

Road closure

A portion of Third Avenue, between Novosel Street and Raider Street, is scheduled to be closed for construction Feb. 6-11. This portion of

Third Avenue will be closed shortly after 6 p.m. Feb. 6 and will reopen Feb. 11 at 4 a.m.

SEE BRIEFS, PAGE A3

HISTORY

If walls could talk, the tales they'd tell

Story on Page C1



BASKETBALL

Intramural basketball tips off

Story on Page D1



ARMY FLYER

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

VOL. 64 ■ NO. 4

FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

JANUARY 30, 2014

Aviators benefit from cockpit trainers

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker has many tools to help Soldiers get their boots off the ground, but there is one thing that student pilots can never do enough of – practice, and that is something officials believe is key to flying above the rest.

There are many types of cockpit trainers on the installation to help Soldiers better grasp the basic procedures of flying helicopters, from expensive to low-cost, old and new, advanced and basic, but all of them, according to CW4 Ben Hays, Training and Doctrine Command capability manager, allow the pilots to practice, practice, practice.

“These machines give students the ability to practice all sorts of procedures without having to schedule the official simulators. They can come over here and practice all they like,” he said. “(Cockpit trainers) are procedural trainers mainly used for orientating students with the cockpit, as well as a way for them to practice startup, shutdown and emergency procedures.”

The trainers differ from simulators because they are not as advanced and don’t move, but they are still an important part of every pilots training, said Robert Vidensek, training instructor at

SEE PRACTICE, PAGE A5



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

‘Save some for me’

WO1 Justin Scofield, B Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment, tries to eat chili at the 22nd Chili 5k and Cook Off Saturday at festival fields, while his dog, Luigi, tries to sneak a bite. More than 150 runners participated in the race despite the cold weather, and approximately 300 people enjoyed more than ten chili recipes supplied by Soldiers, civilians and local military supporters.

Primary school lesson benefits local shelters



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Teachers and students at the Fort Rucker Primary School organize bags of donated pet food to be taken to local animal shelters during their 100th day in school celebration Friday.

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Faculty members at the Fort Rucker Primary school made sure that children were able to celebrate their 100th day in session with service and learning.

The students of FRPS participated in an activity to provide food for local animal shelters that incorporated math, science and technologies, while learning valuable problem-solving skills, said Yvette Esteves-Hurst, FRPS Spanish teacher.

The events were designed to educate and promote a cooperative partnership among students, parents, community and staff, she said.

In December, the school participated in an activity to gather food for local food banks, and Estevez-Hurst said they wanted to make sure that people’s four-legged counterparts weren’t forgotten.

“It’s all centered on problem solving, that’s the main thing,” said the Spanish teacher. “Not only does this project teach the children the importance of giving back, but it also helps them to count by 10s.”

The activity was centered on the student’s learning, and their ability to reason and think

mathematically, she said. The children had to work together to arrange the donated items into separate bags, and each bag was only allowed to contain 10 items, so once a bag was filled, they had to move on to another bag until all the items had been used to fill the bags. This helped the students to learn to count by 10s, how to estimate measurement and weight, how to read a bar graph, and learn the differences between cats and dogs, said the Spanish teacher.

A total of 240 items were collected in the three weeks the children had to prepare, said Estevez-Hurst, and the donations keep coming.

“Even though the project is done, we like to give time for some children to bring in last-minute donations because some of them forget to bring them in or leave them in their bags, so we give them some more time before we take the items to the shelters,” she said.

The food collected was distributed to animal shelters in Enterprise, Ozark and Elba, and were delivered as a team effort from the teachers involved in the program.

“I start calling the shelters and we hop in

SEE SHELTERS, PAGE A5

Teacher turns personal experiences into lessons

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

(Editor’s note: This is part of a continuing series looking at different jobs and the people who get them done at Fort Rucker. Readers who have ideas for jobs or people to be highlighted in the series can send an email to jhughes@armyflyer.com for the staff to consider.)

Children pour into the classroom as the bell rings and prepare to take on the day, but one teacher has prepared her entire life to do what she loves most – teach.

Lisa Halpin is a third grade teacher at Fort Rucker Elementary School, and although she’s been teaching for 13 years, her story as an educator didn’t start until later in life.

Her day starts at 5 a.m., even though her class doesn’t begin until 7:30. She said she likes to use the extra time to get ready for what’s ahead.

“I get up at 5 a.m. because I like to have that time in the morning to rev up and settle myself,” said Halpin. “I usually watch the news, have two or three cups of coffee, and

do some household things to get them out of the way and center myself for the day.”

The morning is her favorite part of the day because she said it’s when the children in her class are fresh and excited to learn.

“They’re just so enthusiastic in the morning,” said the teacher. “They sort of wear down as the day goes on. In the morning, all the potential is still out there and I just feel like I can take it on.”

On a normal day, Halpin arrives at the school a little before 7 a.m. to prepare her classroom, and once the children arrive, learning starts immediately with analogies and morning warm-ups on the SmartBoard.

This is when the children are the most involved and are genuinely the most excited about learning, she said. They participate in morning math problems, help each other solve equations and, most importantly, learn to stand on their own.

That last part is something Halpin said is one of her most important lessons.

Each teacher in the school posts a quote above the entrance to their classrooms that

SEE LESSONS, PAGE A5



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Lisa Halpin, Fort Rucker Elementary School third grade teacher, helps her student, Gregory Sampson, during morning math warm-ups as her class looks on Tuesday.

PERSPECTIVE

Empower yourself to better health

By Carrie Kilby
and Esther Dada
Army Public Health Command

There are many things we don't have control over when it comes to health care. For example, the number of specialty doctors in your region, out-of-pocket expenses, proximity of medical treatment facilities, amount of time it takes to see your healthcare provider and more.

Luckily, health is more than just good health care. It's about the decisions and choices we make every day. Most health decisions do not happen in the doctor's office or hospital. Instead, they are made when people are at work or at home with their Families. It is in this lifespace where the daily choices people make impact their health.

So, make this upcoming year your year to empower yourself and know that each day you can make a difference in your quality of life.

No matter who you are, how old you are or what you do, you need a balance of sleep, activity and nutrition to build and sustain great health. This triad of sleep, activity and nutrition was initiated by the Army surgeon general in 2012 and

is called the Performance Triad.

In the spring and summer of 2014, installations Army-wide will be deploying the Army Family Performance Triad Campaign. The campaign aims to bring Soldiers and retirees, their Families, and civilians the tools and resources needed to make better sleep, activity and nutrition choices to improve their health and performance.

To kick-start your own healthy habits, Army Medicine experts in sleep, activity and nutrition have provided some daily targets to start impacting performance and health. These daily targets for adults are:

- Get at least seven-eight hours of sleep each night;
- Remove all electronics from your bedroom;
- Take 10,000 steps during your everyday routine – consider getting a pedometer, using your smart phone or using a personal fitness device to track your steps each day;
- Get at least 150 minutes (two hours and 30 minutes) of moderate-intensity activity and two days of muscle-strengthening activity per week;
- Fill your plate with whole grains, lean proteins, fruits,

vegetables and low-fat dairy at each meal;

- Fill half your plate with a variety of brightly colored fruits and vegetables;
- Refuel every four-five waking hours – don't skip meals; and
- Make water your first choice for hydration.

If you don't know where to start, have an injury or would like additional one-on-one support no matter your current fitness level, contact your primary-care manager at your medical treatment facility or contact an Army Wellness Center. AWCs provide invaluable wellness services to Soldiers and retirees, their Families, and Army civilians at no cost.

These services include:

- Sleep education;
- Weight management and metabolic testing;
- Exercise testing and exercise prescription;
- Stress management education and biofeedback;
- Nutrition education;
- Wellness coaching;
- Body composition analysis; and
- Health assessments.

To locate the AWC nearest you, visit: <http://phc.amedd.army.mil/organization/institute/dhpw/>

Clinic offers sleep hygiene classes

By Katherine Rosario
Lyster Army Health Clinic

Is sleep the beginning or the end of a good day? Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho, Army Surgeon General, is challenging our Army to have better quality of sleep.

Sleep is one of three key elements (sleep, activity, nutrition) of the Army Performance Triad. Lyster Army Health Clinic kicked off its Sleep Campaign in October to help educate beneficiaries about ways to improve their sleep quality and how to establish healthy sleep habits.

LAHC is offering sleep hygiene classes monthly that have already helped patients to train their bodies to sleep better, to be refreshed and to be more alert during daily activities. Our multidisciplinary approach includes nursing,

behavioral health and pharmacy professionals collaborating to present information about sleep cycles, insomnia and impact of sleep deprivation on the body, use of pharmaceutical sleep aids, sleep hygiene interventions and tools, and relaxation exercises.

"There are multiple benefits from a good night sleep in performance, mood and basic health," said Col. James Laterza, LAHC commander. "I encourage Soldiers and all beneficiaries who have trouble sleeping to attend this class and ultimately improve their quality of life."

We look forward to your attendance in our sleep class. To register and find out more about the class, call 255-7571 or 255-7758.

[Pages/ArmyWellnessCentersOperation.aspx](#). If you don't have an AWC near you, you can contact your local MTF to learn about the wellness services they provide.

So here's to a new year and a healthier you – you have the power to improve sleep, activity and nutrition, and maintain or take back control of your health and future.

Rotor Wash

“The Super Bowl is this weekend, which means many people will be hosting big parties. What tips do you have to host a successful party or gathering?”



**2nd Lt. Nicolas Barry,
D Co., 1st Bn.,
145th Avn. Regt.**

"Find the person with the biggest TV and have the party there."



**Stevie Urvan,
Army spouse**

"Be organized ahead of time and make sure you stick to your schedule so you are ready to receive guests."



**Johnny Foust,
DAC**

"Make sure you buy plenty of hot wings ... lots of hot wings."



**Melvin Nelson,
retired Army**

"Make sure everybody cheers for the Seahawks."



**2nd Lt.
Alexander Davila,
D Co., 1st Bn.,
145th Avn. Regt.**

"Have enough space for people to sleep there in case the party lasts well into the night, or make sure there are a few designated drivers."

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The Dothan Eagle is responsible for all printing matters and commercial advertising.

Deadlines are Friday at 2 p.m. for the following week's edition.

All editorial content of the Army Flier is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker, AL.

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

ACE SUICIDE INTERVENTION

Ask your buddy

- Have the courage to ask the question, but stay calm.
- Ask the question directly. For example, "Are you thinking of killing yourself?"

Care for your buddy

- Remove any means that could be used for self-

injury.

- Calmly control the situation, do not use force.
- Actively listen to produce relief.

Escort your buddy

- Never leave your buddy alone.
- Escort to the chain of command, a chaplain, a behavioral health professional or a primary care provider.

Fort Rucker honors 11 retirees

By **Sara E. Martin**
Army Flier Staff Writer

The quarterly retirement ceremony took place Friday at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum where friends and Family gathered to honor nine Soldiers and two civilians who served the United States with distinction.

The 11 retirees accounted for more than 315 combined years of service, an average of 29 years per individual, and served as doctors, Aviators, investigators, command sergeants major and more, said Col. Robert C. Doerer, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence deputy commander and the ceremony's guest speaker.

"You elected to first serve the nation during some tough times. Some of your service began at the end of the Vietnam War, and since that time you have served during some historic events," he said. "For some of you, you saw the birth of a great Branch – all were a part of the Cold War and its end – and you saw the collapse of the Berlin Wall.

"You have seen the implementation of the Apache and Black Hawk helicopters. You come from the most deployed Army in our history, and have made lasting, positive and significant contributions. You have helped us create the most capable Army the world has ever known and our nation is better because you chose to serve," he continued.

Col. Robert Mitchell

Mitchell entered military service in 1983 as a warrant officer Aviator. He served overseas in Haiti and served combat tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He stated the highlight of his career was the privilege of commanding Soldiers in combat. He and his wife, Dena, plan to reside in Enterprise.

Maj. Dennis Caliyó

Caliyo entered the Army in 1986. Over his 27-year career, he served overseas in Afghanistan and Iraq. He stated the highlight of his career was being selected as a staff officer for the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He and his wife, Jane, plan to reside in San Francisco, Calif.

CW5 Bobby Sebren

Sebren entered military service in 1979 as a military policeman. During his 34 years of military service, he served overseas in

Afghanistan and Iraq in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. He stated the highlight of his career was being twice selected to lead the aircraft shoot down assessment team. He and his wife, Laura, plan to reside in Daleville.

CW4 Raymond Massey

Massey is retiring after 29 years. He entered the Army in 1984. He served in numerous overseas locations in

Germany, Greece, Iraq, Korea and Kuwait. He stated that the highlight of his career was establishing the computer crimes digital forensic examination cell at Fort Benning, Ga., creating a centralized computer and digital device examination group, which focused on discovering and extracting digital evidence related to felony crimes committed against the U.S. government. He and his wife, Kerry, plan to reside in Level Plains.

