provide the potential to improve substantially the overall effectiveness of the U.N. mission. The deployment cannot adversely impact cur-



WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY PETE SOUZA

President Barack Obama delivers remarks at the U.N. in New York City Sept. 27.

rent or projected U.S. operations elsewhere.

The president would not relinquish command of any U.S. forces deployed to peacekeeping operations, the memo says, but it notes that as commander in chief, he has the authority to place U.S. forces under the operational control of a foreign commander when doing so serves U.S. national security interests.

The increase in support to the United Na-

tions is needed, given the critical U.S. national security interest in propping up weak states and preventing, containing, and resolving armed conflict, the memo states.

Libya, Syria and Somalia are examples of failed states, and there are dozens of fragile and conflict-affected states, the memo states.

“Their numbers are now rising globally, and may continue to do so over the next decade or more,” the president said in the memo. “Left unassisted, many of these fragile states, where conflict festers and development stagnates, could become hosts of violent extremism; afford safe havens that transnational terrorists and criminals exploit; generate large flows of refugees and displaced persons that can destabilize neighboring countries and sow regional instability; create humanitarian emergencies; facilitate the spread of pandemic disease; and increase the risk of mass atrocities.”

The peacekeeping operations span the spectrum of conflict prevention, peacemaking, and peacebuilding interventions autho-

rized by the U.N. Security Council.

United Nations peace operations have now reached all-time high levels of cost, complexity and risk. The U.N. currently manages 16 peacekeeping missions, with more than 100,000 uniformed personnel and more than 19,000 civilian staff deployed globally. The U.N. also currently has 11 field-based political missions and peace-building support offices in Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia.

“The United States has compelling reasons to support the effective conduct of U.N. and other multilateral peace operations, but must be judicious about where we advocate their establishment since they are not the appropriate response in all instances,” the president said in his memo, noting that U.N. peace operations ordinarily are not designed and equipped to deploy into situations of active armed conflict where the main protagonists and their external backers are not yet ready to stop fighting.

Ready: Kit should contain family’s supplies for 3-day period

Continued from Page A1

tions you should brief your family on, like designating a rally point if something happens to the family home.”

The ready Army website lists steps people should take to help keep their family safe during times of emergency.

The first step is to be informed. Many emergencies, like power outages, disease outbreaks and manmade accidents can happen anywhere. But certain disasters are more likely in some places than others, such as severe weather in the South during hurricane season.

“At Fort Rucker, a blizzard is less likely than a hurricane, so the first information

residents should gather is how to prepare for severe weather caused by hurricanes,” said Worsham.

Ready Army suggests people should understand the local mass warning systems that officials will use to inform them on weather conditions. At Fort Rucker, the agencies that warn of natural hazards are the National Weather Service and the U.S. Geological Survey. Part of being informed is to know how to receive information from these agencies, and Worsham suggests having a backup way of receiving information in case a primary system goes down.

People should also know where evacuation points are located in the event they

cannot get home or their current location becomes unsafe. Ready Army suggests people also know what circumstances would require evacuation and when they should shelter in place.

The next step is to make a plan. People should keep their plans practical and tuned to likely disasters that they might face, and they should plan for different scenarios – a weekend as opposed to a workday, if their children are at school, or if an evacuation is ordered and sheltering in place is no longer an option.

Ready Army also suggests that people build a kit. A kit should contain the supplies that people and their families will need for at least a three-day period. That

is the estimated time it might take to clear roads, restore power or have emergency crews reach people.

After a disaster, emergency responders will address critical needs first and might not be able to get to people right away, said Worsham. A disaster kit will allow people to take care of themselves and their families, freeing up emergency responders to focus on the critically injured and restoring infrastructure.

Ready Army suggests people have multiple kits in different locations, like their car, office and home because they never know where they will be when disaster strikes.

For more information, visit www.rucker.army.mil/readyarmy.

Prevention: Officials suggest families have home fire escape plan

Continued from Page A1

conducted throughout the installation by fire prevention and protection personnel, including the schools, as well as the child development center and the Fort Rucker Mini CDC, according to Taylor.

Posters designated by the National Fire Protection Association will also be distributed throughout the post to help bring awareness to fire prevention and its importance.

Another message that Taylor said he hopes to get across during the week is for children not to be afraid of emergency responders and firefighters, especially when clad in full firefighting gear.

“We don’t want children to be afraid – we want them to know that we’re here for them,” said the fire inspector. “When firefighters are in their full gear, they can look scary and sound funny, but when we visit the schools, we want children to be able to see us in our full gear, be able

to put their hands on us, and see that we’re their friend and not something they should be afraid of.”

Taylor also suggests that people should make sure to have a fire escape plan in their homes, and practice it regularly with their family. They should make sure their family members know where the exits are, and where they should all meet in case of a fire.

For more information on fire prevention and safety, visit www.nfpa.org.

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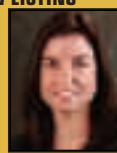


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\$71,900 • 3BR/2BA
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off of Porter Road. Take left on
Riverwood. House on right.
MLS #20141188

THIS SATURDAY
Oct 3 • 10-12PM



118 BUCKRIDGE ~ NEW LISTING
\$71,900 • 3BR/2BA
Directions: From Rucker
Blvd, turn on Briarwood,
turn right on Buckridge.
MLS #20151767
Hosted by:
Sommer Rakes 406-1286



THIS SATURDAY
Oct 3 • 2-4PM



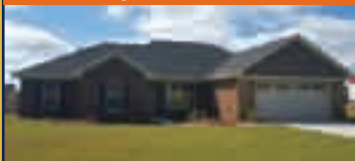
103 PINEHURST DRIVE ~ ENTERPRISE
\$77,900 • 3BR/1BA • Attached Carport
Directions: Headed north on the
Boll Weevil Circle, turn left onto
Pinehurst Drive. Travel about ¾ mile.
House is on the right.
MLS #20142224

THIS SUNDAY
Oct 4 • 2-4PM



23 BLUE RIDGE CIRCLE ~ ENTERPRISE
\$326,000 • 4BR/3.5BA
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Directions: Highway 27 north to
Cotton Creek. Left onto Cotton Creek
Blvd. Left on Blue Ridge Circle.
MLS #20151238

Saturday, Oct 10 • 2-4PM
Sunday, Oct 11 • 2-4PM



105 STONECHASE DRIVE ~ ENTERPRISE
\$233,000 • 4BR/3BA
• Attached Garage • Fireplace
Directions: From the Boll Weevil Circle,
turn onto CR 708. In about ½ mile turn
right on CR 711. In about another ½
mile, turn right into Stonechase S/D &
105 will be the 3rd house.
MLS #20151239

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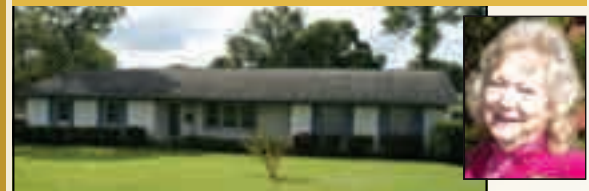
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740 COUNTY ROAD 102 • DALEVILLE ~ \$237,000: 10+ acres, wonderful brick with vinyl trim home located on approximately 10 acres convenient to Ft Rucker, Enterprise schools but private setting. 5BR/3BA, work barn with power. Must see all the features. **JACKIE THOMPSON 406-1231**

\$113,000



118 FOXHILL: Attention: First Time Buyers PRICE REDUCED! If you've been dreaming of a home of your own, come see this immaculate 3BR ranch in Foxhill subdivision. This home is priced to sell & move-in ready with new neutral paint inside & out & recent updates including windows with lifetime warranty, HVAC, roof & appliances. Convenient to Ft Rucker & shopping with the added benefit of a fire station around the corner. **JUDY DUNN 301-5656**

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303 RICHLAND: Reduced to sell! Only few minutes from Ft Rucker, this nice ranch features 3BR/3BA, beautiful inground pool with a brand new cleaning system. Big living space for entertainment. Fenced backyard with room for all kind of outside activities. **BOB KUYKENDALL 369-8534**

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1000 COUNTY ROAD 223, JACK ~ \$205,000: Come have a look at this country charmer located on approximately 3 acres at the intersection of County Road 223 & County Road 239. This lovely Victorian with a wrap around porch will make a great place to raise your family & spread your wings. Convenient to Enterprise this listing includes 3 parcels each with 1 acre. One parcel is wooded. There's plenty of room to add a pool, barn, garage or you could build 2 more houses. There's even a chicken coop! Fantastic view from the upstairs windows. New water heater. Invisible fence. **JAN SAWYER 406-2393**

\$374,000



121 DEER RUN STRUT: This home has so much to offer with Jack & Jill bathroom between the 2 upstairs bedrooms with antique vanities & porcelain washbowls. 2½-car back entry carport with extra storage above, workshop situated among the gardens with electricity (15 outlets) & 220 service. Ramp & side cover for storage as well as in the attic area. Kitchen has built-ins with doors to hide appliances & still have the convenience. Lot 167 lakefront across the street comes with this property. Make your move NOW! **EVELYN HITCH 406-3436**

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320 COUNTY ROAD 101 • \$179,900 ~ MLS# 20141637: Horse lovers dream, property is completely fenced with hog wire, with chain link fence in yard front & back with 5 gates, separate fenced paddock in front yard with hog wire fence, circular drive. 22x32 barn with 2 stalls, lean to extension with Dutch doors, electric & water with inside & outside lights. 10x20 shed with shelves & ramp. Open floor plan with split bedrooms & den w/fireplace as well as formal living room. Great screened porch with stairs leading to pool. A MUST SEE!

4 BEDROOMS!



2784 PLANTATION PLACE • \$314,500 ~ MLS# 20150036: Beautiful custom built, 1-owner home, with 9' ceilings, lots of wood crown molding & wood interior doors. 2 heat pumps w/ electronic controlled filters, 2 thermostatically controlled attic fans, security system w/cameras that will also detect carbon monoxide, fire & window break-ins. Can check your house while on vacation through this system. Walls are 2x6 & insulated inside & out. Propane tank buried in the ground for fireplace & natural gas is to the house. Over 100 flowering shrubs.

