

Town hall

U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence hosts two town hall meetings Friday at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the post theater for all Department of the Army civilian employees regarding potential administrative furloughs.

GIRLS NIGHT

Event returns with new choices, more entertainment

Story on Page C1



FORE!

SWGC seeks new, old members for 2013 season

Story on Page D1



ARMY FLYER

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

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FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

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Community prays for nation



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

The PB&J Band performs contemporary spiritual music during the National Prayer Breakfast at The Landing Feb. 13.

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

Members of the local community came together at The Landing Feb. 13 for the annual National Prayer Breakfast to pray for the nation, the American Family and Soldier, and Fort Rucker.

It is important to recognize the spiritual needs of Soldiers, staff, and everyone in between, according to Chaplain (Col.) Dennis Newton, garrison and U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence chaplain.

“We are a spiritual people, Americans. You get to a point where you recognize that there is something beyond you, greater than you, that you need to say, ‘It isn’t about me.’ So, regardless of who came today and who they are, we understand that it is about the free exercise of religion. The majority of Soldiers hold these spiritual values, and we want to honor that,” said Newton. Netta Wiley, Fort Rucker Internal Re-

view Office, said that the ceremony taught her a lovely lesson about how everyone needs to do their duty and obey their king, whoever their king may be.

“It is nice to see leadership at least host this for us to come to and participate. It is very nice that we can come together in this spiritual manner,” she said, adding that it had extra significance to her being held on Ash Wednesday this year.

The breakfast was established by Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1952, and according to Justin Mitchell, Fort Rucker deputy garrison commander, the day brings together all sorts of people from all walks of life.

“We came together to seek favor from God, to honor him, and to pray for freedom, the American Soldier and the nation,” he said.

Chaplain (Capt.) Paul Cartmill prayed for America’s honor, valor, integrity and

SEE PRAY, PAGE A7

CG recognizes 82nd CAB Aviators for excellence in combat, support

By Sgt. April de Armas
82nd Combat Aviation Brigade

FORT BRAGG, N.C. – Two 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade battalions were recognized for excellence in Aviation at the unit level when they received Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Awards at Fort Bragg, N.C., Feb. 14.

Maj. Gen. Kevin W. Mangum, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, traveled to Fort Bragg to present the annual awards for Best Combat Battalion to 1-17th Air Cavalry Regiment and Best Combat Support Battalion to 3-82nd General Support Aviation Battalion for their commitment and excellence over the past year.

Commanders Lt. Col. Richard Zampelli, 1-17th ACR, and Lt. Col. William P. Braman, 3-82nd GSAB, accepted the awards for their units.

“The Ellis D. Parker Award is not an individual award, it is a team award,” Zampelli said. “It exemplifies the dedicated professionalism of every trooper assigned to the squadron and task force in achieving success.”

The commanders can take heart in that dedication shown by their troopers as the brigade transforms to support the global response force.

“They have set the bar pretty high, and I have no doubt that as new challenges emerge the troopers and officers of this battalion will continue to rise to the occasion and find innovative ways to accomplish the mission,” Braman said.

The Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Awards were approved by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan on Jan. 29, 1993, to honor the Army’s top Aviation battalions with recognition of excellence in four categories: Best Combat Battalion, Best Combat Support Battalion, Best Table of Distribution and Allowances Battalion, and Overall Winner.



PHOTO BY SGT. APRIL DE ARMAS

Maj. Gen. Kevin W. Mangum, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, congratulates recipients of the Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Award Feb. 14 at Fort Bragg, N.C.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Justin Mitchell, Fort Rucker deputy garrison commander, and former command Sgt. Maj. Dwaine E. Walters, try to hide their faces after being arrested by then Pvt. 1st Class Raymond Mauck, military police officer with the 6th MP Detachment, during last year’s AER Jail-a-thon. The AER fundraising campaign kicks off once again March 1 with the Jail-a-thon April 18.

AER kicks off fundraising campaign

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The program designed for Soldiers to help other Soldiers kicks off its 2013 fundraising campaign March 1.