CW4 Tod Clark

Clark entered military service in 1989 as an infantryman. He has served overseas in Italy, Germany, Korea, Panama, Egypt, Kosovo, and served in support of Operations Desert Shield and Storm, and Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. He stated the highlight of his career was being an air mission commander during the surge in Iraq. He plans to finish building his house and reside in New York.

Command Sgt. Maj. John Chandler

Chandler entered military service in 1983. During his 30 years of service, he served in numerous overseas locations including the Philippines, Thailand, Korea, Columbia, Ecuador, Honduras, Belize, Venezuela, Germany, Panama, Japan, Iraq and Afghanistan. He served multiple combat tours in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, Ernest Will, Prime Change, and Just Cause. He stated the highlight of his career was being able to serve 30 plus years, with 10 as a sergeant major. He plans to reside with his wife, Judith, in Guntersville, Ala.

Master Sgt. Curtis Pitts

Pitts entered military service in 1989 as a truck vehicle repairer. During his 25 years of service, he served overseas in Germany, and served in multiple combat tours in Bosnia and Iraq. He stated the highlight of his career was the day he joined the military. He and his



PHOTOS BY SARA E. MARTIN

The quarterly retirement ceremony took place Friday at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum where friends and Family gathered to honor nine Soldiers and two civilians who served the United States with distinction. CW4 Tod Clark, Colleen Marks, CW4 Raymond Massey, Roy Matthews and Command Sgt. Maj. John Chandler were all honored at the ceremony.



The quarterly retirement ceremony took place Friday at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum where friends and Family gathered to honor nine Soldiers and two civilians who served the United States with distinction. Back row: Col. Robert Mitchell, Master Sgt. Curtis Pitts and CW5 Bobby Sebren. Front row: Master Sgt. Claudia Jackson, Maj. Dennis Caliyó and Staff Sgt. Steven Kerrigan.

wife, Tamala, plan to reside in the local area.

Master Sgt. Claudia Jackson

Jackson entered military service in 1990. During her 23 years of military service she served in numerous overseas locations in Germany, Korea, Iraq and Kuwait. She served multiple combat tours in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. She stated the highlight of her career was working at Landstuhl Medical Facility, Germany as a wounded warrior liaison. She and her husband, Rodney, plan to reside in San Antonio, Texas.

Staff Sgt. Steven Kerrigan

Kerrigan entered military ser-

vice in 1993 as a field artillery cannon crewmember. He served in numerous overseas locations in Camp Casemera, Yugoslavia; Italy; Iraq; and Afghanistan. He served multiple combat tours in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. He stated the highlight of his career was successfully leading Soldiers in Afghanistan with no losses. He plans to reside in Danville, Ill.

Colleen Marks

Marks entered military service in 1969 as an X-ray technician. She served in Germany and Korea before retiring as a sergeant first class. She returned to serve the Army as a civilian in 1986. She stated the highlight of her ca-

reer was graduating from the Air Traffic Control Course and marrying a co-instructor. She and her husband, Loren, plan to reside in Enterprise.

Roy Matthews

Matthews is retiring after 31 years of service. He served on active duty from 1974 to 1980 before entering the civil service. He said the highlight of his career was serving with wonderful co-workers and assisting Soldiers who have a great responsibility in serving the country. In addition, he appreciated the opportunity to meet many people from all over the world. He and his wife, Margie, plan to reside in Enterprise.



COURTESY PHOTO

Instructor of the quarter

Brian A. Clarke, 2nd Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment and civilian academic instructor of the quarter, CW3 Matthew J. Williamson, 110th Aviation Brigade and officer instructor pilot of the quarter, and Capt. Daniel J. O'Donnel, 1st Avn. Bde. and officer academic instructor of the quarter, stand together during the Instructor of the Quarter ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum Jan. 22. Other winners who were unable to attend the ceremony are CW4 April C. Wallace, Warrant Officer Career College and warrant officer academic instructor of the quarter, and Staff Sgt. Garrick W. Morgenwick, U.S. Army School of Aviation Medicine and NCO academic instructor of the quarter.

News Briefs

During this timeframe, traffic will be detoured around the construction and signs will be displayed to assist motorists.

Traffic entering through the gate will turn left onto Novosel and then go right onto Andrews Avenue, and then turn right onto Nighthawk to reach the open part of Third Avenue.

Once construction is completed and upon reopening, the portion of Raider Street between Andrews Avenue and Third Avenue will become a dead end street. All traffic will enter this portion of Raider Street from Andrews Avenue – vehicles will no longer be able to turn onto Raider Street, towards Andrews Avenue, from Third Avenue. Motorists entering and exiting the Daleville Gate will be affected by this closure and are encouraged to plan their travels to allow for possible delays. The construction is being done in an effort to enhance the security posture for the installation. In the event of inclement weather, construction will be rescheduled to a later date.

Tax center opens

The Fort Rucker Tax Center will open Monday, but phone lines will open this Friday for people to make appointments. The center will be open Mondays-Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. until April 15 in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371F. The center is available to valid military ID card holders at no cost. Reservists must be on Title 10 status and bring a copy of their call to active duty orders.

People using the tax center should bring the following documents: Social Security card; all W-2s and wage and earnings statements; blank or canceled check with routing and account number of bank, 1099-R; copy of last year's tax return (if available); and any documents pertaining to earnings from gambling

winnings, unemployment or compensations. Use of the tax center is by appointment only.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 255-2937 or 255-2938.

Heritage month kickoff

The African American Heritage Month kickoff takes place Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the post exchange. The Fort Rucker Elementary School choir will perform during the event. For more information, call 598-9423.

ACAP presentation

The Fort Rucker Army Career and Alumni Program Transition Center sponsors a once-a-year presentation on transition Tuesday from 8:30-11 a.m. in Bldg. 4502, Rm. 210. The free presentation, entitled "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career," is offered by the Military Officers Association of America. All ranks may attend, but it is geared towards officers and senior NCOs. Spouses, civilians and retirees are also welcome to attend.

For more information, call 255-3932.

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.

Nurse advice line

Lyster Army Health Clinic patients needing non-emergent medical attention after duty hours or on the weekends must call the nurse advice line at (877) 418-0983 before going to an urgent care clinic in the area. Upon check-in at the urgent care clinic, patients should inform the staff that they are being referred from TRICARE and are normally seen at LAHC. If receiving medication, patients should remember that Walgreens does not accept TRICARE. If the clinic wants to send a prescription to Walgreens, patients should tell them it needs to go to another pharmacy that accepts TRICARE.

Commissary scholarships

Applications for the 2014 Scholarships for Military Children Program are available at commissaries worldwide or on the Internet at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. Applications must be turned in to a commissary by the close of business Feb. 28. Packages must be hand-delivered, or shipped via U.S. Postal Service or other delivery methods – not emailed or faxed. This year's award amount has risen to \$2,000 and the program awards at least one scholarship at each commissary with qualified applicants. Applicants should ensure that they and their sponsor are enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database and have a military ID card.

For more information, students or sponsors should call (856) 616-9311, or send an email to militaryscholar@scholarship-managers.com.



PHOTO BY SGT. SCOTT TANT

Six UH-60L Black Hawks and two CH-47F Chinooks, assigned to Task Force Brawler, 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, Task Force Falcon, simultaneously launch a daytime mission, Jan. 18, 2013, from Multinational Base Tarin Kowt, Afghanistan.

Army Aviation seeks to boost value of flying hours

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Less money means fewer flying hours for training pilots and aircrews. How can the Army maximize the value of those limited flying hours so Soldiers can get the most out of their time in a real aircraft?

CW5 Randy Godfrey, chief warrant officer of the Aviation Branch, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, suggests the “week-long flight” as one approach to make those hours in the air have more benefit.

During the Association of the United States Army Aviation Symposium Jan. 14 in Arlington, Va., Godfrey explained how the days before an actual flight and the days after could be structured to get the most out of three or four hours of actual flying.

“How do we maximize our flying hours? An example I have looked at is something called the ‘week-long flight,’” Godfrey said. “So when you have a three- or four-hour flight, we can stretch that out and have it take approximately three to four days.”

On Jan. 13, he said, Soldiers go back to “company-level planning,” something that atrophied somewhat in Iraq and Afghanistan because the operations tempo there pushed such planning up the chain of command.

“Let’s go back to company-level training. We have fragmentary orders, a scenario that we develop based on our mission-essential task list for that company,” he said. “We take that scenario, that [fragmentary order], and we break it apart into what’s called our mission planning cells, where everybody in the company has a part in that

where they develop and look at different things. At the end of the day, we bring those mission planning cells together, we develop our operations order, our mission briefs.”

The missions are actually briefed, he said, and then Soldiers rehearse those missions.

“We either rehearse them the old-style way on a sand table or a training board, or we use some of the newer technology we have or would like to see developed: the Tactical Terrain Visualization System, desktop type things where they can actually see those missions and fly them in a virtual world.”

The next day, crews would go to simulators and practice. They might use the Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Trainer or the Longbow Crew Trainer for instance.

“Hopefully all those can tie in together and we have incorporated those with our ground units,” Godfrey said, adding that those missions should be practiced “over and over” to help Soldiers develop.

Next, crews would actually suit up and get inside a real aircraft for a real flight – limited as it may be.

“When we fly that mission, we’ve seen this mission for three days now, we’ve practiced it, we’ve briefed it,” he said. “So it maximizes those three or four hours they may be out flying.”

Finally, on the following day, he said, crews do their after-action review and debriefs.

“We capture the lessons learned to put into that scenario,” he said. “So basically a three- or four-hour flight, we’ve taken a whole week, and we’ve seen this multiple times in maximizing the amount of flight hours.”

Army Aviation leaders at the

conference said that virtual training in Army simulators is key to maintaining readiness when flying hours are being cut.

Brig. Gen. Michael D. Lundy, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center, said the Army’s integrated training environment – fielded now at five Army installations and eventually at 17 – plays a part in that.

“It ties together a lot of our legacy training aids, devices, simulators and simulations, specifically for Aviation’s Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Trainer and the non-rated crew member module, but also the close combat tactical trainer on the ground side, all of our constructive simulations, and our live capabilities that are out there – home-station instrumentation systems, and MILES,” he said.

Systems at Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Stewart, Ga.; and in Korea allow units at home station to “replicate very closely what our fidelity is out at the combat training centers with the instrumentation and the integration of these different enablers.”

By 2022, he wants to move into something called the “Future Holistic Training Environment - Live Synthetic” to get “away from multiple environments, virtual, gaming, constructive, and go to one synthetic environment, make it lower overhead, and integrate the full operations process so a commander can holistically ... sit down and go through plan, prepare, execute and access. And do everything with respect to training in a common operating picture,” he said.

With the Army’s Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Trainer, which is a multi-user simula-

tor for training helicopter crews, efforts are under way to upgrade the systems to account for advances in current Army Aviation assets. Lundy said AVCATT is the premier virtual trainer on the virtual side for the Army, but that the system has currency issues now in that it is not concurrent with the CH-47F model Chinook, the UH-60M Black Hawk or the AH-64 Block III.

They have a plan with a way ahead on upgrading the training capability of the AVCATT system to include CH-47F, and also with the UH-60M Black Hawk. Lundy said they are still working upgrades to bring it current with AH-64 Block III capabilities.

Lundy told attendees that changes to Army training doctrine are drawing attention to the role commanders play in keeping their Soldiers ready for combat.

“The big change for training doctrine was really re-emphasis the commander’s role in training,” he said.

Army doctrine has been rewritten to re-emphasize that, and also changed to make sure there is a closer alignment in training with how the Army fights.

Col. Robert T. Ault, commander, 4th Combat Aviation Brigade, said company commanders must take ownership of simulated training as well.

“Company leadership needs to learn to train in the simulated environment,” Ault said. “The fidelity of the simulated environment is maintained at that level. They have to understand how to transition their force, their units, their Soldiers from flying live missions to now making the simulator – not necessarily seem real – but have fidelity.”

And Command Sgt. Maj.

James H. Thomson Jr., Aviation Branch senior enlisted adviser, said there are changes for enlisted Soldiers as well. He said that after 10 years at war, NCOs know how to be trained – but they might not know how to train others.

“We have to train that paradigm and get back to NCOs owning training,” Thompson said. “We’re working on a lot of initiatives to get there.”

He also said there are changes being developed for enlisted Aviation training. The concept is to move toward a “skills-based” program of instruction. Using an aircraft engine mechanic as an example, Thompson said the Army is looking to get away from Soldiers performing 70-80 critical tasks and instead getting Soldiers to master skills and knowledge required for their MOS.

An enlisted engine mechanic does critical tasks on every turbine engine in the Army inventory, he said.