HUNTER RIDGE



16 COUNTY ROAD 168 • \$277,000 ~ MLS# 20151245: Walk in front entry foyer with formal dining room on your right, straight ahead you will find the grandroom with double coffered ceilings, hardwood floors & gas log fireplace. Kitchen has solid surface countertops w/break area & stainless steel appliances. Split bedrooms with master featuring 2 walk-in closets, Jacuzzi & separate shower in master bath. Oversized corner lot with oversized covered deck & beautifully landscaped yard. Come take a look & call yourself HOME!

\$115,000 • MOTIVATED SELLER!!!



105 CAHABA ~ MLS# 20151458: Great floor plan featuring a grandroom with fireplace on the back wall with windows on both sides. Kitchen has new self-cleaning stove, microwave hood & dishwasher with side-by-side refrigerator, lots of cabinets & open dining area. All woodwork & doors has been painted white & there have been some light fixtures & ceiling fans replaced. Double decks off the back with plenty of room for play or the dogs to run. Walk-in crawl space & so much more. Come TAKE A LOOK! MOTIVATED SELLER!

\$97,500 • MOVE-IN READY!!!



44 BROOKVIEW ~ MLS# 20141839: This home is move-in ready. Vinyl siding installed 8/2014, double pane/double hung windows, fenced yard in a cul-de-sac, you have 3 nice sized bedrooms with a walk-in closet in the master bedroom. Tiled floors in baths, foyer & Florida room. Oversized 2-car garage. All kitchen appliances. Just call for your personal showing. Priced to SELL!!!

Operation takes flight in Kosovo

By Sgt. Erick Yates

Multinational Battle Group-East
Kosovo Force Public Affairs

CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo — Croatian, Slovenian, Swiss and U.S. Army flight crews soared over Kosovo for a multinational, eight-ship helicopter mission, testing their ability to communicate during a large Aviation exercise Sept. 16, which took them over several Kosovo Force installations.

The event incorporated three NATO member nations, and allowed the allied Aviation flight crews, planners and leaders to build interoperability between one another, said U.S. Army Reserve Capt. Kevin Dowdey, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot deployed to Kosovo with A Company, 2nd Battalion, 238th Aviation Regiment, a U.S. Army Reserve unit out of Los Alamitos, California.

The Multinational Battle Group-East Southern Command Post, also known as its Aviation Task Force Hurricane, put the 1 1/2-hour training event together to establish operating procedures for multinational flight crews conducting combined missions,



PHOTO BY SGT. ERICK YATES

Croatian, Slovenian, Swiss and U.S. Army flight crews take off from Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, for a multinational, eight-ship helicopter mission, testing the flight crews' ability to operate as one team Sept. 16 over several Kosovo Force installations.

he said. The multi-ship exercise was a way for NATO Aviation forces in Kosovo to measure one another's capabilities.

"This training helps establish relationships with forces here that are conducting air operations," Dowdey said.

"This is a good opportunity to measure the capabilities of each other and learn how to co-

ordinate conducting missions together," he said.

The pilots from the other participating nations also said the multi-ship operation was a good way to see how all the forces could identify procedural barriers and accomplish the mission, said 2nd Lt. Tobija Cukjati, a helicopter pilot with the Slovenian Armed Forces.

"It would be good to see more missions like this," Cukjati said.

This training allows for everyone to get familiar with communicating, and see the similarities and differences each military force has when doing air operations, he added.

"We started off with the basics for this exercise today,"

said CW4 Michael Behuniak.

If all the air elements assigned to Kosovo have to work together, everyone has to be able to understand one another so the mission can be conducted properly and safely, he said.

Part of the mission for KFOR's multinational forces is to work with civil authorities and ensure a safe and secure environment, and freedom of movement, in Kosovo.

Staff Sgt. Kathryn Rylander, a flight crew chief from the 2-238th Avn. Regt., said that training with multinational forces to conduct a large multi-ship air operation is a rare opportunity worth seeing put into action, once the planning is complete.

MNBG-E's Aviators plan to conduct similar air exercises in the future, incorporating additional layers of complexity to increase each mission's training value. First and foremost, these forces' mission is to support NATO's peace support mission in Kosovo. Throughout exercises such as these, their mission comes first, and an appropriate number of aircraft remain available to support requirements on short notice, Dowdey said.

BACK TO BASICS

82nd CAB refines
Aviators' Soldier skills
in austere environment

By Staff Sgt. Christopher Freeman
82nd Combat Aviation Brigade
Public Affairs

CHERRY POINT, N.C. — Over the last few deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, service members have grown accustomed to established infrastructures, such as barracks and dining facilities.

With the wars winding down, paratroopers of the 3rd General Support Aviation Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade decided to refine their basic Soldier skills in an austere environment away from Fort Bragg.

The 3rd GSAB conducted its aerial gunnery exercise at Cherry Point in preparation for future missions anywhere in the world.

"We brought our paratroopers out here for two reasons," said Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy Ros, the incoming senior enlisted member for the 3rd GSAB. "Not only to qualify our aircrews on their assigned weapon, but to exercise our basic systems such as establishing a living and sleeping area with tents and cots, and establishing a tactical operations center that we can quickly break down and reposition."

For Pvt. 1st Class LeDevon Bryant, a petroleum supply specialist assigned to E Company, 3rd GSAB, this was his first taste of the field with his unit.

"This field problem allowed all of us to come together as one and make us a stronger team," said Bryant. "We trust each other and rely on each other more after this."

This field training exercise had the paratroopers in a more austere environment than seen on their last combat deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Freedom's Sentinel.

"The paratroopers are living in tents and sleeping on cots," said Ros. "We partnered with the Marine Corps on post to have showers for our females and our dining facility personnel to make sure the food is served in a sanitary manner."

SEE BASICS, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. CHRISTOPHER FREEMAN

A CH-47 Chinook assigned to the 3rd General Support Aviation Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade takes off for aerial gunnery at Cherry Point, N.C., Sept. 18.



PHOTO BY CAPT. CHARLES EMMONS

UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from 101st Combat Aviation Brigade "Wings of Destiny," 101st Airborne Division, hover over a Jalalabad Airfield landing zone in eastern Afghanistan Sept. 16.

U.S., Slovak conduct resupply drop

By Spc. Jacqueline Dowland

13th Mobile Public Affairs
Detachment

MALACKY AIR BASE, Slovak Republic — The Soldiers stood single-file, alert for the cue to charge toward the landing helicopter so they could unload the supplies on board.

Several feet away, their NATO allies guided the helicopter toward a safe landing. All involved were engaged in separate yet related tasks to get the resupply accomplished.

Soldiers assigned to 4th Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, currently stationed in Vilseck, Germany, teamed together with their Slovak allies to accomplish a resupply drop on Malacky Air Base during the combined training Exercise Dragoon Crossing, as part of Operation Atlantic Resolve Sept. 15.

The drop, which provided necessary supplies to accomplish the combined training exercise, demonstrated the ability for the NATO counterparts to operate with a common understanding of the tactical-level activities associated with working as one undivided team.

"The resupply drop today represents the two universal factors in sustainment: flex-



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS MARY ROSE MITTLESTEADT

Soldiers with the 58th Signal Company, 101st Special Troops Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Sustainment Brigade, practice loading casualties into a helicopter for a medical evacuation scenario during a field training exercise at Fort Campbell, Ky., Aug. 13.

ibility and adaptability," said 1st Lt. Joshua L. Kerwood, maintenance control officer for 4th Sqdn., 2nd Cav. Regt., and a native of Bonsoir, New York.

The interoperability experience allowed for each side to communicate with one another on how to accomplish the task while working together. While there were many similarities amongst how the allies perform the tasks, there were also differing tactics to learn from one another, he said.

"We came out here before the drop and talked with the Slovaks and discussed with

them our tactical procedures, which allowed for learning opportunities," Kerwood said. "They learned some things that we do differently about aerial supply, and we learned some things that they do differently, such as having the helicopters skirt around the airfield."

The resupply drop strengthened the NATO allies' ability to quickly and competently work together, despite challenges faced, increasing the ability of allied armies to combine their units and assets while operating as a combined force.

"The flight crew had never been here before, yet they were able to trust the Slovaks to properly guide them in," Kerwood said. "It went really well and resulted in us getting our resupply in time."

As the helicopters glided into the sky after the supplies were unloaded, all involved marveled at the speed and accuracy with which the maneuver had been performed — an example of NATO's ability to move forces, equipment and supplies across allied borders while maintaining freedom of movement throughout the region.

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OCTOBER 1, 2015

OKTOBERFEST

Event treats community to music, food, culture

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

While millions of people travel across the globe to attend the 16-day Oktoberfest festival in Munich, Germany, Fort Rucker enjoyed its own taste of Deutschland.

Thousands came out to attend this year's 13th annual Oktoberfest celebration Friday at the festival fields to the sounds of traditional folk music to celebrate the centuries-old German festival.

"We had about 4,500 people come out to this year's event," said Kristi Fink, Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation special events coordinator. "We had a great turnout and the weather was beautiful."

The festival included a host of activities, including live music performed by festival staple, Sonnenschein Express, a popular local German band who enjoyed their eighth consecutive year entertaining festivalgoers with the sounds from the Alpine region to include ringing cowbells, horns and yodeling.

Along with the live music, people were also able to enjoy a zip line, pumpkin patch, pumpkin painting, face painting, bounce houses, bungee trampoline, pony rides and even dunking booth where patrons were able to get a chance at dunking Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment, who volunteered their time to take a plunge for a good cause.

The proceeds from the dunking booth went to benefit the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, which is a program that supports the overall quality of life of single and unaccompanied Soldiers on the installation.

In addition to the many activities that were available to people throughout the event, enjoying some traditional German food was among the favorite activities of many people who attended the event.