The Army Emergency Relief program was established to ensure that the Army could provide financial assistance for Soldiers and their Families through no-interest loans and grants, as well as scholarships to children and spouses of active-duty and retired Soldiers, according to an AER news release.

“The annual campaign allows commanders the opportunity to reinforce a greater awareness of how Army Emergency Relief helps Soldiers and their Families,” said retired Army Lt. Gen. Robert Foley, AER director, in the news release. “By promoting a better understanding of AER benefits as well as an appreciation for the flexibility [that] AER officers possess in responding to requests for financial assistance, Soldiers and Families can be provided the help they need.”

This year, the kick-off ceremony will be at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum March 5 at 2 p.m., during which Col. Stuart J. McRae, Fort Rucker garrison commander and this year’s AER campaign chairman, and other leaders will be in attendance to sign the first allotments.

“They want to show that leadership is stepping up and getting involved, and showing their support for the program,” said Maj. Anthony Whittaker, Fort Rucker AER campaign coordinator. “There are other programs in the Army, but this one is specifically tailored to Soldiers and that’s one reason we solicit to Soldiers and retirees.”

In 2012, AER provided \$76.8 million in assistance to more than 59,000 Soldiers and their Families, and Fort Rucker raised more than \$115,000 during last year’s campaign season.

This campaign season will also see the return of the Jail-a-thon April 18, which is an event during which people on the installation can pay to have their co-workers or even command arrested. The 6th Military Police Detachment will put out fliers about a month before the event day that will have warrant arrest forms attached that people will need to have the guilty parties arrested.

“Individuals can complete the warrant arrest form for anyone: a Soldier, a spouse or coworker that is on Fort Rucker that day,” said Mimi Brooks, Fort Rucker AER of-

ficer. “On the warrant form, they will indicate the person’s name, where they will be at the time of the arrest and what they are being charged with.”

A suggested donation amount is determined on the rank or civilian pay grade of the individual, and for spouses it is determined by their husband or wife’s rank, she added. Warrant arrest forms can be submitted up to the day of the arrest.

On the day of the event, two military police officers will track down each arrestee, read them their rights and handcuff them and escort them to the makeshift jailhouse in the post exchange parking lot where they will stand before a judge and be sentenced for their “crimes,” said Brooks.

“They can plead guilty or not guilty, and the person will have two choices: they can be put into the jailhouse for the allotted time (30 minutes per donation amount), or they can post bail, which is equal to the amount paid to have them arrested,” she said. “It’s one of our most fun events on the installation and a lot of people like to take advantage of it.”

All forms of payment must be in cash or check form, she added.

Another event that the campaign will bring is the Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union annual golf tournament to benefit the program.

The tournament is a good chance for people to get together to play golf for a good cause, as well as have a chance to win prizes, according to Brooks.

“The tournament is hosted by Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union, but we are there to represent AER,” she said. “There will be prizes given away to the winners and anybody can register to play.”

The game will be a four-man scramble and the cost to sign up is \$60 per person.

During the campaign season, AER trains a representative for each unit and organization on the installation to not only garner donations, but promote awareness for the various AER programs.

“That’s really [our top priority]. We really encourage units to come and brief their Soldiers on the different AER programs,” said Brooks. “There are three different types of AER programs: financial assistance, commander for a loan program, and spouse and children scholarship programs, and our goal with AER is 100 percent contact with Soldiers in all the units.”

PERSPECTIVE

OSJA explains legal residency, home of record

By Capt. Ken Hall
Fort Rucker Office of
the Staff Judge Advocate

Benjamin Franklin wrote, “In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.”

Nevertheless, most people go to extraordinary lengths to avoid both. Soldiers are no different. One way a Soldier avoids paying state income tax is to change his legal residence to a state that does not tax service members.

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act protects a Soldier’s pay from income taxes of the state in which the Soldier lives by reason of military orders. For example, a Soldier can be a legal resident of state A, even though he is stationed, by

orders, in state B. State B taxes income, but the Soldier is not subject to state B’s taxes. The Soldier is only subject to state A’s tax structure, and state A does not tax income.