“Instead of that, we will spend several weeks mastering the skills that a turbine engine mechanic needs without even seeing an engine,” he said. After that skills-based training and mastery of skills, he said, they might then go do critical tasks on various Army engines.

“It’s not 80 critical tasks, it’s a dozen, to validate those skills that were mastered upfront in the skills-based training program of instruction,” Thomson said.

He also said an initiative for NCOs involves a partnership with Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas, to send NCOs there from units to train with the “artisans” and “really get that graduate-level maintenance training,” Thomson said. “They can bring that back to their units.”

Prevention tip #2

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Practice: Trainers important part of pilots’ education

Continued from Page A1

the Aviation Learning Center.

“We have dozens of cockpit trainers all over post, so it is convenient for students to use them. They come on their own time, they don’t have to come and practice, but it’s best if they do,” he said. “If you are a student and your instructor pilot told you, ‘OK, you better not mess this startup tomorrow,’ the student can practice on the trainers because they have the ability to run through a number of procedures that the students can react to.”

Students can get better and faster at these procedures. This allows them to spend more time in the air when out on the flight line, said Vidensek.

And more time in the air is a better way to spend the Army’s money,

he continued. The Army is always trying to find ways to modernize training, and using the CPTs is more cost effective.

“Cost wise, the cockpit trainers are more economical, and they are a key training tool for them,” said Vidensek. “To be able to sit down and practice is priceless for some students. If you were to put two students into a real aircraft and let them startup you are talking hundreds of thousands of dollars, while in here its pennies to the dollar.”

Many students like using these trainers because it is not as stressful practicing with a buddy as it is with their instructor pilots, and over a weeks’ time, Vidensek estimates about 150 students come in to use the trainers located at the technical library.

“They can use the CPTs on their

own all they like. Students are really comfortable and don’t feel pressure that they otherwise might experience with their teacher overlooking,” said Hays. “There are dozens of buttons and switches in any aircraft, so this helps them remember where things are, helps their repetition and muscle memory, and it also builds their confidence.”

Before the Army had these trainers pilots would train in the cockpit, but because helicopters are more expensive to own and operate now it is not financially responsible to train that way anymore.

“With the new (trainers) it allows the pilots to learn everything they need, such as going from an analog to a digital aircraft,” said Matthew Pellegrino, program manager Science Applications International Corporation Cockpit Emergency Pro-

cedure Trainer-Mike. “The training devices that we put out into the field help modernize training and help the pilots correlate what they are learning in the classroom. It makes them more responsive.”

Once upon a time, students also learned to hover on what is called the hover board, or the marble table, a simple mechanism where students learn cyclic control and small, coordinated maneuvers.

Students don’t use the table anymore, and it is considered by many an oddity in the library, but Vidensek said it shows students how far Aviation has come when it comes to training.

“I like using the trainers for engine health indicator tests,” said W01 Thomas Hubbard, B Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment. “You never want to get too cozy by

just looking in a book or thinking that you will just get better with time when you’re in the aircraft.

“You don’t have to worry about damaging anything or burning anything up either,” he added.

IPs are needed to train in some of the more advanced trainers, while others are for students only. The advanced trainers are much more realistic – equipped with sound, lights and everything pilots in training might expect in a real aircraft – to help prepare Soldiers.

Some of the trainers are even government built, owned and operated – even the software is government owned. This will help keep training updated when airframes are upgraded in the field, something that will keep student pilots on their feet when practicing in some of the Army’s most advanced equipment.

Shelters: Event shows children value of giving

Continued from Page A1

the car together and we have a good time while we distribute the donated food to the different shelters,” she said. “This is something we do each year because we see the need, especially during this time of year.”

Although the main focus of the program was to educate

children on their academics, Deborah Deas, FRPS principal, said the significance of this activity was great because it’s part of the process to develop the “whole child.”

“We feel that making an impact in our community is one of the things that is important to teach here on Fort Rucker,” she said. “We feel that we need to teach them how to be responsible citizens by taking care of animals, and other agen-

cies on post and in their community.”

“We want to teach the children about giving and to think of others aside from theirself, and the children really did not disappoint,” added Estevez-Hurst. “They were coming in with big bags of dog food that they could barely carry, and one parent even came in with their child and a wagon with two big bags of pet food. We are just so grateful.”

Lessons: Teacher provides encouragement, life advice

Continued from Page A1

they feel is inspirational and fundamental to their teachings, and the quote that hangs above Halpin’s door reads, “Dream big and dare to fail.”

“Fail seems like such a harsh word, but I think of it as a positive word and I want these kids to think of it that way, too,” she said. “If you don’t fail, then you haven’t tried. If you don’t try, then you’re never going to succeed.”

To Halpin, failure is a type of success and is an opportunity for the students to learn something. She said she wants to change the perception that failure is a bad thing, and she wants the children to celebrate failure because, to her, failure is growth.

Although academics are important, it’s life lessons that she hopes she can get across to the children along with their everyday studies, and a large part of that is having the students stand

on their own to have the opportunity to fail.

“In the morning, the children work on their math warm-ups, and I tell them that during that first 10-15 minutes, it’s desert-island time,” said the teacher. “I tell them, ‘You are by yourself and you’ve got to solve this. You have to save yourself.’”

“Of course I help them eventually, but I want them to try first,” she continued. “Their instinct is to ask for help, and I do want to help them, but sometimes the best help is to let them help themselves.”

Halpin, a self-proclaimed Army brat, said she feels she got a lot of her teaching philosophy because the way her life panned out early on. She had her first child when she was 16 years old – her daughter, Amy – but she believes it was the best thing for her.

“That’s something that changes your life,” said Halpin. “Although I would not recommend having children at that young of an age,

it was a good thing for me.

“I have always been very quiet and introverted, and having a daughter at 16 gave me some attention, even though it was negative attention. It was a good strengthener for me,” she continued. “It made me believe in myself, trust in myself and learn to not care what people thought about me because I know who I am.”

That’s something Halpin said she tries to teach her students – to not worry about what others think of them. It’s a philosophy that she also imparted later in life when she made the decision to go to school and become an educator.

Halpin started her career much later in life than most people. She was 34 years old when she decided to go to college, and 38 years old when she got her degree and started teaching.

She found it difficult at first because she said going back to school later in life was daunt-

ing, especially seeing all of her younger classmates. Halpin often compared herself to others and worried about what they thought of her, but again realized that the only opinion that mattered was her own.

“At the time, when I was in college, I was thinking, ‘Oh my gosh, I’m going to be so old when I graduate. What am I going to do?’” she remembered. “But then I thought to myself, ‘I’m going to be 38 one way or the other, I might as well be 38 with a degree.’”

With that philosophy in mind, she has successfully entered her 13th year of teaching and she said she couldn’t be happier.

“I look back over my life and I’m so thankful that everything played out the way that it did – so purposefully,” said Halpin. “Although I didn’t realize what was happening and where it was going at the time, now I’m very happy and very fulfilled – personally and professionally. Life is good.”



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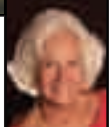
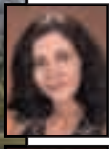
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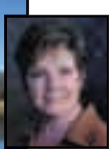


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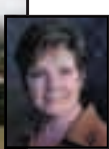


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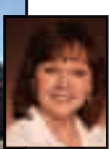


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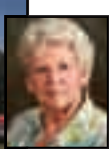


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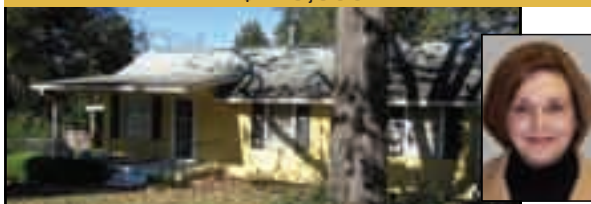
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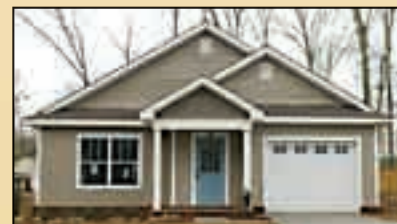
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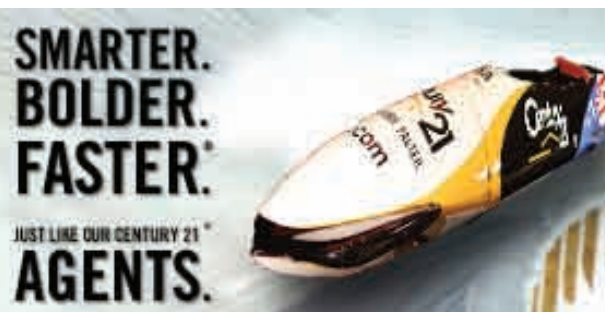
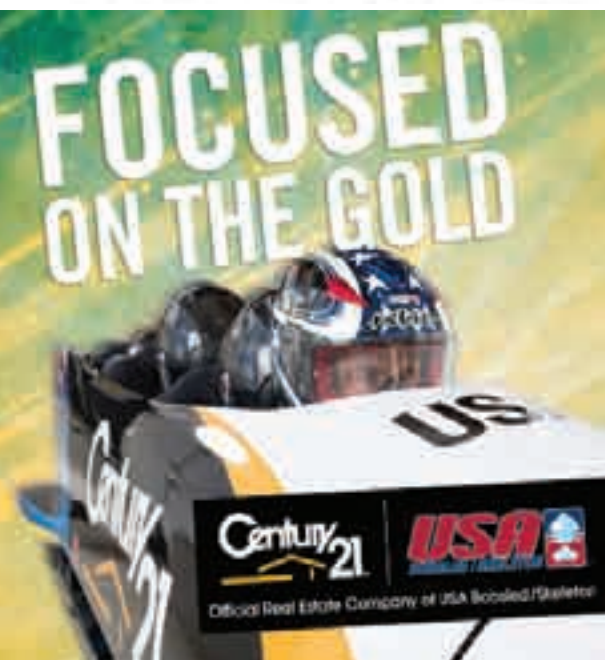


One story
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\$151,500

NEW CONSTRUCTION 225 JASMINE CIRCLE



One story
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25th CAB upgrades to UH-60M

By Sgt. Matthew Ryan
25th Combat Aviation Brigade

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii — The pilots started their preflight checks on the aircraft like they have done hundreds of times before, but this time it was different.

Almost everything was the same, until it came time for the inside checks. The inside of the rotary wing aircraft looks like something out of the future, with big digital screens, and a slew of buttons and switches inside the cockpit where analog systems used to be.

The age of the analog is fading away, making way for the digital age. This is the case for the many of the Army's rotary wing aircraft.

Recently the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, received new UH-60M and HH-60M Medevac model Black Hawks, and began training pilots and maintenance pilots to operate and manage the upgraded systems.

Before the 25th CAB pilots can even conduct a preflight check on the new UH-60M Black Hawks, they have to be certified by Science and Engineering Services who conduct the nearly four week training process.

"The first portion of the certification is the academics portion, where we teach the pilots the differences of the new aircraft, the Aviation electronic systems and how to use the flight planning software," said Eric Turner, academics instructor for SES. "This part of the training is where the students get their first hands-on experience of the new equipment with the use of the Cockpit Academic Procedural Tool. This is a small version of the new cockpit that allows us to teach how the new systems work and the new layout of the cockpit," said Turner.

Pilots with the 25th CAB said they immediately recognized some of the advantages the new M-model systems enabled for them.

"The new systems allow for a greater detail when planning our routes before we even get to the aircraft, allowing the pilots to ensure greater safety and more efficiency," said CW3 Steven Silva, pilot in command, B Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th CAB.

Some of the new capabilities of the Black Hawks are an improved crashworthy external fuel system, improved durability gearbox with rotor brake, wider and more efficient chord rotor blades, an additional battery, two flight control computers, four



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. MATTHEW G. RYAN

CW2 Rafael Solis, maintenance test pilot, B Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, conducts preflight checks on a HH-60M MEDEVAC Black Hawk before flying the new aircraft Jan. 15.

multi-function digital displays, digital maps with live tracking, dual digital flight controls, improved turbine engine and a greater viewing area within the cockpit.

"I am really impressed with the aircraft's capabilities," said CW2 Rafael Solis, main-

tenance test pilot, B Co., 2-25th AVN, 25th CAB. "To be able to make some adjustments with a few switches and knobs, and the aircraft will fly in the direction, altitude

SEE CAB, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY JULIANNE COCHRAN

BOLD TRAINING

Quartermaster second lieutenants unload a mock casualty from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter as part of the Basic Officer Leader Department field training exercise at Fort Lee, Va, in early January.

82nd CAB deploys to airport for training

By Sgt. April de Armas
82nd Combat Aviation Brigade

MAXTON, N.C. — Many units can pack their equipment in military vehicles and set up a tactical operation center at a variety of locations throughout the Fort Bragg training areas, but when it comes to mobilizing a unit whose primary mission is to fly helicopters, the logistics of mobility takes a bit more planning.