"I love to come out to any event like this to enjoy the food," said Jennifer Jackson, military family member. "It's not too often you get to enjoy festival food, especially things like bratwurst and German sausage. I definitely have to say the food, along with the atmosphere, has been the highlight of the day for me."

This was also the first year the festival added the Volksmarch, which was a free walk or run that followed the Beaver Lake trail.

The festival had no shortage of activities for people to take part in to ring in the celebration, and people like Daniel Byrd, civilian from Enterprise, said it was the perfect way for him and his family to start the weekend.

"I'm just glad that Fort Rucker hosts events like this for families to come out and enjoy," he said. "It's not just for military families, either. It's great that these things are open to the public because we love to come out and show our support for our military members. I think it's amazing that the military community is able to give back with things like this."

Not only did the festival provide a great time for Byrd and his family, but he said that it was a great opportunity for his children to learn about another culture.

"Living in this area, there isn't much opportunity for children to be exposed to culture aside from what they see on TV or on the Internet, so I think it's great for them to be exposed to something like this and actually see how far reaching a



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFAU

Wyatt, Makayla and Ian Otto, military family members, paint pumpkins that they picked out in the pumpkin patch as their mother, Nicole, watches on during 13th annual Oktoberfest celebration at the festival fields Friday.



Greyson Parrish, military family member, has his face painted by a volunteer as his mother, Nicole, looks on during Oktoberfest.

culture can be," he said. "I think they've had a great time with everything that they were able to do here and I'm just grateful that they had the opportunity to be exposed to these things."



Lia Brown, military family member, takes a ride on a pony during Oktoberfest.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Project: National Disability Employment Awareness Month and Assistive Technology Expo

Volunteers needed to assist with setting up and breaking down of the event, which takes place Oct. 8, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Soldiers and civilians are needed. If interested, call 255-2363

Project: Frite Nite

Volunteers are needed Oct 23 and 27 for the event. If interested, call 598-3384.

Position: Marketing Coordinator AFAP Conference

Volunteer needed to attend required Army Community Service and Army Family Action Plan 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 flyers, posters, pamphlets, newspaper, TV and installation briefings; attend after action review meetings and provide input for the final AAR; serve as a spokesperson for the AFAP program; and adhere to guidelines as outlined in Army Regulation 608-47, AFAP program handbook and the installation AFAP Program standard operating procedure. The conference is Nov. 4-5. If interested, call 255-9637.

Position: AFAP Facilitators

AFAP is scheduled for Nov. 4-5. Volunteers needed to serve as neutral steward of work group; keep workgroup focused during breakout sessions; encourage participation by group members; maintain timeline set forth by AFAP coordinator; work with group recorder, transcriber,

SEE OPPORTUNITIES, PAGE C5

TRASH OR TREASURE?

Fort Rucker hosts outdoor yard sale

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

Moving can be a chore, but Fort Rucker's seasonal community yard sales provide an opportunity for military families to shed unnecessary items and earn a little extra cash for the journey ahead.

"It's a great way for military families on and off post to be able to sell their household goods," Kristi Fink, special events coordinator, said. "Military families move every couple years, so it's a good way to lighten the load when PCSing to a new location. But it's also a great way to find some new items for the upcoming move."

Fort Rucker hosts two community yard sales each year and the next opportunity for savings will take place Oct. 17 from 7-11 a.m. at the Fort Rucker Festival Fields.

"The outdoor yard sale and flea market will provide an opportunity for the Fort Rucker community to buy and sell used household items in a consolidated fashion, especially for those buyers or sellers who live off post and are not eli-

gible to participate in the Corvias yard sales," Fink said.

The event is open to the public and anyone can rent booth space during the event, although discounted rates are available to government ID card holders.

Government rates are \$20 for a 15-by-20 space, \$30 for a 30-by-20 space and tables are \$10 each. Rates for the general public are \$30 for a 15-by-20 space, \$40 for a 30-by-20 space and \$10 per table.

According to Fink, a total of 70 booths were registered for 1,500 participants in the spring. Anyone interested in a booth for the fall yard sale must register by Oct. 14 at 4:30 p.m.

Registration forms can be found at www.ftrucker.mwr.com/special-events/, or at MWR Central in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, Rm. 130.

Each year, community yard sales provide access to a wide variety of items at prices lower than people would find in a department store, Fink said.

"Patrons can find items ranging from baby clothes to furniture," she said.

"There are numerous toys, household items, collectibles and more. It's great way to find some amazing deals right before they PCS or when they arrive on post."

Although the event is open to the public, certain sales are not allowed.

"No retail, commercial vending or business promotion is allowed," Fink said. "Food and beverage, live animal and weapon sales are also prohibited."

"Electricity is available on the event field on a first-come, first-served basis," she added. "Participants must bring their own extension cords, if needed. All participants are responsible for their individual change fund and participants may bring canopies, but no tent stakes may be longer than 12 inches."

Gate Access passes are required and the Daleville Visitor Control Center will open at 8 a.m. the day of the event to accommodate patrons in need of passes.

In the event of inclement weather, the event will be postponed until Oct. 18.

For more information, call 255-1749 or 255-2997.



FILE PHOTO

Shoppers check out the wares at a previous outdoor yard sale on post. This year's event is Oct. 17 at the festival fields.

ON POST

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

Pokémon Battle

The Fort Rucker School Age Center will host a Pokémon Battle today from 4:45–5:45 p.m. Youth must bring their own Pokémon cards and have permission from their parents to trade. Youth must be registered with child, youth and school service, and be 6-10 years old and in first-fifth grade. For more information, call 255-9108.

Smarty Pants Skate Night

Child, youth and school services members are invited to join the Fort Rucker School Age Center’s Smarty Pants Skate Night Friday from 6:15-7:15 p.m. and 7:30-9:30 p.m. This is a chance for members to dress up in their best nerd costume – members can bring a guest, too. To get registered at CYSS, call 255-9638. For more information on the event, call 255-9108.

‘Control.Assault.Delete’

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Army Community Service’s Family Advocacy Program will present “Control.Assault.Delete” Monday at 9 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 6 p.m., and Tuesday at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the post theater.

For more information, call 255-3898.

‘I Have This Friend’

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Army Community Service’s Family Advocacy Program will present “I Have This Friend” Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the post theater. The presentation is geared toward the teen.

For more information, call 255-3898.

Resilience training

Army Community Service will host resilience training Oct. 13 from 9-11:30 a.m. at The Commons to help people learn the skills that will make them and their families more resilient. Participants will receive training in two to three skills, such as goal setting, activating events through consequences and hunt the good stuff. People need to register by Oct. 9.

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

Newcomers welcome

Army Community Service will host a newcomers welcome Oct. 16 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.

Comedy Live

Comedy Live returns to The Landing Oct. 16 from 8-9:30 p.m. For details, call 255-1749.

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 Oct. 15. 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.

Outdoor yard sale, flea market

The Fort Rucker Fall Outdoor Yard Sale and Flea Market is scheduled for Oct. 17 from 7-11 a.m. at the festival fields. The outdoor event provides the opportunity for the Fort Rucker community to buy and sell used household items in a consolidated fashion. The event is open to the public. Booth space fees apply to sellers and no commercial vendors are allowed. A limited numbers of tables are available to rent. Registration to sell is due by Oct. 14.

Rates for space to sell for active-duty military, family members, retirees and Department of Defense civilians are \$20 for



FILE PHOTO

Assistive technology expo

Army Community Service, the Exceptional Family Member Program and the Fort Rucker Equal Employment Opportunity Office will sponsor an Assistive Technology and Resources Expo in observance of National Disability Employment Awareness Month Oct. 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Soldier Service Center lobby, Bldg. 5700. The expo will showcase assistive technology devices and resources available for individuals with disabilities. There will be representatives from various agencies on site. Demonstrations will be available for participants. The expo is open to the public. For more information, call 255-9277.

a 15x20, \$30 for a 30x20 and \$10 for a table. For the general public, rates are \$30 for 15x20, \$40 for 30x20 and tables are \$10.

For more information, call 255-1749.

Ghostly Get Together

Fort Rucker Youth Center members are invited to take part in the Ghostly Get Together Youth Lock-In Oct. 23-24 from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. at the center. Admission is free for all active Middle School Teen members, ages 11-18 years. Guests are welcome to attend for \$10 and a photo ID is required for age verification. The event will include scary movies, spooky games and giveaway creepy prizes, and also basketball tournaments, video game challenges, the rock climbing wall, and arts and craft activities. Attendees will also get to go to Frite Nite at the Fort Rucker Riding Stables.

For more information, call 255-2260 or 255-2271.

Frite Nite

Frite Nite returns to the Fort Rucker Riding Stables Oct. 23-24 from 7-11 p.m. The is event is open to the public. For more information, call 598-3384.

Halloween craft

The Center Library will host a Halloween craft activity Oct. 27 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages 3–11. Space is limited to the first 65 children to register. Light refreshments will be served. The activity is open to authorized patrons.

Relocation readiness workshop

Army Community Service will host its relocation readiness workshop Oct. 30 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.

Right Arm Night

The Landing Zone will host Right Arm Night Oct. 29 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.

DFMWR Spotlight

Upcoming Family & MWR Events and Activities

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Army Family Team Building app

People can now complete Army Family Team Building training through AFTB’s new app. Visit <http://www.ftruckermwr.com/acs/army-family-team-building/> to find the direct link to the app. Once complete, people can contact Fort Rucker AFTB to receive their certificate. Search for AFTB in the app store for Apple devices.

For more information, call 255-9637.

Mom & Me: Dad too!

Army Community Service hosts its Mom & Me: Dad too! playgroup Mondays from 9:30–11 a.m. at the Wings Chapel nursery. The playgroup is for families with children ages birth to 3 years old.

For more information, call 255-9647 or 255-3359.

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 1-4

Thursday, October 1

Hotel Transylvania 2 (PG)7 p.m.

Friday, October 2

Hotel Transylvania 27 p.m.

Saturday, October 3

The Gift (R)7 p.m.