Legal residency, or domicile, is the place where a Soldier intends to return and live after she retires or is discharged from the military. It’s the place that she considers her permanent home. A Soldier’s legal residence determines what state tax laws apply while she is serving in the military.

Don’t confuse legal residency with home of record. They are not the same. Home of record is specifically used by the military to determine travel entitlements when a Soldier separates from the Army. Your home of record and legal residence

can be totally different.

Generally speaking, you are a legal resident of a state if you are physically present in the state, and intend to stay or intend to return to the state in the future. Actual physical presence in a state makes legal residency more certain. Other connections to a state help demonstrate legal residence as well, such as where you vote, where you received your driver’s license, where your automobile is registered and where you own real estate.

One thing is certain: a Soldier cannot change legal residence to a state where he has no connections. The Soldier must have some minimum connections with the state that he intends to claim as his legal residence. If a Soldier claims a state that he has no connections with and he’s

only doing it for tax purposes, he is committing fraud.

You can have your legal residence in one state, even though you’re serving as a Soldier in a different state. Please remember that you need connections with the state you intend to declare as your legal residence.

If you’re interested in changing your state of legal residence, make an appointment with a legal assistance attorney in the OSJA’s office to discuss. We cannot change your legal residence, but we can discuss some steps that you can take to prove which state is your legal residence.

Call 255-3482 to make an appointment. Our offices are located in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 320.

This month in Army Aviation history

This month we’re spotlighting the February 1983 issue of the U.S. Army Aviation Digest. This issue features:

AVUM: Think Combat

Experience shows that most aircraft maintenance officers, particularly Aviation unit maintenance platoon leaders, spend their working hours trying to meet the day-to-day requirements for aircraft availability in their units. It’s pretty hard to worry about the AirLand Battle when the alligators are breaking down the hangar doors.

The Bad Guys Won’t Wear Black Hats

War is hell and the possibility that

rounds may be called for and fired at a compatriot or an ally increases its horror. To help Army Aviators learn to distinguish a friend from a foe, identification of ground targets is taught.

The Chemical Environment and Army Aviation

When you mention flying in a chemical environment to your buddies in the club, does the laughing and joking stop? Do things get quiet? Does everyone turn and walk away? Or, have you ever suggested that for next week’s mission one pilot in each cockpit stop by the NBC room to draw his M24 protective mask

to wear and have all of the pilots boo and hiss at you? Sound familiar?

Alaskan Skymasters: 222nd Aviation Brigade

When it comes to providing Aviation support for the 172nd Infantry Brigade (Alaska), the job falls largely to the pilots and crews of the 222nd Aviation Battalion, headquartered at Fort Wainwright.

... and more.

Download this issue of the U.S. Army Aviation Digest at <http://bit.ly/av8-feb83>.



Rotor Wash

“Monday we celebrated Presidents’ Day and Friday is George Washington’s birthday. Why is it important to recognize and honor our forefathers?”



Staff Sgt.
David Christie,
WOCC School

“They made this country the way it is. We need to honor them so it will survive after they are gone”



2nd Lt. Jacob Young,
D. Co., 1st Bn.,
145 Avn. Regt.

“They paved the way for us, created the society we have and the freedoms we have.”



Staff Sgt. Rochelle Ross,
158th AOB

“It is what this land was founded on.”



Nick Horton,
civilian

“To remind ourselves where we all came from and how it all started.”



Linda Page,
Army spouse

“I think we should so we can remember what our rights are, why they are what they are and the people who actually formed our Constitution. It’s important that we remember our heritage and our presidents who have done so much for our country.”

COMMAND

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FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

Col. Stuart J. McRae
FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

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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.

ACAP teaches transitioning Soldiers career building

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Transitioning out of the military can be a stressful process, but the Army Career and Alumni Program strives to make that process one that leaves Soldiers and their Families with a head start in their futures.

ACAP is a congressionally mandated program for Soldiers to learn job search and career building skills to be ready to transition out of the military for retirement or their expiration of term of service, according to Bryan Tharpe, ACAP transition service manager.

“What [we here at ACAP do] is our counselors will identify and notify these [transitioning] Soldiers and schedule them for a pre-separation briefing,” said Tharpe. “This is for any service member who is 24 months out from retiring or 18 months out from their ETS date.