The 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade requires airfield infrastructure, such as flight lines and hangars, to provide ground troops with air support, and while the brigade's troopers can provide training support and practice flying techniques from Simmons Army Airfield, it is important for them to rehearse the deployment process of unit movement and establishing an operations center, according to Lt. Col. Bryan Chivers, 2-82nd ASLT commander.

To incorporate such training, the Corsair troopers of 2nd Aviation Assault Battalion, 82nd CAB, deployed to Laurinburg-Maxton Airport in Maxton to fly missions supporting the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, and other division units during a division-wide field training exercise Jan. 10-16.

The remote field training gives Chivers and his troopers an opportunity to rehearse operations in a more realistic scenario.

"When you are in this type of environment, you find out what you really need to complete the mission," Chivers said. "When we are on base, it is not as realistic. We have to be able to move from one location to another, set up and ensure continuity to support any mission."



PHOTO BY SGT. APRIL DE ARMAS

Troopers with 2nd Aviation Assault Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade prepare to load a UH-60M Black Hawk helicopter at Laurinburg-Maxton Airport in Maxton, N.C., Jan. 15. The 2-82nd ASLT troopers were at the airport to provide air support and rehearse deployment operations during a division-wide training event Jan. 10-16.

Capt. Author Sandlin, Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander, 2-82nd ASLT, led the battalion in the logistics and primary set up of the training site.

"It starts with finding the right place that will allow us to operate our helicopters while being able to establish full security and communications with the brigade headquarters and units we are here to support," Sandlin said. "There is much more that goes into this type of set up versus being on the main base."

During the division-wide training event,

Task Force Corsair assisted with troop movement, medical evacuations, troop insertions and extractions, and air assault missions.

"This is where we put all of our training to support various missions to the test," said 1st Sgt. Robben Kadish, Troop A, 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 82nd CAB.

Once the operations center and communications are established, troopers can also train for obstacles they may face in a

SEE AIRPORT, PAGE B4

From Soldiers to Martians: 2 advance in contest, aim for stars

By Megan Locke Simpson
Fort Campbell
Public Affairs

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. — For two Soldiers at Fort Campbell, childhood dreams are one step closer to reality after the Mars One announcement Dec. 30.

Mars One is a privatized foundation with the goal of establishing a permanent settlement on Mars by 2025. As a preliminary step in this process, the foundation is assembling a pool of cadets who will help colonize the Red Planet.

CW4 David Woodward and 1st Lt. Heidi Beemer heard about this mission several months ago and they were two of about 200,000 to start the application process for the outerspace opportunity. Both Soldiers are celebrating making it past the first cut.

A more intensive second-round elimination process, including medical screenings and one-on-one interviews, will trim the remaining 1,058. The applicants come from across the globe with the eventual goal of creating four-person teams for the one-way trip to Mars.

Woodward, a 159th Combat Aviation Brigade UH-60 Black Hawk maintenance test pilot, recalls watching space programs on his local public television station as a child — one of few stations his small town received.

"Most recently, my interest was sparked for Mars by Robert Zubrin's book 'The Case for Mars,'" said Woodward, in an email. The Soldier recently deployed to Afghanistan with Task Force Lift.

"I was later intrigued by the 'Science' magazine poll on who would volunteer for a one-way trip to Mars, not thinking that any organization would seriously consider this revolutionary avenue (that) places us back to our pioneering and colonial spirit. After discovering Mars One, it was only logical that I would attempt to go as far as possible in the

SEE STARS, PAGE B4

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CAB: Improvements allow greater mission scope

Continued from Page B1

and speed that you set without having to manually move the aircraft is great.”

The second phase of the training is based on the Transportable Black Hawk Operations Simulator, which is a mock setup of the UH-60M Black Hawk.

This is where pilots spend a few hours each day conduct-

ing preflight checks and flying missions while an instructor ensures they are fully trained on the new cockpit before moving the pilot onto the final phase of the course, flying the new Black Hawks, according to Nick Pianalto, UH-60M instructor for SES.

“The best part is how realistic the training is compared to the actual aircraft,” said Pianalto. “The simulator acts and feels just like the Black Hawk, and makes it easy for pilots

to transition to flying.”

During the final phase the pilots receive more than 17 flight hours with an instructor to ensure they learn basic flight operations and maneuvers before achieving certification on the new Black Hawks.

The new improvements allow a greater scope of missions, while using fewer resources to conduct missions and improving the safety of the Army’s pilots and crew.

Stars: Experience sets hopefuls apart from the pack

Continued from Page B1

applicant process as well as try to promote the program.”

Beemer, a 63rd Chemical Company platoon leader, remembers the newspaper clippings that adorned her walls as a child. Her father was in the Navy and fostered in her a great love for science.

“He tried to push as much science on me as he could, as far as like astronomy and geology and all that stuff,” she said. “One of the articles was about the Sojourner rover, which had just landed on Mars, and it had this big panoramic of the image that they were getting. And this little rover roved around for a few hours and then died, and it was a huge deal back then.”

Before accepting an Army commission, Beemer attended a math and science-centered high school and the Virginia Military Institute. She also got the opportunity to work at the NASA Langley Research Center and the Mars Desert Research Station. These experiences spurred her to pursue life as a Soldier, after she learned that 86 percent of NASA astronauts have prior military service. Beemer’s interest lies in discovering the geological features of Mars.

While survival will be at the top

of the list should Woodward make it to Mars, he also anticipates time to conduct experiments and other duties.

“The key areas of development that the colony will need to focus on will be increasing the agricultural, mining, manufacturing and medical capabilities in order to grow sufficient food; provide habitat space and medical care for the colonists to include the capacity for human reproduction,” he said.

In recent years, NASA has transitioned increasingly away from manned space flight after retiring the U.S. space shuttle fleet in 2011.

This move leaves the door open for more privatized options to take hold, including Mars One. This concept is an exciting one for both Soldiers, and one they are willing to back with vigor.

“What interests me the most about the program is the fact that it is designed to create a permanent settlement in much the same way as ships sailing to the New World and wagon trains traveling out West did, thus truly entering humanity into the Space Age,” Woodward said.

In this vein, part of the cadets’ mission is to raise interest and funding for the project. No governments are currently involved in this endeavor. For an overall view

of the Mars One plan, visit www.mars-one.com.

Both Soldiers feel as though their military experiences give them a heads-up on many other hopefuls. Desirable traits that Mars One is seeking include leadership and resiliency, which receive heavy emphasis in the Army.

For Woodward, it is about the specialized skills and technical knowledge he brings to the table.

“I have a variety of technical skills to include having been a diesel and gasoline powered electrical generation equipment repairer and a psychological operations specialist,” he said. “The Army has provided me with leadership training and experience to include leading a crew of four during stressful and dangerous situations. The Army has also supplied me with resiliency training and the opportunity to demonstrate my resilience during 54 months of combat operations in austere conditions in a desert environment.”

As the process unfolds, those interested can follow Beemer’s journey on Twitter @beemer2mars.

“I’m just excited,” she said. “I love talking about this. I love being a part of this. I’m just really excited for it to continue forward in the next round.”



COURTESY PHOTO

First Lt. Heidi Beemer, 63rd Chemical Company, and (not pictured) CW4 David Woodward, 159th Combat Aviation Brigade, are both advancing in the Mars One selection process. Mars One’s goal is to establish human life on Mars by 2025.

Airport: Deployment rehearsals provide insight, help maintain readiness

Continued from Page B1

deployed environment.

“One of the ways we train while out in the field is to conduct side training such as learning to decontaminate a vehicle and equipment in the event of a chemical attack or when entering a chemical environment,” said 1st Lt. Duane Nixon, chemical

officer in charge, 2-82nd ASLT. “It is one of the ways we maintain readiness in case this type of situation occurs.”

From the motor pool to the kitchen, Task Force Corsair support troopers worked around the clock to sustain the Aviators’ ongoing missions during the exercise.

Staff Sgt. Tyron Plessner and his crew from the 2-82nd ASLT motor pool worked

to guarantee that the vehicles Corsair troopers used to travel to the airfield and set up the task force headquarters remained mission capable.

“Part of what we do is ensuring that our troopers and equipment are not stranded and can complete their missions with success,” Plessner said. “We perform all the scheduled and unscheduled maintenance and we

practice recovery of stranded vehicles.”

The deployment rehearsal offered the Corsair troopers valuable insight they can use to help maintain readiness for future training events and missions.

“We take so much away from this training event that will make us more proficient as we continue to maintain our readiness for the next mission,” Chivers said.

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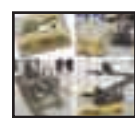
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JANUARY 30, 2014

History

If walls could talk, the tales they'd tell

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

Many types of people have called Fort Rucker home through the years, giving the area a rich heritage blended from all walks of life, from Native Americans to early settlers to prisoners of war. If the walls in the buildings that still stand here could communicate what they have seen, they might tell those listening many remarkable tales.

Two of the oldest remaining buildings on the installation are the Camellia and Magnolia houses – settled under Magnolia trees at the intersection of Novosel Street and Ruf Avenue. People once strolled down Novosel Street, which was once lined with Magnolia trees, but a little Camp Rucker history is still rooted in the ground.

Both houses were constructed in 1942 and are now used as temporary lodging for VIP visitors. The Magnolia House is mentioned in three published books when characters tucked themselves in under its roof.

During World War II and the Korean conflict, Camellia House, the one nearer the street, was the quarters of the post commander, and both are significant historically to Fort Rucker for a number of reasons, said Michael Maxwell, Directorate of Public Works master planning division chief.

“According to George Steuber, (a previous) deputy garrison commander, when the installation privatized lodging in 2007 the houses had to be saved,” said Ed Janasky, Directorate of Public Works director. “Steuber believed they needed to be retained in the (InterContinental Hotels Group) Historic Collection as distinguished visitor’s quarters.”

According to Janasky, both houses were modified and enriched by German and Italian POW craftsmen who were interned at Fort Rucker during WWII.

“The walls, floors and cabinets are made of heart pine from Fort Rucker, and are unique on post,” said Steuber in an old email that Janasky saved. “Since becoming DVQs, these two buildings have been the preferred quarters for U.S., foreign military and political leaders whenever they have visited Fort Rucker.”

Both Camellia and Magnolia House are still filled with mementoes of those visits, Janasky said.

The houses are not the only thing that was enriched by POWs who once lived here.

The chapel behind Bldg. 101 on Shamrock Street is one of the few remaining wood buildings from the WWII period, and contains an altar, lectern, podium, rail and four chairs made by the German prisoners during World War II.

The chapel is now called Headquarters Chapel, and was the original chapel on the installation, but it has held many names over the years: Chapel of the Wings, Post Chapel, Headquarters Road Chapel, Chapel No. 1 and Headquarters Place Chapel.



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Headquarters Chapel is the original chapel built for Camp Rucker. The chapel now features 50 flags, exposed wood beams, and an altar, lectern, podium, rail and four chairs made by German prisoners of war during World War II.

“At some point by Vietnam, it was called Chapel of the Wings because all the graduating pilots had their graduation in the chapel and got pinned there,” said Chaplain (Col.) Dennis Newton, garrison and U.S. Army Aviation Cent of Excellence chaplain. “But when Wings Chapel was put in, they decided to revert the name back to Headquarters Chapel. And now all sorts of wing badge memorabilia hang in the chapel as well.”

Fort Rucker was once home to 13 of these chapels, said Newton. Every battalion had its own because the Army was ramping up for war. But this chapel, he said, represents the best of the original 13.

The chapel was built in 1942, and the flags that previously flew in the Chapel of the Flags in Vietnam, Fort Hood, and the original Chapel of the Flags here at Fort Rucker, now demolished, now hang in the Headquarters Chapel.

“When all Aviation training moved to Fort Rucker in 1973, the flags, along with the stained glass windows, were brought to Fort Rucker,” said Maxwell. “The wings represent the various insignia of Army Aviators and are located on the back wall of the sanctuary.”

“The wood workings that the prisoners constructed are so beautiful, and to think they built them just for their own worship purposes and to pass the time is fascinating,” added Maxwell.

Although it is the only remaining chapel at Fort Rucker from World War II, services are still held there so people can admire the exposed wood beams, flags and beautiful craftsmanship of the POW pieces that adorn the chapel.

The POWs themselves were Axis prisoners, said Maxwell. The camp held approximately 1,700-2,000 prisoners and was con-



COURTESY PHOTO

Fort Rucker was once home to 1,700-2,000 Italian and German prisoners of war from WWII. Here, Italian POWs work in their mess hall while detained at Camp Rucker.

structed at Camp Rucker in 1943. It closed and was demolished after the German surrender in 1945.