Sunday, October 4

Fantastic Four (PG-13)1 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.

Army conducts humanitarian assessments

By Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Chlosta
7th Civil Support Command
Public Affairs

SPLIT, Croatia — Soldiers from the 7th Civil Support Command and a U.S. Embassy in Croatia, traveled across the country to assess past humanitarian assistance projects and to recommend future ones while continuing a strong partnership with their NATO allies Sept. 11-18.

Army Reserve Soldiers from the 457th Civil Affairs Battalion evaluated several humanitarian assistance sites, including: medical equipment at emergency response clinics, a high school dining facility, dormitory roof reconstruction and an outdoor therapy facility for children with special needs.

There are four types of humanitarian assistance that U.S. European Command provides, including: humanitarian civic assistance, humanitarian assistance, excess property and minimum cost, said Diana Marsic, the humanitarian assistance project coordinator for the U.S. Embassy in Croatia.

The latter type was used to purchase four defibrillators in late 2013 for Croatian emergency medical services, which were assessed by Marsic and the civil affairs team. The machines jump start a person's heart when it stops beating.

"All four (defibrillators) are still in use," said Dr. Radmila Majhen Ujevic, a physician at the Institute of Emergency Medicine Split-Dalmatian County. "They save lives."

The defibrillators were donated by the EUCOM humanitarian assistance program.

"In the future, we need a CPR machine," Ujevic said.

The assessment of the outdoor physical therapy facility in Karlovac Sept. 16 was a high-visibility event, said Army Maj. Kevin Kaufman, chief of the civil affairs planning team and a resident of Kaiserslautern, Germany

Margaret Nardi, the U.S. Embassy Zagreb deputy chief of mission (chargé d'affaires), met with Deputy Mayor of Karlovac Marina Kolakovic and participated in a walk-around tour of the outdoor facility, Kaufman said.

"Local news media interviewed both Margaret Nardi, who speaks great Croatian, and Marina Kolakovic, both of whom expressed the importance of the facility to not just the physically disabled, who use it for therapeutic purposes, but also for the general public, who use it throughout the day and into the evening time as a meeting and recreation facility," he said.

The 7th CSC Soldiers felt their humanitarian assistance assessments had a positive



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS MATTHEW CHLOSTA

Pfc. Carl Youngblood, a civil affairs specialist, Army Maj. Kevin Kaufman, chief of the civil affairs planning team, both with 457th Civil Affairs Battalion, 7th Civil Support Command, and Diana Marsic, a U.S. Embassy in Croatia liaison and humanitarian assistance project coordinator, meet with Croatian medical Sept. 11.

impact on Croatia, which emerged from a war of independence in 1995. Croatia joined NATO in 2009 and most recently the European Union in 2013.

"I think it (the donated medical equipment) made a huge difference in what they're doing here, and hopefully we can foster a good relationship and we can continue good efforts like this," said Pfc. Carl Youngblood, a civil affairs specialist with the 457th and a resident of Lambsborn, Germany. "There will always be positive impacts in what we're doing here in cooperation with them."

In addition, the assessment team partnered with the Croatian army to perform key leader engagements concerning disaster management, which also helped build partner nation capacity.

The Soldiers were tasked to determine:

- If humanitarian assistance and humanitarian civic assistance projects in Croatia were effectively implemented and sustained by Croatia authorities;
- Whether or not existing humanitarian assistance and humanitarian civil assistance projects in Croatia are achieving EUCOM and U.S. Army Europe strategic objectives; and
- How limited funds can potentially be better spent; along with
- Gaining a better understanding of hu-



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the local media interview Deputy Mayor of Karlovac Marina Kolakovic, U.S. Embassy Zagreb Deputy Chief of Mission Margaret Nardi, and Commander of Croatian Land Forces Lt. Gen. Mate Ostovic in front of a sign dedicating the contribution of the facility by the U.S. European Command through its Humanitarian Assistance Program.

manitarian assistance needs in Croatia to focus humanitarian assistance/humanitarian civil assistance projects to maximize their effectiveness.

The team is proud they were able to

make a difference in countries that have experienced political and military turmoil, Kaufman said.

"It's an honor for us to be able to come in and help where we can," he said.

Opportunities: Weekly listing of volunteer positions on post

Continued from Page C1

issue and staff support personnel, and subject matter experts for accurate reporting of issues; ensure delegates complete symposium evaluation forms and forward to the AFAP coordinator; ensure concise and precise wording of proposed issues and recommended solutions; focus energy of the group on a common task; suggest alternative methods and procedures; protect individuals and their ideas from attack; help group find win-win solutions; attend AAR meetings and provide input for final AAR; and serve as a spokesperson for the AFAP program. If interested, call 255-9637.

Position: AFAP Issue Manager/Subject Matter Expert Coordinator

AFAP is scheduled for Nov. 4-5. Attend required volunteer training sessions. Attend AFAP Advisory Council meetings. Submit AFAP Issue status report during meetings. Track all issues submitted for the annual AFAP Conference and place in appropriate workgroup for discussion. Train issue support person. Prepare tasker memorandum. Work with AFAP coordinator and ACS director to ensure each issue is assigned an SME prior to being placed in a workgroup. During conference, work closely with issue support volunteers to ensure understanding of issues and ensure copies of installation and Army issue update book are provided for issue managers. Update priority issues in installation issue update book from replies from proponents and the commander's steering committee. Attend AAR meetings and provide input for the final AAR. Serve as a spokesperson for the AFAP program. If interested, call 255-9637.

Position: DFMWR Training Clerk

Volunteer needed to file correspondence, cards, invoices, receipts, and other records in alphabetical or numerical order, or according to the filing system used; add new material to file records; and create new records as necessary. If interested, call 255-9801.

Position: Activities Support

Following basic and well-established library procedures, assists library staff in performing one or more of the following duties: shelving books, periodicals, newspapers; disposing of library materials; physical processing of new materials; maintaining and preserving collections (includes shelf reading and cleaning/repairing materials); morning routine of collecting/shelving materials from tables and chairs, collecting items from book drop, checking status of printers/copiers; interlibrary loans; reserve book program; overdue notices; serials check-in; story time

(includes reading stories); summer reading program; teen/adult programs; displays and exhibits; special events; and library beautification projects.

If interested, call 255-3643.

Position: Army Volunteer Assistant (ACS)

Assist with keeping accurate listing of available jobs and volunteer opportunities. Assist with setting up files. If interested, call 255-3643.

Position: New Parent Support Volunteer (ACS)

Assist with filing, putting together client packets and baby bundles. Will also assist the nurse specialist, social worker and nurse home visitor on an as-needed basis.

If interested, call 255-3359.

Position: Fort Rucker Community Spouses Club Membership Chair

Attend board meetings, submit end of the year after-action report, and prepare and submit proposed budget to include revising the budget.

If interested, call 255-9578.

Position: Hollyday Bazaar Co-Chair

Form a committee from general membership to assist with Hollyday Mart planning and execution. Maintain detailed accountability of all financial transactions. Maintain a record of all committee volunteer hours and submit monthly records to the volunteer coordinator.

If interested, call 255-9578.

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II THE INTERN - PG-13
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Sat-Sun: 2:00, 4:20, 7:00 & 9:20

Westgate Center Enterprise Information 334-347-2531

III THE MAZE RUNNER: THE SCORCH TRIALS - PG-13
Mon-Fri: 7:00 & 9:30
Sat-Sun: 1:45, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:30

IV THE VISIT - PG-13
Mon-Fri: 7:10 & 9:10
Sat-Sun: 2:10, 4:10, 7:10 & 9:10

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I THE MARTIAN - PG-13
2D - Mon-Fri: 6:50 & 9:30
Sat-Sun: 1:50, 4:20, 6:50 & 9:30

II WAR ROOM - PG
Mon-Fri: 7:00 • Sat-Sun: 2:00, 4:20 & 7:00

THE MARTIAN - PG-13
Daily: 9:20

III EVEREST - PG-13
2D - Mon-Fri: 7:00 & 9:20
Sat-Sun: 1:50, 4:10, 7:00 & 9:20

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1 Corinthians 11:1

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Childersburg, Sylacauga: Providing family fun

By Grey Brennan
Alabama Tourism Department

Take your family to explore a cave that’s 12 stories deep. Eleven miles away, amaze them as your car rolls uphill, seeming to defy the law of gravity.

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 drive-in as well as a vineyard, where each September contestants dress up as if they are in an “I Love Lucy” television episode and participate in an annual grape stomp.

Childersburg – covered bridge, 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 Pkwy.; 256-378-7252, 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. During your visit, be sure to stop by the gift shop for some delicious DeSoto Caverns fudge. This stuff is so good that it’s featured as a “must taste” on Ala-

bama Tourism’s list of “100 Dishes To Eat in Alabama Before You Die.” 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 historic 1864 Kymulga Grist Mill and the adjacent Covered Bridge built in 1860, 7346 Kymulga Grist Mill Rd.; 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.

Where to eat

If you want to eat where the locals eat, then go where the locals go. That is Old Town Grille, 50 River Run Road; 256-378-5022. This restaurant, located near Fred’s in Childersburg, has high recommendations for its homemade pizzas.

Vineyard and drive-in

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. This family-owned vineyard and winery offers free guided tours and wine tastings. During its annual Grape Stomp, held the third Saturday in September, you can crush grapes with your bare feet while listening to

live music and watching the “Lucy Look-A-Like” contest recognizing the best Lucille Ball costumes.

A family road trip to this part of Alabama wouldn’t be complete without going to the Harpersville Drive-In, 45 Woodland Road; 205-672-8484. This is great evening entertainment for the whole family as you enjoy watching one of two movies on the large 80-by-24-foot screens from the comfort of your car.

Where to stay

There are more than a half-dozen hotels in the Childersburg/Sylacauga area. You can also stay at Blue Spring Manor, 2870 Hwy. 83, Vincent; 205-672-9955, a bed and breakfast inn located on 10 acres in Vincent, 20 minutes west of Childersburg, or stay at the 3,500-acre FarmLinks at Pursell Farms, 2200 FarmLinks Blvd., Sylacauga; 205-403-4653. Located less than 30 minutes from either Sylacauga or Childersburg, FarmLinks is the world’s only research and demonstration golf course and includes onsite hunting and fishing as well.