“This is a program that must exist because we’re taking care of our Soldiers,” he said. “Statistics show that the Army pays more than half a billion dollars a year in unemployment compensation, so it helps [fiscally], but more than that, it takes care of Soldiers and their Families.”

The pre-separation briefing is a two-hour course that can be taken either online or in the classroom at Fort Rucker ACAP headquarters in Bldg. 5700, said the service manager. After the pre-separation briefing, which informs the Soldiers on what to expect throughout the program, counselors will begin the initial counseling to find out what the career goals and aspirations of each individual Soldier are and begin drafting their individual transition plan.

“That plan will follow them for the rest of their time they are on active duty so that they can make sure they are ready to transi-



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Bryan Tharpe, Army Career and Alumni Program transition service manager, and Troi Hayes, ACAP administrative specialist, review the program's website in their office at Bldg. 5700 Friday. ACAP exists to help transitioning Soldiers be ready for their lives outside of the military.

tion and make sure they are career ready,” said Tharpe.

The Soldiers will also take part in a five-day workshop during which they will be taught transition overview, the military occupational specialty crosswalk, and other lessons that deal with stress and Families.

“That’s all on the first day,” he said. “The three days following is run by the Department of Labor and it’s our job to facilitate their needs and make sure we have the space available for them.

“On the last day of the workshop, we have a certified financial adviser work with the Soldiers, and help them come up with a 12-month integrated budget,” he continued.

“They will start to do this with the counselor in the classroom, but then the adviser will make one-on-one appointments with those that feel they need it, and she will work with them to make sure they get that budget done.”

Once the workshop is complete, ACAP counselors go into more one-on-one time with Soldiers and work on building their resumes, according to Tharpe. The counselors have each Soldier bring a draft of their resumes to go over with them, and they will “tweak” them to make sure that they are ready to go.

“The ACAP counselors do what they call a gap analysis when they do the MOS cross-

walk. It shows [the Soldiers] from where they are right now to where they want to be once they’re out, and if they’re ready for that,” said Tharpe. “Soldiers need to take all the training that they can possibly get. Some of them don’t want to sit through it, but it is mandated, so they might as well get the best out of it that they possibly can.”

There are a few key things that Tharpe said Soldiers should take advantage of while going through the program.

“Soldiers should definitely find out what all their veteran entitlements are and what their transition benefits are while going through the program,” he said.

Tharpe also said that there are additional workshops being added such as the two-day entrepreneurial workshop, which will help Soldiers that wish to start a business to get on the right track to doing so.

“There are separate tracks that the Soldiers can go through and it’s a pretty wide spectrum,” he said. “The tracks are voluntary, but once you choose a track, you’ve got to stick with it and there are takeaways that you’ve got to do to show that you’ve got things done to be able to continue on that track.”

Spouses of Soldiers can also take advantage of what ACAP has to offer while they are going through the separation process, and Tharpe said they are more than welcome to join their Soldiers throughout. The Army Career Alumni Program welcomes all Soldiers and looks forward to working with Soldiers and their Families, but Tharpe said he has one request of Soldiers once they are through the process.

“We ask that if they get a job to let us know about their success story so that it can be an encouragement for other Soldiers,” he said. “That not only helps us, but their buddies, too.”

Education center offers info for scholarship season

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

It is scholarship season, and the Fort Rucker Education Center has the information people need to stop procrastinating filling out the paperwork that has been collecting near the computer and begin the task of completing scholarship applications for the 2013 school year.

Scholarship applications are now being accepted at most schools, according to Renee Favors, Fort Rucker Education Center test examiner, and she encourages everyone who is planning to attend college in the next year to start applying for scholarships immediately.

“Don’t wait. You have to allot for the time it takes for the applications to all be submitted, to be reviewed, then to be awarded for the fall. It takes time to divvy up that money, so get started now because this is the high time for scholarships as seniors in high school are planning ahead for their education,” she said.

With the cost of education ever increasing, students and potential students should try to explore every avenue to receive scholarships and grants, according to Mike Burden, Army Community Service accredited financial counselor.