“The location is along Dilly Branch Road and is accessible to people, but there is not much to look at. Only some pavement and the foundations are left, and the site is not maintained,” said Maxwell.

Camp Rucker was chosen as a main site, according to J. Patrick Hughes, Aviation Branch historian, because it was centrally located in an area of Alabama that was not otherwise covered. It was also an area away from the coast or border.

The camp held Germans that were captured in the north African war against German general Erwin Rommel, but it also had Italian POWs, according to Hughes.

“They were given to local farmers to harvest peanuts for three weeks each year, and were sent to the camp at Andalusia to do logging,” said Hughes. “They were paid in specially printed script at a rate of 75 cents a day.”

Well thought of in the Wiregrass area, the camp was not a particu-



COURTESY PHOTO

German POWs stand in front of their barracks while detained at Camp Rucker

larly rough place to be held, said Hughes.

“They had their own commissary where they could spend the specially printed currency they received. They had extensive opportunities to take classes and practice crafts. And they also had opportunities to produce theatricals and music performances,” he said.

“When the Italians were released because Italy was out of the war, they remained here as Italian Allies.

The POWs became friends with the Families of the farmers who used their labor,” he continued. “Later some of the former German POWs returned for visits.”

The POWs left their mark on many Fort Rucker buildings that remain behind. Between hundreds of visitors between the chapel and the Magnolia and Camellia houses, there is a lot to wonder what the walls have seen and what they could tell us.

ON POST

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

Family resilience training

Army Community Service hosts Family member resilience training Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at The Commons. The class helps give people the tools they need to become more resilient to all the challenges that life may throws at them. Interested people should RSVP at least two days before the start date.

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

Financial readiness training

Army Community Service offers its financial readiness training Feb. 7 from 7:20 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, Rm. 284. The free training provides a practical approach to personal financial management to help Soldiers gain control of and manage money effectively. Financial Readiness Training is required for all first-term junior enlisted Soldiers (E-1 through E-4) and spouses are welcome to attend.

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

International spouses get together

Army Community Service hosts get togethers for international spouses the first Friday of every month at 9 a.m. at the Allen Heights Community Center to help those who may need help understanding the American culture and military life. Spouses can meet other spouses from other countries, and gain support and knowledge with finding the resources for obtaining U.S. citizenship, education, drivers licenses and more. Multilingual volunteers are available.

If the event falls on a day of no scheduled activity, call 255-3735 to find out the new date.

Stress management

Army Community Service offers a free stress management class Feb. 11 from 9-11:30 a.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950. Attendees will learn about identifying causes of stress, symptoms of stress, techniques to manage stress and developing a stress management plan. Registration is required by Feb. 7 and space is limited to the first 16 people to register. This workshop is open to active duty and retired military, Department of Defense employees and their Family members.

For registration, childcare and more information, call 255-3898, 255-9644 or 255-9641.

Valentine’s craft making

The Center Library hosts a Valentine’s craft making activity Feb. 11 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. The activity is open to children ages 3-11. Space is limited to the first 65 children to register.

For more information



FILE PHOTO

Lifeguard courses

American Red Cross lifeguarding courses will take place in February for both weekday and weekend sessions. The weekday sessions take place Monday-Thursday and Feb. 10-13. People must attend both weeks, Mondays-Thursdays from 4-8 p.m. The weekend sessions are Saturday and Sunday, and Feb. 8-9. People must attend both sessions, Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Courses are available to ages 15 and older and cost \$100. Prerequisite on first day must be passed to enter the course: non-stop swim of 500 meters, two-minute tread, timed brick retrieval and a 15-meter underwater swim. Registration is taken at the front desk of the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center – cut-off for registration is two days prior to the start date. For more information, call 255-2296.

and to register, stop by the library or call 255-3885.

CYSS Heart-to-Heart Skate Night

Child, youth and school services holds a Heart-to-Heart Skate Night Feb. 7 at the school age center gym. The safety skate will be held from 6:15-7:15 p.m. The remainder of the night will be skating in the gym from 7:15-10:30 p.m. Children participating in the regular skate can come to a social hour from 7:15-8:15 p.m., and enjoy refreshments and a special photo option. Children can come dressed in their best Valentine’s attire to see who has the best costume – red, pink, heart clothing and accessories. Safety Skate is \$2 and is open to children of all ages with a parent present. Cost for regular skate is \$5, and children 6 and older are welcome. Younger children must have a parent or guardian at least 13 years old or older with them at all times. Payment is accepted in cash only and people are asked to bring correct change.

For more information, call 255-9108.

EFMP Focus Group

Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program invites people to let their voices be heard at an EFMP Focus Group Feb. 14 from 10-11 a.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950. EFMP officials want people’s ideas and suggestions on providing services to eligible active-duty Soldiers with exceptional Family members or disabled Family members. Participation is free and open to all interested eligible parents, guardians and spouses.

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

BEST workshop

Fort Rucker’s Better Empowered Soldier Today’s quarterly event will be held Feb. 13 at 4:30 p.m. at The

Commons, Bldg. 8950. The topic will be conflicting perceptions. The workshop will include: a skit on a Soldier interviewing for a civilian job (proper and not so proper attire); a fashion show that demonstrates outfits that the Soldier deems to be appropriate for clubbing, but may give the wrong perception by others; and a video from the perspective of a sexual offender who targeted college girls.

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

Five Love Languages

The Family advocacy program hosts a workshop on the Five Love Languages Feb. 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950. The workshop helps couples identify their love language and learn how to communicate in meaningful ways. Registration is required by Feb. 11. Space is limited to the first 16 participants to register. This workshop is free and open to active-duty and retired military, Department of Defense employees and their Family members. A light lunch will be provided, or people can bring their own brown bag lunch.

For registration and childcare information, call 255-3898, 255-9644 or 255-9641.

Dueling Pianos

Fort Rucker hosts a Dueling Pianos show Feb. 14 and 15 from 8 p.m. to midnight in The Landing’s ballroom. The high-energy, all request, comedy piano show features two pianists duel it out to see who can play better and faster. Audience participation is highly encouraged. Advanced tickets will be available at The Landing for \$12 per person before Feb. 13, and available for \$16 at the door. VIP tables will also be available for \$150 with 10 seats per table. The event is open to the public for those ages 16 and older.

DFMWR

Spotlight

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The Landing Zone Mon, 7 am – 2 pm Tues – Fri, 7 am – 4 pm Sat & Sun, 8 am – 2 pm	Lyster Army Health Clinic Mon – Fri, 7 am – 4 pm Holidays, Closed	Soldier Service Center Bldg. 5700 Mon – Fri, 7 am – 3 pm Holidays, Closed
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The Landing Zone at (334) 598-8025 www.ftruckerdmwr.com

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR JAN. 30 - FEB. 2

Thursday, Jan. 30

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG-13)7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 31

Grudge Match (PG-13)7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 1

47 Ronin (PG-13)7 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 2

Walking with Dinosaurs (PG)2 p.m.

Clinic earns \$1.25 million by patients returning survey

By Katherine Rosario
Lyster Army Health Clinic Public Affairs

Patients at Lyster Army Health Clinic, who have been filling out and returning their Army Provider Level Satisfaction Surveys, earned the clinic \$1.25 million in fiscal year 2013.

The surveys, an Army Medical Command, Office of the Surgeon General initiative to receive feedback about patients' health care experiences, are mailed to patients at random after their appointment at LAHC.

The clinic earns money for each "satisfied" survey returned, which correlates to

how patients answer questions No. 9, 13, 20 and 21. The clinic's average Overall Satisfaction score for FY13 was 94.5 percent.

LAHC earned \$91,000 in FY12 when 2,547 responses were returned. Returned surveys more than doubled in FY13 with more than 4,100 surveys sent back to LAHC. This fiscal year's first quarter has already yielded 1,688 responses.

So what does LAHC do with the money? Give it right back to our patients by hiring more staff, upgrading equipment, adding more prescriptions to our pharmacy and remodeling the building to better suit our patients' needs.

However, the money isn't the most important aspect of the survey. For the command team and staff at LAHC, the survey's feedback helps us to improve services for our patients. Listening to you through surveys helps us identify desired and needed new services vital to your health care.

Taking the time to fill out and return the survey allows the OTSG to see our progress and ensure services delivered to Soldiers and their Family members, as well as retirees and their Family members, remain exceptional.

"Attaining a 94.5 percent satisfaction rate based on returned surveys is exceptional," said LAHC Commander Col.

James Laterza. "Using your patient satisfaction feedback to improve the health care we deliver at Lyster continues to push me and my staff to exceed expectations."

If you receive a mailed survey in response to an appointment experience at LAHC, be sure to fill it out and return it. We are working hard to ensure that we exceed your health care expectations and earn excellent ratings. We want to make sure we continually have your feedback.

Giving us high marks when we meet or exceed expectations, or letting us know where we might improve, goes a long way in maintaining and improving services for you – our Partners in Health.

TRICARE walk-in service ends April 1

TRICARE
Press Release

To keep up with the rapidly increasing number of TRICARE beneficiaries, who most often turn to a laptop or cell phone when they have questions, walk-in service at the Lyster Army Health Clinic TRICARE Service Center will no longer be available as of April 1.

LAHC patients still have a wide variety of secure, electronic customer service options available through www.tricare.mil. The new "I want to...." feature puts everything beneficiaries want to do online right on the front page of www.tricare.mil.

When walk-in service ends April 1, beneficiaries who want get personal assistance can call Humana Military, at 1-(800) 444-

5445, for enrollment and benefit help. All health care, pharmacy, dental and claims contact information is located at www.tricare.mil/contactus. Beneficiaries can get 24/7 TRICARE benefit information at www.tricare.mil, and make enrollment changes and more online at www.tricare.mil/enrollment

Rather than driving to an installation TSC, TRICARE ben-

eficiaries can download health care forms online and send them through the U.S. mail – at a cost of less than 50 cents.

Walk-in customer service is also the most expensive possible customer service option. By eliminating walk-in customer service at TSCs, the Department of Defense estimates savings of about \$250 million over five years. The change does not affect

TRICARE benefits or health care delivery.

LAHC understands that the closing of the TSC (located in the Patient Service Center at the front of the clinic) may be difficult at first; therefore, clinic staff will be available to answer TRICARE-related questions.

Find out more at www.tricare.mil/TSC.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Ryker, a 3-1/2-year-old, 12.5-pound, neutered male available for adoption at the Fort Rucker stray facility. He's very friendly – very social with people – and he loves laps. It costs \$80 to adopt Ryker and other animals at the facility, which includes all up-to-date shots, the first round of age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip and spaying and neutering. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. All adoptable animals are vet checked and tested for felv/fiv (for cats) or heartworm for dogs (over six months) and on flea prevention. The facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels. Donations can be dropped off at the stray facility, veterinary clinic or the commissary. 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.

Religious Services

WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday.

Headquarters Chapel, Building 109
8:00 a.m. Multi-Cultural Worship Service

Main Post Chapel, Building 8940
9:00 a.m. Catholic Mass
Sunday
11:00 a.m. Liturgical Worship Service
12:05 p.m. Catholic Mass (Tuesday - Friday)
4:00 p.m. Catholic Confessions Saturday
5:00 p.m. Catholic Mass Saturday

Wings Chapel, Building 6036
08:00 a.m. Latter-Day Saints Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Wings Contemporary Worship Protestant Service.

Spiritual Life Center, Building 8939
10:45 a.m. CCD (except during summer months).

BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesday-
9:00 a.m. Protestant Women of the Chapel, Wings Chapel

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Birmingham Zoo offers Valentine’s Woo at the Zoo



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Birmingham Zoo Press Release

This Valentine’s Day, the Birmingham Zoo will host its first annual event, Woo at the Zoo from 6-8 p.m.

The event will feature desserts, beverages and exclusive animal greetings in the Zoo’s auditorium. Dr. William Foster, Birmingham Zoo CEO and president, will open the evening, followed by a series of engaging expositions on love in the wild, led by the Zoo’s lead veterinarian, Dr. Clay Hilton, and experienced staff.

Topics covered will include the courtship of different species of animals, anatomical diversities, interesting factoids and much more. Woo at the Zoo is designed for those seeking an en-

riching and unique experience on Valentine’s Day – setting this day apart from other Valentine’s Day formalities.

Animal advocates and romance enthusiasts alike will be excited to attend this love-themed event at the Birmingham Zoo.

Pricing:

- \$50 Member (individual);
- \$75 Member (couple);
- \$65 Non-member (individual); and
- \$90 Non-member (couple)

The event is open to those ages 21 and older only. All proceeds benefit conservation efforts at the Birmingham Zoo. Seating is limited. To purchase tickets visit <http://www.birminghamzoo.com/> or call (205) 879-0409. Animals are not on exhibit during Woo at the Zoo.

WIREFLASS 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

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 on Sundays and games and TVs are available for entertainment. Open to all. Post can host parties, weddings, hails and farewells. For more information, call 598-6211, 598-1297 or 598-6211/379-9187.