Sylacauga’s ice cream and the magic of marble

Start your trip in Sylacauga with a fun walking tour of the Blue Bell Ice Cream factory, 423 N. Norton Ave.; 256-249-6100. Children and adults alike will enjoy seeing exactly how their favorite food items are made, especial-

ly when the tour ends with a free ice cream sample. Blue Bell is located a block from city hall. It offers tours Monday through Friday, 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.

No cameras are allowed on the Blue Bell Ice Cream factory floor. But at the end of the tour, you will be given free samples in the ice cream parlor where photography is allowed so be sure to go back to your car and get your camera – this is your chance to take a great souvenir photo that you will treasure, especially if you have young children with you.

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. 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. Nabors was discovered by Andy Griffith and played the garage attendant Gomer Pyle on the “Andy Griffith Show.” 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 8.5-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.

WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ANDALUSIA

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

DALEVILLE

OCT. 8-9 — Shyne Your Life Light Ministries will host its Breaking Bread Discipleship Gathering at Local Lodge 2003, 345 U.S. Highway 84 West. The gathering will feature an inaugural service Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. and Training for Reigning workshops Oct. 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost for the workshops is \$15. For more information or to buy tickets, call 806-0768 or visit www.shyneyourlifelight.com.

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

OCT. 3 — Landmark Park will host its Wiregrass Antique and Collector Car Show at 10 a.m. About 200 cars, ranging from Model Ts to suctom classics, will be on display. For more information and tickets, call 334-794-3452 or visit www.landmarkpark.com.

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 12 holds monthly meetings on the

second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Meetings are held at the VFW on Taylor Road. For more information, call 400-5356.

ENTERPRISE

OCT. 17 — County Line Baptist Church will host its Community Country Fest from 4-6 p.m. The event features Justin Martin, host of TV Down South; bluegrass music by the Jerry Gay Family; old time demonstrations; food and displays. The church is located at 1000 Hwy. 92.

OCT. 15 — Guy Penrod, Grammy Award-winning recording artist and a top selling southern gospel performer, spent 14 years as the lead singer of the Gaither Vocal Band before launching a successful solo ministry, will perform at 7 p.m. at the Enterprise High School Performing Arts Center. For information, including ticket prices, call 406-2787 or visit www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com.

GENEVA

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

MIDLAND CITY

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

NEW BROCKTON

ONGOING — Adult education classes

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

OZARK

OCT. 3 — The Claybank Jamboree is scheduled for Oct. 3 and officials expect 8,000 people to attend. For more information, call 774-9321.

OCT. 3 — Registration for the Claybank 5K and Fun Run begins at 7 a.m. at Ed Lisenby Lake. The 5K starts at 8 a.m. and the fun run begins at 9 a.m. The cost is \$20 for those who pre-register before Sept. 25 and \$25 on race day. People who pre-register will be able to reserve the correct size T-shirt. Various awards will be given at a ceremony after the race.

OCT. 10 — Artist Jeffrey E. Babine will offer a drawing course at the Ann Rudd/Dowling Museum, located at 144 E. Broad Street. The classes will run Saturdays from 9:30-11:45 a.m. until Nov. 7. The classes will present the visual elements of art to give students a good background to create drawings. Cost of the five week course is \$50. The class will be limited to 12 students. For more information, including supplies students will need, call 774-7145.

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

OCT. 24 — Charles Henderson High School will host a fundraising 5K race featuring various obstacles and a mud pit beginning at 9 a.m. at the Troy Recreational Center on 601 Enzor Road. Registration is \$30 per person. Runners who pre-register before Oct. 16 will receive a free T-shirt. Those who register after Oct. 16 will receive a T-shirt while supplies last. Runners may register on site the day of the register or online at <http://www.chhs.troyschools.net/>. Trophies will be given for the top three finishers in each category. A Little Trojan Warrior Dash, for anyone under age 12, begins at 10:30 a.m. Registration is \$15 per person. For more information, call 334-566-3510.

WIREGRASS AREA

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

Beyond Briefs

Haunted Hearse Tours

People are welcome to take a ride through Montgomery’s dark history in a real hearse. During the ride, people will be treated to ghostly tales of events, some long past, that happened along the quiet streets of the Capital City. Tours will leave The Alley every hour on the hour, beginning each evening in October starting at 7 p.m. The last tour is at midnight each night. The cost is \$15 per person. Organizers warn that some of the descriptions of deaths and events are graphic and that Haunted Hearse Tours might not be suitable for everyone.

To make a reservation, call 334-514-4457. For more information, visit www.hauntedhearsemgm.com/Home_Page.html.

Oakwood Cemetery Tour

The Oakwood Cemetery Tour Tells of Montgomery’s mysterious past, according to Old Alabama Town officials. The Landmarks Foundation invites the public for tours of historic Oakwood Cemetery with guides who recount the life stories of a few of those entombed in Scott’s Free Burying Ground, the Confederate Graves and the Land of Peace. Officials said people should wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and bring water. Registration is recommended.

Tour dates: Oct. 3, 9 a.m., Western Ridge with Mary Ann Neeley and Michael Panhorst; Oct. 17, 9 a.m., West-

ern Ridge with Mary Ann Neeley; and Nov. 8, 2 p.m., Eastern Ridge with Jeff Benton. Tours cost \$10.

For more information, visit www.oldalabamatown.com, and to register, call 334-240-4500 or 888-240-1850.

Pirates of the High Seas Fest

Panama City Beach will host its annual Pirates of the High Seas Fest Oct. 9-10 at Pier Park. The free festival will take pirate fun to a whole new level, according to organizers. The event will feature a scavenger hunt, pirate invasions, a children’s parade and main parade, live music, fireworks and more.

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

Kolomoki Festival

The 45th annual Kolomoki Festival is scheduled for Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Kolomoki Mounds State Park, Georgia. The festival features food, shopping, boat tours, Native American demonstrations, singing and dancing performances, music, and antique tractor parade and more. There will also be a children’s section.

For more information, call 229-724-2150 or visit <http://gastateparks.org/KolomokiMounds>.

Black Jacket Symphony: Led Zeppelin II

Black Jacket Symphony returns to Montgomery to perform the classic rock album Led Zeppelin II Oct. 16 from 8-11 p.m. at the Montgomery Performing Arts Cen-

tre. According to centre officials, the Black Jacket Symphony offers a unique concert experience by recreating classic albums in a live performance setting with a first-class lighting and video production. A selected album is performed in its entirety by a group of handpicked musicians specifically selected for each album. Following the album and a brief intermission, the Black Jacket Symphony returns to the stage to perform a collection of greatest hits by the evening’s artist.

Ticket prices range from \$29-\$34. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased online or at the MPAC Box Office, Mondays-Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

ZooBoo

Montgomery Zoo will host 11 nights of horror and fun at Zoo Boo Oct. 15-18, 22-25 and 29-31 from 6-9 p.m. nightly. People can climb aboard the thrill ride of a life time at the Haunted Hay Ride or visit the Pumpkin Pull for a non-scary, traditional hay ride. Participants will also be treated to games, bouncy castles, concessions and more. Gates open nightly at 6p.m. and the first Haunted Hay Ride will pull out at dusk. Cost is \$15 for ages 3 years old and older. Ticket includes entry, one ride on either the Haunted Hay Ride or the Pumpkin Pull Hay Ride, and one sheet of game tickets – 10 tickets per sheet.

For more information, call 334-240-4900 or visit montgomeryzoo.com/announcements/zoo-boo-week-1.

Cook’s art captures WWII life

By **Jacqueline M. Hames**
‘Soldiers’ Magazine

FORT MEADE, Md. – War is a miserable business. When a Soldier isn’t engaged in active combat, he’s often bored.

During World War II, Soldiers endured harsh weather, uncomfortable quarters and unsatisfying combat rations, but nothing could cure their ills faster than hot chow and mail, said Dr. Michael Lynch, research historian with the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center.

“I think the cook, traditionally in the Army, has always had a sort of bad rap,” Lynch explained, “Unfairly, because it’s always assumed the food is bad. Sometimes, it was at that time, and it’s always assumed it’s the cook’s fault. But when the cook was able to provide hot food, then he became a hero.”

The USAHEC opened the “Cook, Pot and Palette” exhibit July 15 to highlight the contributions of one Army cook, Sgt. Angelo Gepponi, a 77th Infantry Division Soldier during World War II.

Gepponi, the son of Italian immigrants, dropped out of school and began working in a restaurant when he was in the eighth grade, said James McNally, curator with the USAHEC.

He attended the National Academy of Design for a time, working as a janitor at the school in the evening. When the war started, Gepponi was drafted into the Army at the age of 31 and assigned a position as a cook.

All of the pieces in the exhibit were created by Gepponi while he was on active duty, and include examples of watercolors, pen and ink works, and portraits of his fellow Soldiers and the places they served, McNally said.

Gepponi was stationed in the Pacific theater with the 77th, which made it a little more difficult to get his kitchen set up, Lynch explained, because the islands they would occupy had to be captured first. Soldiers would eat K-rations while in combat zones or while waiting for the kitchen to be brought in for hot food.

“There was a unit for breakfast, lunch and dinner,” Lynch said of the K-rations. “Typically, they would have some sort of meat, some sort of bread or cracker, and the same sorts of things that we would have today, such as coffee, powdered hot chocolate, that kind of thing. What’s interesting about K-rations is they had cigarettes, which we don’t include today.”

They would also have water purification tablets, and gum or candy, Lynch said. “That was usually a standard to make the rest of it palatable.”