“Student loan debt is on average \$28,000 per student. There are people who get Pell Grants, scholarships and the like, and still have to get loans. Any amount of money will help Families, but students need to start planning now,” he said.

For many students and potential students, the task of filling out application after application can seem daunting and tiresome, but Favors said that more and more money from scholarships and grants goes unused every year, so students should buckle down and begin the search for the free money.

“Scholarships.com has all sorts of leads. They have it organized by age, by ethnicity, by

talents and by all sorts of interests and majors. If I printed it out it would be over three inches thick. It is just a matter of writing an essay and filing out some paperwork,” she said.

Essay writing, according to Favors, discourages many students because it seems too hard, but she said that students have to work at it because a scholarship is not something that is going to fall into the students’ laps.

“The students have to do it themselves. Do one essay and if you get only \$50 then that is \$50 you didn’t have before for school. The money is out there, but the student has to be the go-getter; no one is going to do it for them,” she said.

Some scholarship applications are easier than others, only requiring background information, while others take a bit of time because they require extensive essays, but it all comes down to how much the student wants that education, according to the test examiner.

“How much difficulty are you willing to go through to get that scholarship? How dedicated are you to get that education? The degree of difficulty lies within each student. It will be worth it in the end to apply for scholarships because, hopefully, you will be debt free when it comes to student loans,” she said.

Favors also said that Family members should take advantage of furthering their career and education.

“If you have children at home, yes it will be a juggle, but think of what you are teaching them. You set the example for them to go to college. And heaven forbid something happen to your military spouse, what would you do? Don’t you want to have an education so you can have a good job so you can support your Family?” she said.

The Internet is a priceless avenue for scholarship seekers, but there are also many reference books at the education center and at local libraries that people can utilize.

“The National Military Family Association



PHOTO NATHAN PFAU

Jeremy Glasstetter, military site representative and School of Visual Arts coordinator for Baker College, talks with CW4 Ron Smith, Aviation Center Logistics Command, about what the school has to offer at the Fort Rucker Education Center's Spring Fling Education Fair last year. The education center, Bldg. 4502, aims to help Soldiers and Families find out about the continuing education options available to them.

has information about finding scholarships, so does Military One Source. Army Community Service is massive and is a great, free path where Soldiers, spouses and Family members can get started,” Favors said.

Students should also take advantage of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

“It is something that everyone should fill out because it gives you free money and many scholarships require information from the FASFA when applying,” said the test examiner. “Don’t ever turn down anything by saying, ‘It is too difficult,’ because once you do the one thing that is difficult, the rest is easy.”

To complete a FAFSA, visit www.fafsa.ed.gov.

According to Favors, all of the local schools in the area have their own grants and scholarships.

“Just by going to their websites a student can find ones that they qualify for,” she added.

“It is way too easy.”

Fort Rucker and local area schools have many opportunities for Families to receive scholarships, including the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program, Spouse Education Assistance Program and the Scholarships for Military Children Program from ACS. A few others are the thrift shop scholarship, the Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts Program, the Workforce Investment Act, the Trade Adjustment Act, Prepaid Affordable College Tuition, and the multiple individual scholarships and grants from Wallace Community College, Enterprise State Community College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Troy University, Central Texas College and Baker College.

For more information on scholarships, visit the third floor of the education center in Bldg. 4502 to pick up a scholarship packet that contains more than 100 available scholarships.

News Briefs

Pharmacy relocation

The pharmacy at Lyster Army Health Clinic will temporarily relocate to the front of the Lyster parking lot (Andrews Avenue) in May and operate out of a temporary building during construction. The pharmacy is anticipated to reopen in the clinic in 2014, according to clinic officials.

Behavioral clinic construction

The Lyster Army Health Clinic’s Behavioral Health Clinic is undergoing construction starting in mid-February. The construction will not interfere with patient care. Once complete, the behavioral health clinic will be 30-percent larger and offer a more patient-friendly atmosphere, according to clinic officials.