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

DOTHAN

NOW THROUGH FEB. 28 —The Flagship Theater is now enrolling for spring classes. The play featured will be “The Golden Fleece of Colchis.” The theater will also be putting on “The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)” March 19-22. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$12 for adults. For more information, call 699-3524 or visit www.theflagshiptheatre.com.

FEB. 14 — A Cupid Affair, a Valentine’s dinner and fundraiser event, at The Loft will take place at 6 p.m. on Foster Street. People have a choice of three different entrées: steak, lasagna or chicken. Live music will be provided.

Tickets are \$50 per person with proceeds benefiting Wiregrass United Way 2-1-1. There is limited seating. For tickets and more information, call 836-1963 or 702-6529.

MARCH 16 — The Flagship Theater will have auditions for “Romeo and Juliet” from 2-6 p.m. Actors must have a one-minute Shakespearean monologue prepared. All minors must have a parent with them in order to audition. For ages 6 and older. The show will run April 29-May 3 at 7 p.m. with a special matinee performance at 2 p.m. on May 3. For more information, call 699-3524 or visit www.theflagshiptheatre.com.

APRIL 8 — The Flagship Theater will have an intermediate and advanced acting showcase at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$12 for adults. For more information, call 699-3524 or visit www.theflagshiptheatre.com.

ONGOING — People are invited to play ultimate disc with the Dothan Ultimate Discers on Optimist Field on Thursdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Described as being co-ed fun for everyone from age 10 to 100 with no prior experience required. For more information, call 615-3760.

ONGOING — Alabama Agricultural Museum in Landmark Park hosts the Wiregrass Woodturners club meeting the first Saturday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Open to the public, no experience necessary. Free with paid gate admission.

ONGOING — Wiregrass Suicide Prevention Services holds bi-monthly suicide survivor support groups the second and fourth Monday at 6 p.m. at 148 E. Main Street. The support groups are for anyone who has lost a friend or loved one to suicide. Children’s groups are also available. For more information, call 792-9814.

ONGOING — The Tri-State Community Orchestra rehearses every Thursday evening from 6-8 p.m. at the Dothan Cultural Arts Center. They welcome all string, brass, woodwind, and percussion players ages 16 and up. For more information, visit www.tristatecommunityorchestra.com or call 585-4903.

ONGOING — The Wiregrass Youth Symphony Orchestra meets every Saturday morning at the Dothan Cultural Arts Center. They offer beginner lessons and welcome all string players high school age and below who already play. For more information, visit www.tristatecommunityorchestra.com or call 696-2320.

ENTERPRISE

NOW THROUGH FEB. 28 — The Mitchell Auto Group is currently hosting a food drive for the Christian Mission Centers, Inc. The fifth annual Restock the Christian Mission Pantry food drive goal is to fight hunger in the Wiregrass region by lending a hand to those members of the community who are less fortunate than others. Interested donors can make their donations at any of the three Mitchell locations. Customers who make donations of non-perishable food items during the food drive will receive 10 percent off their next service visits. For more information, call 888-806-1252.

FEB. 8 — St. John’s Catholic Montessori School is hosting Trivia Night in the New Hall at 123 Heath Street. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. All tickets can be purchased at www.eventbrite.com. For adults, tickets are \$50 per table, which includes both games and snack food. For children, tickets are \$5 per Family, which include the quiz, snack, and drink.

For more information, call 709-4156 or email sjcmtrivianight@yahoo.com.

FEB. 13 — The Dallas Brass will be performing at 7 p.m. at the Enterprise High School Performing Arts Center. The concert “American Musical Journey” incorporates a full complement of brass and percussion for a musical travelogue through American history. From the time of George Washington to the present day, music will be selected from the masters — Copland, Bernstein, Gershwin, Berlin, John Williams, Sousa; and styles from Dixieland, swing, folk, patriotic and pop. The concert is intended for the entire Family. For more information, call 406-2787 or visit www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com.

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 73 meets at the American Legion/Doer’s Shrine Club building at 200 Gibson Street on the fourth Saturday of each month, beginning at 8 a.m. The building is across the street from the Lee Street Baptist Church. For more information, call post commander Jerry Goodson at 347-5961 or 447-8507.

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

ONGOING — Enterprise State Community College holds classes to teach English as a second language at the Fort Rucker campus Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. until noon in Bldg. 4502, Rm. 131.

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 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 — Disabled American Veterans Chapter #99 maintains a DAV service office in the New Brockton Police station every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon. All veteran services provided are free. For more information, call 718-5707.

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

OZARK

FRIDAY AND FEB. 1, 2 – The Ann Rudd Art Center will host stained glass classes from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information and price of class call 774-7322.

FEB. 12 —The Dale County Chapter of National Active and Retired Federal Employees will meet at 11a. m. at Colby’s Restaurant. All Federal employees, active and retired, are encouraged to support attend and bring Family and friends. People can enjoy a social hour while dining before the program. For more information, call 435-3305.

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

ONGOING — Every Wednesday the Ozark-Dale County Public Library hosts free Wii Zumba from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Teens and adults are invited. For more information, call 774-5480.

ONGOING — Every Thursday at the Ozark Chamber of Commerce the Somersizers Weight Club meets at 5 p.m. to shed weight. For more information, call 774-9321.

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

TROY

ONGOING — Troy Bank and Trust Company sponsors senior dance nights every Saturday night from 7-10 p.m. at the J.O. Colley Senior Complex.

The complex is transformed into a dance hall and features music from the 40s, 50s, and 60s, finger foods, and refreshments.

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

Beyond Briefs

Chili cook-off

Considered one of the area’s largest annual events, St. George Island will host its annual Charity Chili Cookoff and Auction March 1. The winner of the competition advances to the world championship and all proceeds benefit the Island Volunteer Fire Department and first responder unit. Activities also include a golf tournament, 5k Red Pepper Run, Crock Pot Judging and the naming of Miss Chili Pepper and Mr. Hot Sauce. For more information, call (850) 927-2753.

Welcome Home Celebration

A Vietnam Veteran’s Welcome Home Celebration will

be held March 26 -30 in Branson, Mo. The week will include a registration and an expo hall for information, an opening ceremony, a meet and greet, an awareness motorcycle ride, a Flame of Freedom ceremony, a parade, a “hoe-down” barbecue and a patriotic closing show.

For more information, email Julie Peters at jpeters@bransoncvb.com.

Mardi Gras

Habitat for Humanity hosts Mardi Gras benefit celebration in Apalachicola Friday through Feb. 1

There will be a pet parade and festivities including live music, dancing and food in Riverfront Park for the whole Family as well as a Mardi Gras Ball.

The Mardi Gras Dinner and Ball will be Saturday at Fort Coombs Armory. Tickets for dinner and the show are \$50 and general admission is \$25.

For more information or to pre-register, call (850) 670-5064 or (850) 653-2025.

Chef Sampler

The 18th annual Forgotten Coast Chef’s Sampler will be held Feb. 9. This annual event features chefs from all over the Forgotten Coast preparing their most creative dishes at Fort Coombs Armory located in Apalachicola. People can also sample an array from the areas restaurants. Tickets are \$60 per person.

For more information, call (850) 653-9419 or email info@apalachicolabay.org.

TRADOC: Smarter robots likely in Army’s future

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Unmanned robots already have proven their worth on the battlefield, neutralizing improvised explosive devices, and more capable ones are coming in the future, according to the commander of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

While robots and unmanned platforms will continue to provide valuable assistance to Soldiers on the battlefield, there may even come a day when they can begin replacing Soldiers, Gen. Robert W. Cone told reporters at Association of the United States Army’s Aviation Symposium, held earlier this month.

Cone’s remarks sparked further discussion at a Jan. 22 media roundtable co-hosted by the College of William & Mary and TRADOC on the campus of W&M.

Discussions focused on a range of other issues, as well, that came out of this month’s Strategic Trends Seminar, which looked at challenges and opportunities that will test the force in the coming years and decades.

The Army already has teamed Apache helicopters and unmanned aircraft in Afghanistan, so “there’s a potential to augment that capability and in some cases and under specific circumstances to replace manpower,” said Maj. Gen. Bill Hix, deputy director, Army Capabilities Integration Center.

Dismounted ground robots are already assisting Soldiers, much in the way a bird dog provides extra eyes and ears, and a keen sense of smell for a hunter, Hix said, borrowing an analogy.

“That’s an additive capability that makes a Soldier that much more effective because the robot may carry additional munitions or logistics, and even sensors that allow him to focus more on mission tasks and not deal with what’s sometimes called dirty, dumb, dangerous and repetitive tasks,” he said.

There might even be convoys that are principally unmanned in the future, he continued, with some oversight by Soldiers. Convoys in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan were often the target of attacks by insurgents using improvised explosive devices and small-arms fire.

The integration of robotics into all of the capabilities the Army brings to the table was the focus of Soldiers, scientists and academia at the Strategic Trends Seminar, said Col. Chris Cross, chief of Science and Technology, Army Capabilities Integration Center.

“It’s hard to conceive that we’ll fight a fight in 2035 without the integration of some type of unmanned combat platform,” he said, referring to the thoughts of scientists and academia at the seminar.

Cross, who has a doctorate in nuclear physics, agreed with Hix regarding convoy duty for robots, adding that this capability could be added “fairly quickly” with tethered or untethered robots. Tethered robots are controlled by a wire and untethered is wireless controlled.

Besides performing physical tasks that are dumb and dirty, Cross expects that future robots will be able to assist Soldiers in the decision-making process.

The science and technology community is looking at a range of options to provide to Army leaders for future planning purposes, Cross added.

“We will fight against robotic platforms in the future that are either autonomous or semi-autonomous,” he said. So it’s not just how robots will be integrated into the force, it’s also how the Army will deal with enemy robots.

When it comes to the autonomous decision-making capability of robots, there was a great discussion at the seminar

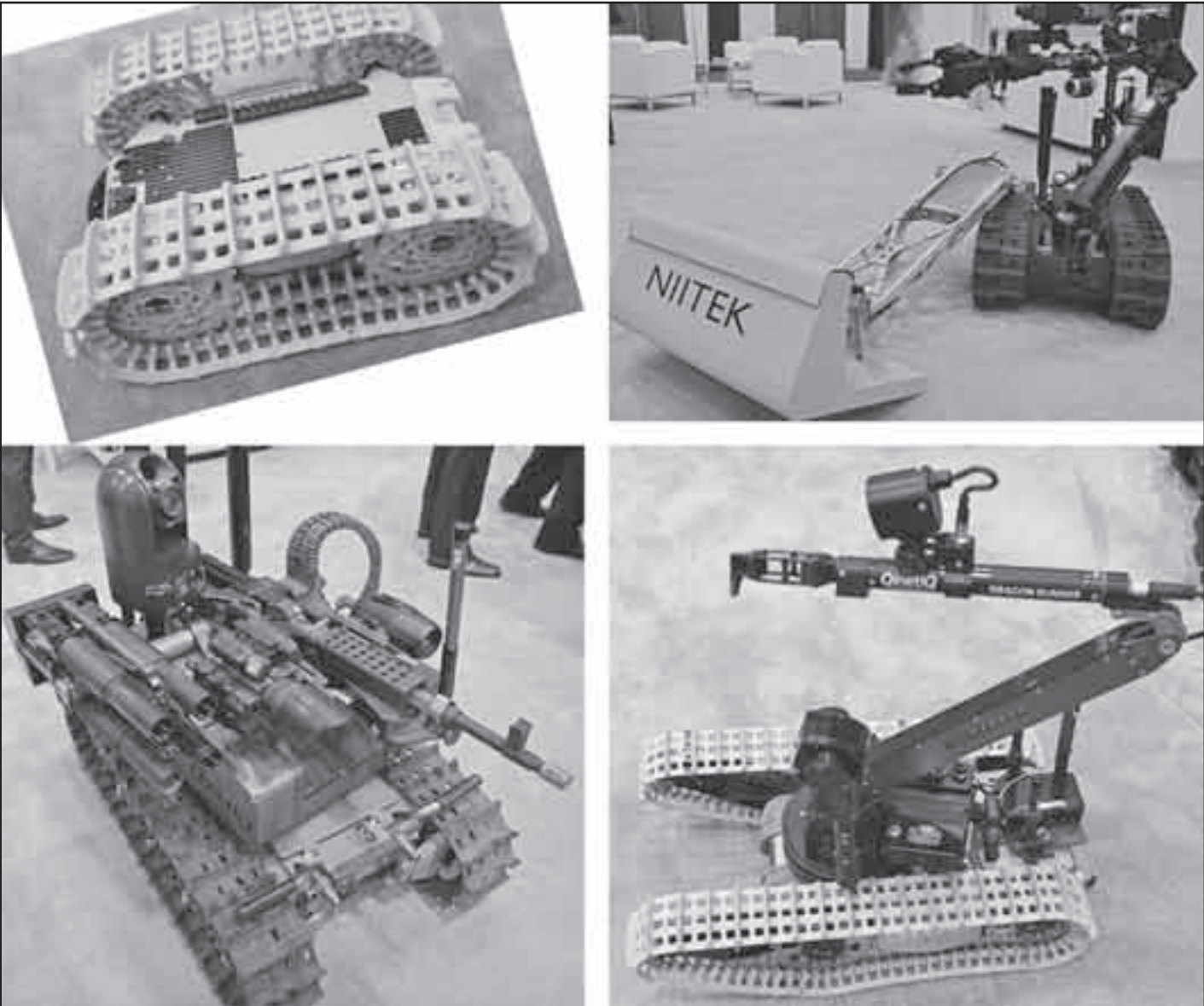


PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

Unmanned ground vehicles of different capabilities are displayed during the 2013 Association of the United States Army’s Aviation Symposium and Exposition in Washington, D.C. Future robots will be even smarter and more capable, possibly replacing Soldiers, future planners say.

about the levels of responsibility, said Col. Kevin Felix, chief, Future Warfare Division, ARCIC.