Part of daily life in a combat zone – in addition to waiting for hot chow – was improving the position the unit was in, Lynch said. Soldiers would not only improve their fortifications, but also their comfort, such as putting wooden boards under their tents. Replacement Soldiers would be trained and brought in, weap-



U.S. ARMY HERITAGE AND EDUCATION CENTER

Sgt. Angelo Gepponi, who served as a cook with the 77th Infantry Division during World War II, would paint scenes from daily life around camp. This watercolor, called ‘Field Mess Line (Untitled),’ depicts Soldiers waiting to get chow. Gepponi’s combat works will be displayed in the “Cook, Pot and Palette” exhibit at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, until December.



COURTESY OF DENNIS BACCESCHI

Baccheschi painted ‘Mine Sweep’ from photos he took while riding along behind the sweepers in a Jeep.

ons and gear would be cleaned, and Soldiers too long on the front lines would be sent to the rear for rest and relaxation.

Gepponi would depict these aspects of life in his art, providing a window into behind-the-scenes life as a Soldier. He would often send sketches home through V-mail, a mail system that had Soldiers write their letters on a form that was photographed and converted to microfiche for transport.

“He drew on that page with black and white ink,” McNally explained. “He would do a drawing of where they were, it could be setting up camp, it could be a card game, it could be men heading to the showers, it could be on patrol, whatever was happening at the time when he sat down to write a letter home. He’d do a V-mail with just a picture and then send that home.” The exhibit at USAHEC houses about 18 of Gepponi’s V-mail sketches.

Gepponi served with the Army for three years and was honorably discharged Dec. 15, 1945, just before the occupation of Japan, McNally said.

“Upon release from the Army, he immediately signs up to study art and teacher’s education at NYU (New York University) in New York,” he said. Gep-



PHOTO COURTESY OF DENNIS BACCESCHI

Baccheschi and his uncle, Angelo Gepponi, pose together during one of their many visits in this undated photo.

poni was assigned a teaching position at Cliffside Park High School in New Jersey after graduation.

As a civilian, Gepponi taught, painted and traveled until he retired in 1976. He continued to paint throughout his retirement and “thanked America for the great opportunity to serve his new country and also become the artist that he always dreamed,” McNally said.

Gepponi’s prolific career as an artist led to him being represented in both private and public collections around the world, McNally continued. But perhaps his most significant contribution to art and to history is his mentorship of young artists, to include his own nephew, Dennis Baccheschi.

“Angelo lived in New Jersey when I was growing up,” Baccheschi said. “I started to get to know him on his visits, maybe from (the) age of 5, and I was always fascinated with his visits because he spoke like no other person I ever heard, always rationalized about everything.

“He did artwork while he was here, which I think was the beginning of my inspiration. Every time he left I would start drawing pictures and I was pretty good at it. I think I somehow got some

of Angelo’s genes along the way,” Baccheschi said.

When Baccheschi started taking art classes in high school, his uncle would encourage and critique him during their visits. Gepponi encouraged his nephew to go to an art college, as well.

“After art school I got drafted and ironically I went to Vietnam,” Baccheschi said. “I was driving a fuel tanker for three months, but I was doing artwork of Soldiers and scenery on the side, and finally a captain asked me to do something (an art piece) for him, and then a general saw that and cut orders for me to become an engineer artist.”

Baccheschi ended up in headquarters, which turned his tour of duty from something hazardous into something “rather pleasant.” He had several pieces published in Army magazines and newspapers, his work focusing on landscapes and different engineer operations, such as building culverts and bridges, and even a mine sweep. “I rode in a Jeep at the tail end of a mine sweep taking photographs and when I got back I did a painting of that,” he said.

Baccheschi served in the Army for 19 months, 15 of them in Vietnam, before separating as a specialist fourth class. He continued his art career after his separation, to include opening and operating a gallery for five years.

“I take (art) for granted these days. I think probably the original inspiration is from Angelo. I learned to appreciate aesthetics and to this day I still photograph landscapes all over,” Baccheschi said. “I just like the peacefulness. Unfortunately, I do live in the city, but I travel a lot, and stay in state parks and national parks – if I can’t paint on location, I will work (from) my photos.”

Baccheschi believes that his uncle’s greatest contribution to the art world is inspiring and educating others. He wrote about his uncle in a letter to USAHEC: “(Angelo) worked very hard with his students as he tried to help and inspire as many as he could. Angelo once said, ‘I do this not because I have to, I do it because I love to.’”

One of Gepponi’s students, Frank Fezzo, went on to become a combat artist in Vietnam.

Gepponi’s unique work gives viewers a “very real Soldier’s perspective,” Lynch said. “It’s such a personal connection that’s hard to get from an official photograph.”

McNally said that having visual representations of history is important because it is universally relatable and understandable. “It’s a witness to history, and it’s a witness through one man’s eyes so we get his story, and we find out a little bit more about things. You find out what happened, you found out how things were done and how people lived their lives. When you look at art that’s done in the field, someone was there and someone was witness to that event.”



COURTESY PHOTO

Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Shadow, an approximately 8-9-month-old female short-hair cat available for adoption at the Fort Rucker stray facility. She is loving and well-behaved. 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/](http://www.facebook.com/fortruckerstrayfacility/) for constant updates on the newest animals available for adoption.

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HERO’S WELCOME

1st all-female Honor Flight honored with tour in Washington

By Lisa Ferdinando
Department of Defense News

WASHINGTON — Female veterans, trailblazers who served in the military decades ago, received a hero’s welcome Sept. 22 after arriving in the nation’s capital on the first all-female honor flight.

“Best day of my life” is how retired Army Sgt. Maj. Sue Williams described the visit, which included stops at Arlington National Cemetery and the World War II Memorial.

Williams, who retired in 1995 after nearly three decades of service, helped lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. “I could have died and gone to heaven right then,” she said.

The women, from wars including World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, traveled with Honor Flight Tri-State, which covers southern Ohio, northern Kentucky and southeast Indiana.

They arrived to a hero’s welcome for the day-long trip, receiving applause, handshakes and greetings of “thank you for your service,” at all the sites they visited.

“It’s a dream come true,” according to Sara Abrams, who served in the Army from 1963-64. She said she never imagined a day like this would happen.

She was thrilled, she said, by the warm welcome from service members and the public. People were everywhere “cheering everybody on,” she said. “It’s really great. The people are just fabulous.”

Cheryl Popp, the director of Honor Flight Tri-State, said she expects there to be more all-female honor flights. There were 250 applications for 140 seats on the airplane.

The veterans were from all the services, she said, and included younger female veterans who were partnered up as a guardian for an elder veteran for the journey, she said.

“It’s been historic. I think you can kind of feel it wherever you go,” Popp said.

Proud service

Air Force veteran Andrea Kovar posed at the World War II Memorial in front of the quote from the late Army Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, the first director of the Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps, which later became the Women’s Army Corps.

The quote etched into the stone – “Women who stepped up were measured as citizens of the nation, not as women. This was a people’s war and everyone was in it” – also graced the back of the shirts the Honor Flight veterans.

“I’ve never been here. This whole thing has been absolutely amazing and I wish I would have met Colonel Hobby,” stated Kovar, who served from 1963-66.

When asked about her time with the Honor Flight, Kovar said it was an emotional experience.

“I have been crying all day,” she said, adding that she loved visiting Washington. “It’s a beautiful city and I’m glad I’m here.”



Army veteran Sara Abrams, part of the first all-female Honor Flight, visits the World War II memorial in Washington, D.C., during the one-day tour Sept. 22.



Army Brig. Gen. Tammy Smith, deputy Chief of Staff, Army Reserve, poses with female veterans from the Honor Flight at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

Trailblazer greets trailblazers

Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Wilma Vaught greeted the women at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. She is the president of the board of directors at the women’s memorial foundation.

It was a proud moment and very inspiring to see the female veterans, said Vaught, who retired in 1985. She was the first woman selected for promotion to brigadier general in the comptroller career field.

“Every job that I had that was my assigned job when I was in service, I was the first woman to ever hold that job,” she said. “This put pressure on me to be sure that I did it in such a way that another woman would have an opportunity to fill that job. To a degree, that situation in many instances still exists today.”

She noted how two female Soldiers recently became the first women to pass the Army Ranger course. If they get an opportunity to serve as Rangers, Vaught said, they, too, will get the chance to “prove that women can do it.”

A grateful nation

The veterans are “simply inspiring,” Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert McDonald said at the women’s memorial during a luncheon program.

The nation honors them for their “fundamental sense of duty and courage,” McDonald said.

“You didn’t sign up to shatter glass ceilings – you came to serve and you served with distinction,” he said. “But you knew the stakes were high. If you failed, it might make it much harder for those who followed you.”

There is another part of being the first, he said, explaining the women were often considered outsiders or intruders.

“Yet, you refused to quit,” he said. “Our nation is grateful. We’re grateful for the challenges you’ve endured and overcame, and the sacrifices you’ve made that men simply didn’t have to make. The service you rendered to this nation is more valuable than you could ever have imagined.”

Rory Brosius, the deputy director of the White House Joining Forces initiative, sent greetings from first lady Michelle Obama and applauded the women for their service.

“During times when our country called upon you, you stood up, you raised your hand and you served. Your contributions meant that our country was better equipped for missions all around the world,” Brosius said.

“You are all trailblazers and your service has inspired many generations of women,” she said.

Brosius read a letter from the first lady thanking them for their inspiring service and the important role they played in moving the country forward. Each veteran received their own copy of the official letter.

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.

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OCTOBER 1, 2015

TATER TO TROT

Program helps beginning runners make the distance

By Jeremy Henderson
Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker’s annual Turkey Trot 5K kicks off Nov. 21 and a new program aims to help more runners lace up this year.

The seven-week 2015 From Tater to Trot Couch to 5K Running Class helps anyone at any fitness level complete a 5K with confidence, said Shauna Attaway, Fort Rucker fitness specialist.

“I always ask students in my fitness classes if they plan to compete in our upcoming 5Ks,” she said. “I get some who say yes, but I also encounter those who have reservations about running 3.1 miles. This class helps beginners move from walking to running in time for the Turkey Trot.”