ID card section

People who need a common access card or military ID card who are in a hurry can make an appointment by calling 255-

2437 or 255-2182. When people call for an appointment, they will be screened and advised of any documentation they need to bring. Walk-ins will continue to be served on a first-come, first-served basis. As a reminder, people may experience delays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thrift shop

The Fort Rucker Thrift Shop is awarding up to \$30,000 in scholarships. Applications may be picked up from the store during business hours or downloaded from the administrator’s website at <http://ftruckeresc.com/scholarship.htm>.

The thrift shop is open Wednesdays-Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and also the first Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. to noon, unless it falls on a holiday weekend and then the shop will be open on the second Saturday.

The thrift shop needs people’s unwanted items. People can drop off donations at any time in the shed behind the shop (former Armed Forces Bank building) located in front of the theater next door to the bowling alley. Donations are tax de-

ductible.

For more, call 255-9595.

AER kickoff

Fort Rucker’s Army Emergency Relief fund campaign kicks off March 1, and a kickoff ceremony takes place March 5 at 2 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. The campaign will also feature the annual Jail-a-Thon April 18 and the Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union golf tournament for AER May 10.

For more on AER, call 255-2341.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief scholarship applications for the 2013-2014 school year are available at www.aerhq.org and are due to be turned in by May 1. AER scholarships are available for spouses and dependent children of active duty, retired and deceased Soldiers.

For more information, visit www.aerhq.org or call (866) 878-6378.

‘Unity of effort’ critical to Army’s future effectiveness

By David Vergun
Army News Service

CARLISLE BARRACKS, Pa. – If one overarching theme came out of the Winter Wargame Unified Quest 2013, it was the need for greater “unity of effort” between the Army and its joint and coalition partners, according to one of the service’s top planners.

That planner was Lt. Gen. Keith Walker, deputy commander of Futures and director of the Army Capabilities Integration Center, Training and Doctrine Command. He and about 100 leaders of joint/multinational forces, academia, think tanks and several government organizations came together this week for the TRADOC-sponsored exercise to plan for the future of the Army from 2020 to 2030.

The Goldwater-Nichols Act of 1986 was designed to integrate the separate competencies of each of the armed services for effective joint war fighting and that was evident during the last 12 years of warfare, Walker said. However, the resident capabilities within each of the services will be even more critical to meeting the needs of the combatant commanders in the future, he said.

The wargame itself involved modeling and simulations of worst-case scenarios on a global scale including hostile forces, rough terrain, inclement weather and operations in remote and far-flung locations.

The players were divided into two teams: those who played by the rules of current doctrine and those who were given leeway to use future concepts.

Among the many findings that resulted from the game, three were of particular merit, according to Maj. Gen. Bill Hix, TRADOC’s director of the Concepts Development and Learning Directorate, and the “jointness” thread wove them together.

First, future warfare requires the on-demand availability of long-range fires to provide greater agility to the force so commanders don’t need to bring the fires with them, Hix said. Those “fires” could be rockets, artillery, air strikes and the game demonstrated that troops would be better served by including “fires” from the other services.

Second, the value of maritime mobility and maneuver became clearly evident, Hix said, adding that both Navy and Army platforms were needed to build combat power and extend the commander’s reach. Those would be things like sea-basing, amphibious entry vehicles, high-speed transport vessels, causeways for getting vehicles and gear ashore where ports are unavailable and so on.

Third was the value of integrating air power from each of the services in areas where entry access is difficult. If multiple access points could be opened with the help of air power, it could split the enemy’s focus, Hix said.

The game demonstrated the importance of those joint capabilities from the combatant commander’s perspective down to the battalion and company levels, he said.

Hix provided an anecdote to illustrate the point about the need to have the right capability at the right time at any command level, irrespective of service. During the games, one of the British players said he overheard an Irish constable speaking to his military British counterpart, who said, “When I need the military I need to be looking at him, not



ARMY PHOTO

Soldiers and Sailors participate in a recent humanitarian operation in Haiti. Joint operations like this will be a lot more common in the future and will also include multinational partners and other government organizations, according to future scenarios played out at the Training and Doctrine Command-sponsored Winter Wargame Unified Quest 2013 in February.

for him.”