The technology is already here for robots, but there needs to be more discussion and consensus on the ethics of it, he said. That discussion will have to be done at the national level.

And, he added, adversaries “won’t necessarily play by the same rules that we play by.”

Also, as more robotic systems are brought in, there are a host of other things to consider as well, like procurement and sustainment costs, he said.

Human enhancements – things that allow Soldiers to lift more and augment the senses – while not strictly robotic, are also on the horizon, Felix predicted, adding that this was discussed at the seminar.

Despite the budget squeeze, the Army needs to continue to invest in science, technology, research and development so it’s better prepared for the next war, Hix said.

That the Strategic Trends Seminar was held on the campus of W&M with scientists and academia present was good for the Army, he added, because they offer a unique perspective.

It’s fortunate that TRADOC is located so close to the W&M campus in Williamsburg, Va., added Dr. Jim Golden, vice president, Strategic Initiatives, W&M.

There’s a large area of intersection between the research being done at the college and that being done by Army planners, Golden said. W&M can offer the Army its analysis of topics like neuroscience, cultural and societal trends that might shape the environment 30 years out that the Army might want to take into consideration when planning, he said.

Hix said TRADOC is also partnering with the intelligence community to determine where opponents are investing their money in robotics, electro-magnetic and cyber warfare, and other capabilities.

“It’s not inevitable that we’ll be over-matched by future adversaries,” he said, “But we don’t want to face that prospect.”



PHOTO BY C. TODD LOPEZ

A Small Unmanned Ground Vehicle walks down the steps of the Pentagon during a technology display in 2008.

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Mon - Fri: 7:00 & 9:10
Sat & Sun: 2:00, 4:10, 7:00 & 9:10

II RIDE ALONG - PG13
Mon - Fri: 7:10 & 9:20
Sat & Sun: 2:00, 4:10, 7:10 & 9:20

WESTGATE CENTER

III FROZEN (SING ALONG) - PG
Mon - Fri: 7:00 • Sat & Sun: 2:00, 4:00 & 7:00

FROZEN (NON SING ALONG) - PG
Mon - Fri: 9:00 • Sat & Sun: 9:00

IV JACK RYAN: SHADOW RECRUIT - PG13
Mon - Fri: 7:00 & 9:10
Sat & Sun: 2:00, 4:10, 7:00 & 9:10

COLLEGE CINEMA • ENTERPRISE

I AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY - R
Mon - Fri: 7:00 & 9:20
Sat & Sun: 2:00, 4:20, 7:00 & 9:20

II THE NUT JOB - 2D - PG
Mon - Fri: 7:00
Sat & Sun: 2:00, 4:00 & 7:00

I, FRANKENSTEIN - PG13
2D Mon - Fri: 9:00 • Sat & Sun: 9:00

III LONE SURVIVOR - R
Mon - Fri: 7:00 & 9:20
Sat & Sun: 2:00, 4:20, 7:00 & 9:20

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CID warns of Government Travel Card phishing scam

Army Criminal Investigation Command
Press Release

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is warning the greater Army community about a new phishing scam where criminals are targeting U.S. Government Travel Card holders.

Over the last few days, Citi, the Government Travel Charge Card provider, has received calls informing them of a new phishing scam where cardholders have reported receiving suspicious text messages from 19014140142@VTEXT.COM.

The false text messages state that the cardholder's account will be suspended unless certain information is verified such as the full account number, the Card Verification Value number on the back of the card, the last four digits of the cardholder's social security number and the four-digit PIN.

This text message is not a legitimate or official message, and cardholders are advised not to respond to the request for information.

As a precaution, the suspicious phone number where the text messages originated from has been disconnected by the Federal Trade Commission and now has a pre-recorded message informing callers that they may have been involved in a phishing attack.

The message also informs callers about the specific type of scam that was employed, what steps to take to see if their account has been compromised and how to prevent themselves from becoming a potential victim.

Additional information regarding phishing and other Internet scams, as well as general online safety information can be found at www.onguardonline.gov.

If you are a victim of a phishing scam, the following actions should be completed as soon as possible to assist law enforcement:

- Report the crime to the Internet Crime Complaint Center online at <http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>; and
- Report the crime to the Federal Trade Commission online at <http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft>, or by phone at 1-(877) ID-THEFT (438-4338) or 1-(866) 653-4261, or by mail at Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580

CID strongly recommends that Soldiers, civilians and Family members who have information of any known crime committed by a Soldier or a crime that occurred on their respective post, camp or station to report the incident to their local CID office at 255-3108, or send an email to CID at Army.CID.Crime.Tips@mail.mil.



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HEALTH

5 Soldiers selected for U.S. Olympic Bobsled Team

Story on Page D3

JANUARY 30, 2014



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFAU

James Allen, player for the Warriors, pushes past an opposing team player during the first game of the 2014 Fort Rucker Intramural Basketball season. The Warriors beat the Tropics 70-43.

It counts: Intramural basketball tips off

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Preseason is over and two teams took to the court to tip-off the 2014 Fort Rucker Intramural Basketball season.

The 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment Warriors dominated the 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt. Tropics, 70-43, during the opening game of the season at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center Monday.

The Warriors took charge early on and held the lead for nearly the entire game, leading their opponents by more than 30 points at one time. Although the Tropics showed promise a few times with a string of three-point shots and lay ups, it wasn't enough to stifle the 1-13th's momentum.

"This is our first game of the season and we actually played a pretty good game," said Staff Sgt. Mandrel Douglas, coach of the Warriors. "I think we played hard and I think we've got a good shot at the championship this year."

The Tropics started off with the advantage getting their hands on the ball at the tip off, but were unable to sink a shot and the Warriors got the rebound and drove the ball

down court for the first basket of the game just seconds in.

The 1-145th showed promise as they came back with a three-point shot to take the lead; the only time they would do so during the game.

It seemed anybody's game early on, but the Warriors stepped up their game and gave their opponent's a run for their money.

Their superior defense kept the Tropics at bay while they recovered rebound after rebound to gain possession and go for the goal. The Warriors' offense was able to get past their opponents at every turn to extend their lead, and only minutes into the game, they had a 10-point lead in the first period.

The Tropics defense tightened up during most of the second period and neither team seemed able to score, but a foul against the Warriors broke the stagnation and allowed them to score off the free throw rebound.

The 1-13th's ability to block and steal allowed them to stay one step ahead of their opponents, and by the half, the Warriors were leading by 14 points, 38-24.

The Tropics weren't so far behind that they couldn't turn things

around as the game went into the second half, but the Warriors had possession to start and sunk a three-point shot to start the third period.

Their defense kept on the Tropics players, trapping them at every turn to prevent them from scoring, allowing them to gain a 20-point lead less than four minutes into the half.

The Tropics started to show promise going into the fourth period with a string of baskets, including two three-pointers that allowed them to slowly close the scoring gap.

This seemed to only make the Warriors work harder and they regained what little ground they lost and led their opponents with a game-high lead of 31 points with only two minutes remaining.

Not to go out with a fight, the Tropics did what they could to close the gap as much as possible before the buzzer sounded, ending the game 70-43.

"This year, I think we've got the speed that we need and we've got good outside shooting," said Douglas. "We've got really good guards this year and I think we can go all the way."



Players jump for the ball during the tipoff of the first game of the 2014 Fort Rucker Intramural Basketball season.



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Chili 5K

The 22nd annual AAAA Chili 5k and Cook Off was held Saturday at the Fort Rucker Festival Fields. More than 150 runners participated despite the cold weather, and approximately 300 people enjoyed more than 10 chili recipes supplied by Soldiers, civilians and local military supporters.

DOWN TIME



TRIVIA

1. LANGUAGE: What does the verb "bibble" mean?
2. FAMOUS QUOTES: Who once said, "Humor is just another defense against the universe."
3. MOVIES: Which Charlton Heston movie used more than 1 million props?
4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: About how long is the Iditarod Trail sled dog race?
5. AD SLOGANS: What advertiser urged consumers to "Say it with flowers"?
6. ANATOMY: Of the 206 bones in the adult body, about one-fourth are located where?
7. LITERATURE: Which book written by Charles Dickens features a young boy named Pip?
8. MUSIC: What was Paul Simon's first solo to hit the Top 10?
9. MYTHOLOGY: Who was Hippolyta in Greek mythology?
10. FOOD & DRINK: What kind of fruit is the liqueur Chambord made from?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Singer Bette
 - 7 Old name for the Congo
 - 12 Miles — gallon
 - 15 Spill the secret
 - 19 Room recess
 - 20 Dressed for Halloween
 - 22 The — of the Ancient Mariner
 - 23 Acquired a forbidden thing?
 - 25 French clergyman
 - 26 S&L part
 - 27 Peddle
 - 28 Waterways
 - 30 Send in, as a check
 - 34 Bolt out of a seating tier?
 - 36 City in SW California
 - 41 Gillette razor brand
 - 43 Joel or Ethan of film
 - 44 Silly — goose
 - 45 Knockoff merchandise items?
 - 49 Three-screen cinema
 - 51 Hypnotized states
 - 52 "ER" actor
 - 53 Russia's Alexis I, e.g.
 - 54 Body of a cell
 - 55 Actor Hunter
 - 58 Chopin challenge
 - 60 Port in Norway
 - 64 Stopper
 - 67 Refrigerated nut that can chip a tooth?
 - 71 Rightful
 - 73 "Tutti" —
 - 75 The "E" of S.E. Hinton
 - 76 Wedded
 - 77 Smash hit that's not performed outside?
 - 80 Grammy winner
 - 82 Ukraine's capital
 - 83 Remove a curse from
 - 84 Streets: Abbr.
 - 86 Trim down
 - 89 Gorbachev's empire
 - 92 American mail org.
 - 94 Secretary of State Clinton
 - 97 Start spasming, as a muscle
 - 100 Say "It's so foolish to play cards"?
 - 103 Trouble
 - 104 Lincoln and Beane
 - 106 Fly like a vulture
 - 107 Like a firstborn child
 - 108 Wading bird barbecued on a rotating rod?
 - 112 Last Greek vowel
 - 114 Audible breather
 - 115 Start of a magician's cry
 - 117 Sign of the future
 - 123 — time flat
 - 124 "Vacation on this marshy inlet on credit"?
 - 129 Former Navajo foe
 - 130 Italian range
 - 131 Propelling a boat
 - 132 Blister, e.g.
 - 133 "Weekend Edition" ailer
 - 134 Rub it in
 - 135 Fuses
 - 2 Skater Kulik
 - 3 Ovid's 705
 - 4 Norse trickster god
 - 5 Parallel (with)
 - 6 Merlot, say
 - 7 Nada
 - 8 Pantry crawler
 - 9 Freud's "I"
 - 10 Richard and Jane in court
 - 11 Actor Will
 - 12 Part of PBS
 - 13 Subgenre of punk rock
 - 14 Arranges differently
 - 15 "Great job!"
 - 16 Progressive
 - 17 "The Devil's Dictionary" author
 - 18 "None of your —!"
 - 21 Verbalize
 - 24 Put to work
 - 29 Ancient
 - 31 Aegean land
 - 32 — be nice
 - 33 Loyal
 - 35 Certain finished lowercase letter
 - 36 CPR gives, sometimes
 - 37 Prefix with 90-Down
 - 88 Hit PC game
 - 90 "The final frontier"
 - 91 Like outlying districts
 - 93 "Scram!"
 - 95 "Amen, bro!"
 - 96 "Bad" cholesterol, briefly
 - 97 — Clay (Muhammad Ali, once)
 - 98 Lambaste
 - 99 One who straightens
 - 101 Grier of film
 - 102 Refined find
 - 105 Assassin
 - 109 Just one of — things
 - 110 Black, to Poe
 - 111 Twisted forcibly
 - 113 A student's pride; Abbr.
 - 116 Blue dye
 - 118 Ardor
 - 119 Hindu dress
 - 120 On the job
 - 121 Actor Wilder
 - 122 Physicians' work units
 - 125 Smartphone extra
 - 126 "Bad-in" stager Yoko
 - 127 "Aren't — pair?"
 - 128 Seattle hrs.