According to Attaway, the beginner-friendly class is designed to condition runners to run 3 miles on a regular basis in just under two months. Participants team up with other beginning runners to learn running tips, obtain weekly running plans and safely prepare to run a 5K.

“Cardiovascular health is very important,” Attaway said. “It is part of your overall health. Remaining active is one key to a healthy lifestyle. I would encourage anyone who has ever thought about running or wants to run to try it out.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFALTZ

People take part in last year’s Turkey Trot 5K/10K.

“The class helps runners become motivated and be accountable alongside a group of people who are at their same fitness level,” she added.

Classes, which begin today, are Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 4506, on Andrews Avenue.

Cost is \$3.50 per class and patrons may use a fitness card purchased at either PFC. Fitness cards are \$15 for two weeks or \$30 for a month of unlimited classes.

“We hand out a schedule to outline what we will do each day or class,” Attaway said. “There will also be homework for the weekend – a run they will

need to complete to continue conditioning. If anyone would like to stop in to experience a class or check it out, then they can feel free to do so.”

Participants should get a good night’s rest, preferably seven-eight hours, before each class. People should also eat breakfast each morning before class and have at least 12 ounces of water an hour beforehand, according to Attaway.

“The class begins with run, walk intervals,” she said. “We will build up to running continuously. There will not be continuous running until approximately the third or fourth week of the class.

“Participants will have the opportunity to experience some of the areas around Andrews Avenue, like Beaver Lake and the air assault track,” she added. “It will be a great way to get out and see some of the other places to run around post instead of just inside the gym.”

Attaway said participants should wear loose-fitting clothing that breathes easily for the first day and proper attire will be further discussed during class.

“Each week we will cover things such as proper footwear, attire, nutrition and other activities to condition you for the 5K, such as strength training and cross training,” she said.

For more information, call 255-3794 or 255-2296.

Lyster open house recognizes Physical Therapy Month

By Jenny Stripling
Lyster Army Health Clinic
Public Affairs

Lyster Army Health Clinic’s Physical Therapy Service will host two free Walking Wednesday group events and an open house to recognize National Physical Therapy Month in October.

Everyone is invited to meet in the Lifespace Center at the front of Lyster Wednesday and Oct. 14 at noon for a 45-minute walk to promote overall range of motion and positive well-being.

There will also be a physical therapy open house Oct. 23 from noon until 4 p.m.

“The physical therapy clinic at Lyster will have our informative open house event with different stations demonstrating the range of treatments we perform here at Lyster for our patients,” said Sgt. Aaron Hirons, NCO in

charge of LAHC Physical Therapy Services.

Hirons said there will be interactive areas and demonstrations during the open house that many people will find beneficial and fun.

Exercise may be the closest thing to the fountain of youth, he added. The right type and amount of it, prescribed by a physical therapist, can help prevent or manage many age-related health conditions.

National Physical Therapy Months helps educate adults about the many ways in which physical therapists, as movement experts, can help individuals overcome pain, gain and maintain movement, and preserve their independence—without the need, in many cases, for surgery or long-term prescription drug use.

For more information on the Walking Wednesday events or LAHC Physical Therapy open house, call 255-7169.

YAWN

Sleep issues bedeviling Soldiers’ health

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — “I didn’t realize that all this time I’ve been in a formation of drunks,” the or NCO told Lt. Col. Kate E. Van Arman.

The NCO was referring to a quote Van Arman repeated to him from her top boss, Surgeon General of the Army Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho:

“If you have less than six hours of sleep for six days in a row, you are cognitively impaired as if you had a .08-percent alcohol level. We never will allow a Soldier in our formation with a .08-percent alcohol level, but we allow it (sleep deprivation) every day (in Soldiers who have) to make those complex decisions.”



PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

Soldiers, from the 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, are shown during a 19-hour flight from Alaska to Australia trying to get some sleep on the floor and seats of a Royal Australian Air Force C-17 Globemaster July 8 during Exercise Talisman Sabre 15.

Adding to what Horoho said, Van Arman pointed out that after being awake 17 hours, response time has been shown to be the equivalent to a person with a blood alcohol content of .05 percent and 24-hours awake translates to a blood alcohol concentration of .10 percent.

Van Arman, medical director, traumatic brain injury clinic on Fort Drum, New York, spoke at the 2015 Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury, held at the Defense Health Headquarters in Falls Church, Virginia, Sept. 9.

Although her topic was “Sleep Disorders Among Military Mild TBI Patients,” much of what she said applies to all Soldiers, whether or not they have TBI.

Sleepless in the Army

It’s not just the Soldiers who are partying all night who lack sleep, Van Arman said. Demands of Army life are responsible for a lot of it.

For instance, Soldiers who misbehave can be ordered to do extra duties as punishment, up until midnight, she said. Assuming that Reveille is at 6 a.m., that’s six or less hours of sleep.

Staff duty often requires the Soldier to be awake for 24 hours, she said. When the pre- and post-briefs are added, it’s closer to 30.

Overall, one-third of military members sleep less than five hours per night and two-thirds less than six, she said.

Deployed Soldiers get an astonishing average of just three hours of sleep per night, she said, particularly those serving in the combat arms branches.

It’s not for lack of them trying to sleep though, she said.

SEE SLEEP, PAGE D4

PIGSKIN PICKS



	Baltimore vs. Pittsburgh	N.Y. Jets vs. Miami	Philadelphia vs. Washington	Kansas City vs. Cincinnati	Minnesota vs. Denver	Dallas vs. New Orleans	Detroit vs. Seattle
 Col. Tom von Eschenbach CDID (16-5)							
 Capt. Louis Hill 6th MP (16-5)							
 Jim Hughes PAO (18-3)							
 Capt. Mike Simmons DPS (15-6)							
 Sharon Storti NEC (15-6)							

DOWN TIME



Super Crossword CHANGING INTO A MAN

- ACROSS**
- 1 Old RCA classical music label
8 Jacuzzi's, e.g.
15 With 87-Down, Academy Award hopefuls
20 In a skillful manner
21 Of Israel's language
22 777, for one
23 Man living in Scotland's capital?
25 Tundra coat
26 Deep blue
27 River craft
28 Shangri-las
30 — do-well (idle type)
31 Half of twelve
33 Man with no fastening band?
36 Fistfight reminder
39 "I'm tellin' ya, that's who!"
40 — Francisco
41 Slightly
44 1994 "Saturday Night Live" spinoff film
48 Start to mature?
50 Attacks a man?
- 52 Rodent-killing poison, old-style
57 Missouri River city
58 Like details for carrying out an operation
60 "Get lost!"
61 Rock music's — Leppard
62 Archie Bunker type
65 John, to Ian
66 Excessively
69 Man at one's heels?
73 1964 Beatles song
75 Dreaded IRS probe: Abbr.
76 Stipulations
77 Barely get, with "out"
80 Actor Malden
81 Much better than so-so
84 Stopwatch, e.g.
86 "Webster" star Lewis
89 Man doing some film editing?
92 Blue Jays, on scoreboards
93 Very fast, in scores
95 Chooses
96 "Na Na" precursor
- 99 Very manly
101 Artists' props
103 Man who owns a Mexican restaurant?
108 Oz, and lb.
109 Add (on)
113 Huge
114 Treat like dirt
116 Actor Peter
117 Steak type
118 "Ms. Oakley, go after that man!"
123 Small vessel for oil or wine
124 Piling-on footballer
125 Render obsolete
126 "— a thought ..."
127 Ought to have, informally
128 Forced away (from)
- DOWN**
- 1 Heavy noble gas
2 Bring forth
3 Pfeiffer of "Cybill"
4 Use a harpoon
5 Berkshire school
6 Old politico
7 Soap compound
8 Emmy winner
9 Actors Sean and Kal
10 Head of a monastery
11 More faithful
12 Old Egypt-Syr. alliance
13 Large
14 "Peanuts" cartoonist
15 Foes
16 Smacks
17 West Indies natives
18 City ESE of Istanbul
19 Rationality
24 Cato's 611
29 Lead on
31 WWII battle city in France
32 Robert who played A.J. Soprano
34 Blind — bat
35 — dish
37 Friendly
38 Oversize-load escort vehicle
41 Leon Uris' "— in Ruins"
42 Heavy book
43 Assert anew
45 Dress finely, with "out"
46 Hangouts on the slopes
47 Cuban bills
49 Buddy who played a Clampett
51 Really ruin
53 One — (short drama)
54 Bookish
55 — "King" Cole
56 Ending of ordinal numbers
59 In direct confrontation
63 Feeling sick
64 "Fiddler on the Roof" wife
67 Resistance unit
68 Purify, as liquor
70 D sharp's sound-alike
71 Leg exercise
72 Nap locales
73 Clanton of Tombstone
74 Gp. of relatives
78 Daily Planet's Clark
79 Physician's work units
82 Aristotle's A
83 Prov. with Thunder Bay
85 Wintertime tempests
87 See 15-Across
88 Europe-Asia border range
90 "Hey you"
91 Alternative to Levi's
94 Giant bird of myth
96 Sew
97 Man, in Spain
98 Brand of hot dogs
100 Grippens on shoes
102 Throw — blanket on
104 Cliffhanging
105 17-syllable poem
106 Clear as —
107 Summoned in an airport
110 Lingo
111 Unrefined
112 Nervous, with "up"
115 Fluids in syringes
116 Guitar relative
119 "Uh-uh"
120 First Sgt., e.g.
121 "That hurts!"
122 Father or Lady lead-in

TRIVIA

1. MONEY: How many companies make up the Dow Jones Industrial Average?
2. CARTOONS: What is the name of Mickey Mouse's dog?
3. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "From Here to Eternity"?
4. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the city of Giza?
5. SCIENCE: In what field of study would a Punnett square be used?
6. MUSIC: What rock band featured Steven Tyler as the lead singer?
7. MATH: How many millions are in a billion dollars?
8. TELEVISION: What character did actor John Travolta play on "Welcome Back Kotter"?
9. FOOD: Who was the host of the television cooking show called "Good Eats"?
10. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What was Ronald Reagan's first nickname?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2015 King Features Synd., Inc.

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID's CORNER



Youth wrestler inspires Soldier

By Tim Hipps
*Installation Management Command
Public Affairs*

LAS VEGAS — A letter in a locker and a pair of patriotic socks helped propel a U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program wrestler to his personal-best performance at the World Wrestling Championships.

In only his fourth season of Greco-Roman wrestling, Sgt. Caylor Williams, 24, was inspired by a fourth-grader, who took time to express his admiration of the Soldier-wrestler.

Upon arrival at the Orleans Arena to compete in the 2015 World Wrestling Championships, Williams opened his locker and found the letter written by 9-year-old Gunner Cortez, along with a pair of patriotic-looking socks.

From the letter, Williams learned that Cortez is a triple-crown champion who holds his own age-group titles in Greco-Roman, freestyle and folkstyle wrestling in Nevada.

“Gunner is this awesome kid who wrote me a letter and sent me a pair of really, really nice socks,” Williams said. “He says that having fancy, bright-colored socks takes some of the attention off of him while he’s wrestling, so he can focus.

“He sent me those socks and, right after that, I wrestled the best I’ve wrestled in my entire life,” said Williams, who rallied from a 5-2 second-period deficit and dramatically pinned Davi Albino of Brazil in the men’s 98-kilogram/216-pound Greco-Roman division.

Williams lifted Albino high in the air, threw him to the mat and pinned the Brazilian to earn his first victory in three World Championship appearances.

“Gunner said that his dream is to be an Olympian and that he’s inspired by us,” said Williams, a 2009 Florida high school state wrestling champion, who went 50-0 his senior season at Palm Bay High and later attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Before his match, Williams had no idea how Cortez became one of his most supportive fans.

“I would love to meet him and shake his hand,” Williams said after the first

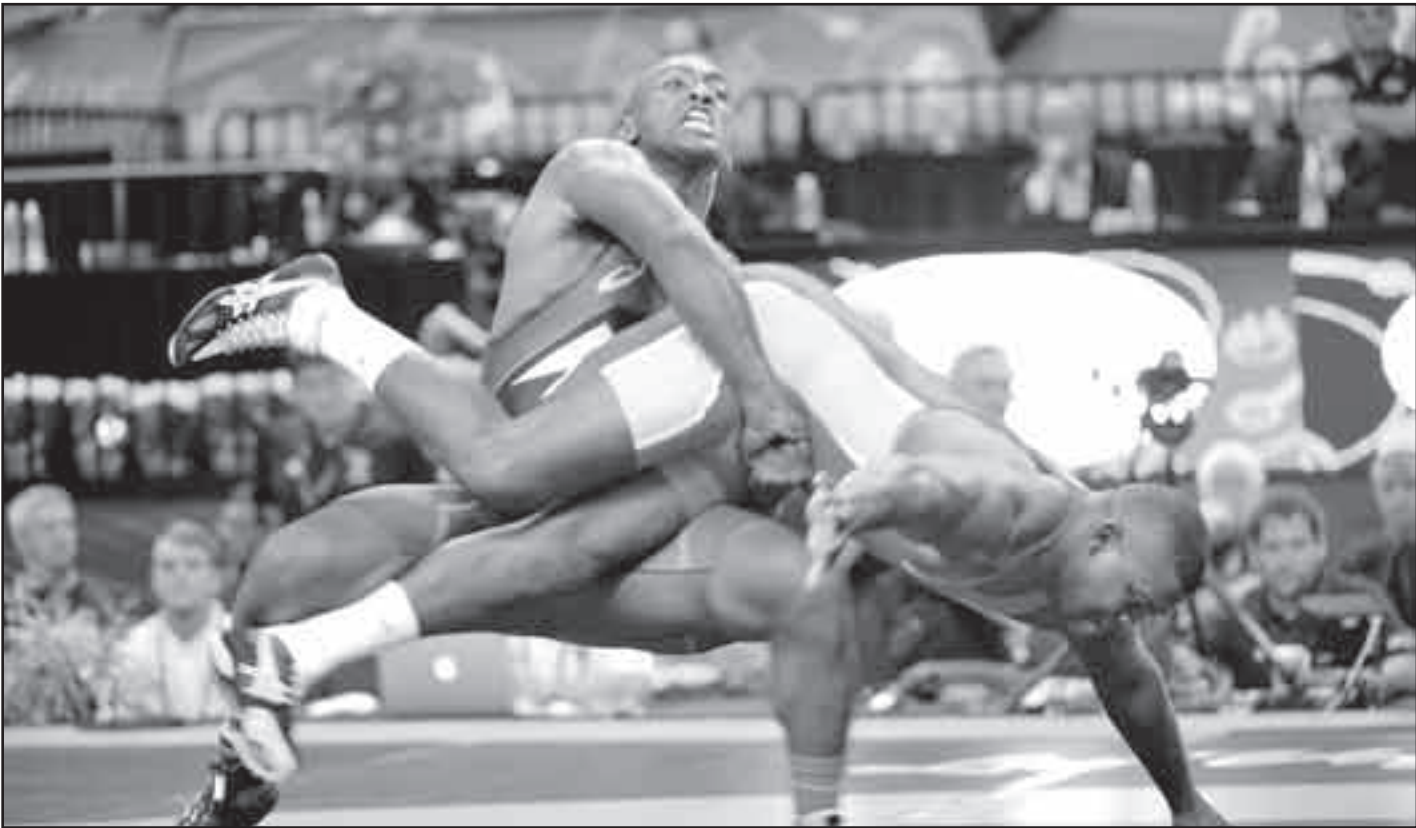


PHOTO BY TIM HIPPS

Sgt. Caylor Williams, U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program wrestler, lifts Davi Albino before pinning the Brazilian in the first round of the men’s 98-kilogram Greco-Roman division of the 2015 World Wrestling Championships on Labor Day at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas.

day of wrestling. “He knows all about my high school wrestling record. Everyone here got something special from a kid, but I think I’m the only one who got a pair of socks.

“Those are some patriotic socks,” he said. “They are red, white and blue, with the stars and stripes and everything. I’ve never got anything like that before, but it surely inspired me.”

Williams posted a note to Cortez on his social media page, along with a photo of himself ready to wrestle in the socks.

“An awesome kid named Gunner sent me this letter and these socks,” he wrote. “Thanks for your support Gunner. I’m going to wear them today!!!”

After winning his first match, Williams barely lost his second-round match to the 2011 World champion, Elis Guri of Bulgaria, in a 4-4 decision on criteria.

“I had never won a match at worlds before, and I’ve never come that close to beating that Bulgarian, and he was the 2011 world champ,” Williams said.

The following day, Williams got his wish and met Cortez, a fourth grader,

and some of his teammates from the Green Valley Wrestling Club, a group of first-eighth-grade wrestlers from Clark County, Nevada. Williams escorted them onto the World Championship mats for a photo opportunity inside the Orleans Arena while Gunner’s mother watched from the stands.

“I gave Caylor a pair of socks because I always wear crazy socks to my wrestling matches,” said Cortez, who has been wrestling for five years. “One of my biggest dreams is to go the Olympics.”

Williams shares Cortez’s dream of competing in the Olympics, the only tournament considered more important than the world championships.

“This is only my fourth year of wrestling Greco, so we’re just getting started,” Williams said. “I really believe that when you grow, it’s going to be in leaps and bounds, not just little itty bitty things. So, one day, you’re taking fifth at nationals, next day you’re winning the World Team Trials. One day, you’re not winning any, and next thing you know,

you’re winning the whole thing.

“I tried to show the world what I was made of,” Williams said. “It’s the first time I’ve won a match at worlds and this is my third time here. I need to grow from this and keep getting better. This is a tournament I want to win.”

Williams also saluted fellow U.S. servicemen and women who worked on Labor Day while he represented the Army on the mats for Team USA.

“I want to say a special ‘thank you’ to all those troops who don’t have the day off today,” he said. “There are a lot of people out there: law enforcement, fire-fighters, military, all those people who serve and protect, who don’t have the day off.

“They’re working right now. I wish a special ‘thank you’ from me to those folks,” he said.

And, of course, Williams thanked a young kid named Gunner for inspiring him in his world championship matches.

“He’s the man,” Williams said. “I think he deserves a shout out.”

PIGSKIN PICKS



	Miami vs. Cincinnati	Army vs. Penn State	Alabama vs. Georgia	USA vs. Troy	Ole Miss vs. Florida	Mississippi State vs. Texas A&M	Notre Dame vs. Clemson
 David C. Agan Jr. PAO (14-7)							
 Kent Anger, DPTMS (16-5)							
 Todd Conyers USAACE (10-11)							
 Wes Hamilton NEC (15-6)							
 John Tkac DPS (15-6)							

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

REDEARL	SPATURS	OSCAR
ADEPTLY	HERRAUC	PLANE
OUDEOFED	INBURGH	PARKA
OCEANIC	CIANO	UTOPIAS
NEEPATSI	XSTRAPLES	BRO
NEEPATSI	XSTRAPLES	BRO
ATRIFLE	ITSPAT	HRE
GOESFOR	LOKE	HATERANE
QMAHA	LOGISTIC	SCAT
DEFFR	GOTLOOT	TODEATH
IFFELLOW	CLOSE	SHIND
ITIFELL	LAUG	TERMSERE
KARL	DARNGOOD	TMER
EMMANUEL	AGENTS	PLICING
EMMATOR	PRESTO	SELECTS
SHAMACHO	BASELS	
TORTILL	ACHAP	WTH
IMMERSE	ACHAB	ELORRE
TRONS	ANNTEGT	OURGUY
GRUBE	TACKLER	OUTMODE
HERES	SHOULD	AWRESTED

TRIVIA

Answers

1. 30
2. Pluto
3. James Arnes
4. Egypt
5. Genetics; to calculate genetic traits
6. Azimuth
7. 1,000
8. Vittme Barbarico
9. Alton Brown
10. Dutch

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