See Page D3 for this week's answers.

OOH, BABY!

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID's CORNER



5 Soldiers selected for U.S. Olympic Bobsled Team

By **Tim Hipps**
Installation Management Command Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO – Five Soldiers in the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program have been selected for the U.S. Olympic men’s bobsled team that will compete at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

Capt. Chris Fogt, Sgt. Justin Olsen, Sgt. Nick Cunningham, Sgt. Dallas Robinson and Team USA assistant coach 1st Lt. Michael Kohn will represent the Army in Russia. With the exception of Robinson, everyone in the group has previously competed in the Olympics.

They will be joined by former WCAP bobsledder Steven Holcomb, the reigning Olympic champion driver in the four-man event. Therefore, WCAP had a hand in helping produce about half of the U.S. Olympic men’s bobsled squad.

Holcomb, who spent seven years in WCAP, will drive USA-1 with brakeman Fogt and civilians Curt Tomasevicz and Steve Langton aboard. Holcomb also will drive USA-1 in the two-man event.

Cunningham will drive USA-2 with WCAP teammates Olsen, Robinson and civilian Johnny Quinn aboard. Olsen was a member of Holcomb’s four-man squad that struck gold at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada.

Cunningham and Corey Butner also will pilot U.S. sleds in the two-man event. The two-man bobsled brakemen will be selected from the pool of six push athletes named to the four-man squads.

A number of components were considered when selecting the 2014 U.S. Olympic Bobsled Team push athletes, including combine test and U.S. National Push Championship results, U.S. National Team Trials finishes, driver input, proven international experience with a history of results and team combinations working well together, trend of push times, start rank and velocity, and current season results.

Nations were allocated Olympic quotas based on rank in international points following seven competitions during the 2013-2014 season. The U.S. was one of three nations that qualified to enter the maximum of three teams in men’s two-man bobsled competition, and one of only two nations to qualify the maximum of three sleds in the women’s race. The U.S. was not one of the top three nations in four-man bobsled standings and is limited to two crews.

The Olympic bobsled events are scheduled for a four-heat format over two days of racing. The men’s two-man bobsled competition is slated for Feb. 16-17, followed by women’s bobsled Feb. 18-19. The men’s four-man bobsled competition will be one of the last events of the Olympic Games, set for Feb. 22-23.



PHOTO BY TIM HIPPS

Sgt. Nick Cunningham of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program jumps into the sled to drive Olympic gold medalist and WCAP teammate Sgt. Justin Olsen, Johnny Quinn and Abe Morlu to 16th place in the four-man bobsled event at the International Bobsled & Skeleton Federation’s 2013 World Cup stop Dec. 7 at Utah Olympic Park in Park City, Utah.

3 Soldiers nominated to U.S. Olympic luge team

By **Tim Hipps**
Installation Management Command Public Affairs

PARK CITY, Utah – Three Soldiers from the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program earned nominations for the U.S. Olympic Luge Team for the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

Team USA luge coach Staff Sgt. Bill Tavares will lead Sgt. Matt Mortensen and Sgt. Preston Griffall, who secured their spot with a ninth-place finish in doubles at the Luge World Cup stop in December at Utah Olympic Park.

The WCAP duo completed its first run down the 1,335-meter track that features 15 curves in 43.948 seconds, followed by a shakier slide down the mountain in 44.132 seconds – for a cumulative time of 1:28.080. Germany’s Tobias Wendl and Bvias Arlt won the race with a 1:27.326 clocking.

“There’s always a little bit of

pressure when you’re sliding, but for Preston and me, the main thing was just get down to the finish without walls – do something that you’ve done hundreds of times, and just do it OK,” said Mortensen, 28, of Huntington Station, N.Y. “Second run, I tried not to do it OK, but we still managed to get down without any walls.”

Griffall, a 2006 Olympian who just missed making the team in 2010, had even more reason to be concerned. As the bottom guy on a doubles team, it’s often difficult to see what is happening.

“Our second run, like Matt said, we had some problems on the run,” said Griffall, 29, of Salt Lake City, Utah. “There’s a big scoreboard, actually, behind curve 14 – because I can’t see directly in front of me because Matt’s sitting there – so I was turned around and trying to look at the scoreboard to see what place we were in. And we’re still traveling at 60 or 70 miles per hour, and I couldn’t see where the

place was on the board.”

Another four years instantaneously flashed through the mind of Griffall.

“I had no idea what place we were in, and Matt wasn’t doing anything, so there was no reaction at first. I was like, ‘Oh, my God, maybe we didn’t get the place that we needed,’ he recalled. “I finally was able to see around him once we got further up the outrun and I saw that we were in second place [at that point in the competition] and at that point I knew that we had met the place we needed to in order to qualify for the Olympics.

“I was just extremely excited,” Griffall said. “That was what we needed to do. I was happy for both Matt and I that we were finally able to do this after seven years. This is the goal that we had, and we finally met that goal. I’m just trying to enjoy it right now and we’re going to look forward toward Sochi, get there and try and go for it -- give ourselves the possibility of going for a medal.”

Mortensen was “paralyzed by emotion” the moment he realized the WCAP duo’s second run was good enough to earn an Olympic berth.

“All that matters is that we qualified for the Olympics and we’re going to Sochi,” he said. “We ended up in ninth place today, which is same as last week, so that’s really, really good for us.”

The next day, Mortensen and Griffall enjoyed a “victory lap,” of sorts, by anchoring Team USA to a silver medal in the World Cup team relay, an event that will make its Olympic debut in Sochi. Kate Hansen slid the women’s singles leg and Chris Mazdzer filled the men’s singles spot on the relay team.

USALuge officially announced nomination of the 2014 Olympic Luge Team, pending U.S. Olympic Committee approval, during a gala at the Utah Olympic Park Museum.

Joining the WCAP lugers on Team USA: Mazdzer of Sara-

nac Lake, N.Y., Tucker West of Ridgefield, Conn., and Aidan Kelly of West Islip, N.Y., in men’s singles; Erin Hamlin of Remsen, N.Y., Hansen of La Canada, Calif., and Summer Britcher of Glen Rock, Pa., in women’s singles, along with Christian Niccum of Woodinville, Wash., and Jayson Terdiman of Berwick, Pa., in doubles.

“It’s unbelievable,” Mortensen said. “I get emotional thinking about it. It’s been almost 17 years that I’ve been working toward this point, and for it to finally happen is like a dream come true.”

Griffall hopes his third go-round might indeed produce the charm.

“Emotionally, it’s a pretty powerful thing,” he said. “This is the biggest event for our sport. It only happens every four years. We have World Cups and World Championships in between, but this is the big one, you know? Yeah, after Matt and I missed it narrowly in 2010, this has been a long time coming.”

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

TRIVIA

Answers

- To drink often or much
- Mel Brooks
- “Ben-Hur”
- More than 1,000 miles
- FTD
- In the feet
- “Great Expectations”
- “Mother and Child Reunion”
- Queen of the Amazons
- Raspberry

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword

Answers

M	I	D	L	E	R		Z	A	I	R		P	E	R		B	L	A	B			
A	L	C	O	V	E		I	N	C	O	S	T	U	M	E		R	I	M	E		
P	I	C	K	E	D	U	P	T	H	E	T	A	B	O	O		A	B	B	E		
S	A	V	I	N	G	S				S	E	L				R	I	V	E	R	S	
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E	A	S	T	L	A		A	T	R	A			C	O	E	N		A	S	A		
M	E	T	O	O	P	R	O	D	U	C	T	S				T	R	I	P	L	E	X
T	R	A	N	C	E	S				E	R	I	Q			T	S	A	R			
S	O	M	A				T	A	B		E	T	U	D	E		O	S	L	O		
			P	L	U	G			C	O	L	D	H	A	R	D	C	A	S	H	E	W
D	U	E				F	R	U	T	T	I		E	L	O	I	S	E		O	N	E
I	N	D	O	O	R	S	O	C	K	E	R	O	O			A	R	I	E			
K	I	E	V			U	N	H	E	X		R	D	S			S	L	I	M		
			U	S	S	R			U	S	P	S				H	I	L	L	A	R	Y
C	R	A	M	P	U	P			P	O	O	H	P	O	O	H	D	E	C	K	S	
A	I	L		A	B	E	S			S	O	A	R			E	L	D	E	S	T	
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RUN/WALK PROGRAM

Beginning in February, the Fort Rucker physical fitness centers will offer a Run/Walk Program. People can run or walk and record their mileage at the front desk of either of the PFCs. This is an ongoing program where each member's mileage total will be posted monthly and members will earn mileage patches based on their totals. People who reach 1,000 miles will win a water bottle.

For more information, call the Fort Rucker PFC at 255-2296 or the Fortenberry-Colton PFC at 255-3794.

GYM RAT WORKOUT PROGRAM

Beginning February, Fort Rucker's physical fitness centers will offer the Gym Rat, a new program open to all authorized patrons of both PFCs. People can join the elite with 100 days of fitness. People can obtain signatures from Fort Rucker gym staff on their form every time they work out or attend a group fitness class at either fitness center. When people get 100 signatures, they will receive an exclusive Gym Rat T-shirt. People can pick up forms from the front desk of either PFC to get started. Boot Camp participation will not be included in this 100-day event, but time in the gym and fitness classes during Boot Camp can be credited. People will have up to 365 days to complete program.

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

YOUTH SPORTS REGISTRATION

Registration for youth baseball and jump roping will take place Saturday through Feb. 28. Baseball season will take place April 8 to May 31. Children must meet age requirements by May 1. A current sports physical and valid child, youth and school services registration are required

for participation. Youth sports will host a parents' meeting for baseball and jump roping March 13 at 6 p.m. in the youth center gymnasium, Bldg. 2800, for parents who are new to the Fort Rucker Youth Sports and Fitness Program.

Coaches are needed, so interested people can call 255-0950 to volunteer or get more information. Also, parents should call 255-2257 or 255-2254 to let the staff know children's shirt size when using WebTrac.

BLACK HISTORY 5K

Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center will host the annual Black History 5k and 1-Mile Fun Run Feb. 8 from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration on the day of the event will begin at 7:30 a.m. and end at 8:40 a.m. at the fitness center. Participants are encouraged to pre-register for the event. The fun run is free and open to all, and will begin after the 5k is completed. Fun run participants ages 12 and younger will receive a medal.

Cost is \$12 for individuals for the no-shirt option, and \$20 for a shirt before Saturday and \$25 afterwards, while supplies last. For teams, the cost is \$120 for a team of eight (each additional person pays normal fee) up to Feb. 1 (includes shirts), and \$160 after that and up to race day. Trophies will be awarded in various individual and team categories.

For more information, call 255-3794.

GOBBLER CLASSIC TURKEY HUNT REGISTRATION

Registration for the Gobbler Classic Turkey Hunt is being held Feb. 14 through March 14 at Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation. The hunt will be held March 15 through April 30. Cost is \$25 per person. Participants must have an

Alabama State hunting license, a Fort Rucker post hunting permit and a hunter education card. Alabama State regulations and Fort Rucker Regulation 215-1 apply. The turkey must be harvested on Fort Rucker in order to qualify.

For more information, call 255-4305.

YOUTH SPORTS BATTING CAGES CLOSE

The Fort Rucker Child, Youth and School Services Youth Sports and Fitness Batting Cages are closed and will reopen with normal hours of operation Feb. 17.

For more information, call 255-2254 or 255-2257.

ATV TRAIL RIDE

Outdoor recreation hosts an ATV Trail Ride Feb. 22 from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. Preregistration is required and people must be 16 or older to participate. Participants must pass the safety driving test through outdoor recreation, and they must provide their own ATV and protective gear (helmet, boots, etc.). Protective gear must be worn at all times.

For more information, call 255-4305.

TWO-MAN BUDDY BASS TOURNAMENT

Outdoor recreation will hold a Two-Man Buddy Bass Tournament March 1 from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. at West Beach, Lake Tholocco. There will be a \$100 entry fee per two man team. All entrants must have an Alabama State fishing license, Fort Rucker post fishing permit, and a Fort Rucker boater safety completion card. There are only 25 slots available, so early registration is encouraged. The Top 3 weigh-in totals will receive a cash prize. Door prizes will also be rewarded, as well as a special prize for biggest fish.

For more information, call 255-4305.

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Free community event

Saturday, February 1

9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

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