The games demonstrated the need for the right capability at the right time, especially in the worst-case scenario of a collapsed nuclear state with unsecured weapons of mass destruction, according to Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Brian Beaudreault, assistant deputy director, Joint Development, J-7, Joint Staff. He said the services would need to work a lot closer in coming years on counter-WMD approaches.

Another challenge emerging from the games, Beaudreault said, is command and control effectiveness at the various echelons of command across the services, where communications and data are being exchanged in high volumes.

He said it is important to “gain a clear, situational understanding across the domains of air, cyber, intelligence and others without getting information overload.”

Strategic planning and wargames like this are especially important to strengthening partnerships with America’s allies, said Australian Brigadier Barry N. McManus, military attaché and assistant defence attaché, Embassy of Australia.

“We do these (wargames) quite comfortably together and have been for a number of years, exploring a wide range of concepts, ideas developments, solving interoperability and technical compatibility issues,” McManus said.

Walker pointed out that “jointness” also means having interagency partners on the team.

“We’re blessed to have retired ambassadors, State Department officials and those from other agencies here” at the wargame, he said.

These partners bring a lot of value, especially in shaping the regions, where humanitarian and infrastructure assistance creates goodwill and helps to lessen the chances of

conflict, he said.

Walker said the theme of “unity of effort” will be evident in the spring of 2014, with a joint network integration evaluation exercise, where the emphasis will be placed on integrating air and missile defense.

“The simulation and modeling we’ve done here,” Walker said, “we’ll be doing for real.”

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Sequestration could mean training reduction for 80 percent of ground forces

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — On Capitol Hill Feb. 13, the Army's chief of staff told lawmakers in very clear terms what budget reductions under sequestration would do to Soldiers and Army readiness.

"It has grave consequences and immediate readiness impact on our forces," Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond T. Odierno told members of the House Armed Services Committee.

For those not serving now in Afghanistan or those not forward-based in Korea, budget cuts will mean that they are not getting the training they need to go into the fight if called upon to do so, the general said.

“We will curtail training for 80 percent of our ground forces,” he said. “This will impact our units’ basic war-fighting skills, and induce shortfalls across critical specialties, including Aviation, intelligence and engineering – and even our ability to recruit new Soldiers into the Army.”

Soldiers in Afghanistan now, he said, were trained for that deployment. Those who are getting ready to go – they too are trained and ready. But there will be no money to adequately prepare the next set of Soldiers who are meant to go.

"We will see a slow de-
grade in our readiness,"
he said. "We will respond,
[but] they will not be as
ready as we like them to
be and the cost will be in
lives."

Not only will Soldiers miss out on critical, life-saving training, but the skill set in the Army to train Soldiers will also be lost. Without the funding to provide the opportunities for experienced Soldiers to pass their skills on to inexperienced Soldiers, skill sets and knowledge of standards will be lost, until that knowledge is all but completely gone from the Army.

That erosion of corporate knowledge will get worse as time goes on, Odierno said.

"It'll be worse a year from now than it is today," he said. "It'll be worse two years from now than it is a year from now. It will slowly degrade over time. It becomes risky. And then you find yourself in a hollow force – one that is not

capable of doing the missions we are going to ask them to do.”

Right now, Odierno said, there is already a training deficiency in the force. The Army would like to train Soldiers with the ability to work and coordinate with commands up to the battalion level. But that is not the case today, he told lawmakers.

“Their proficiency, although still good, is not where we would like it to be,” he said. “Because of these training reductions, right now we believe we are down to about squad-level capability for fiscal year 2013, for example. So that means you’re only going to train up to the squad. When you have to deploy somewhere, your ability to coordinate and execute has not been trained. That puts lives at significant risk.”

If funding for Aviation training is reduced, he said, it will hinder the ability of pilots to perform in environments like Afghanistan, where flying conditions are difficult and dangerous.

"They will go in there with a hell of a lot less capability," he said. "That means mistakes will be made. That means we will have accidents, or that means they will be more likely to be shot down by enemy fire."

That increase in risk, due to a cut in training, doesn't



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS CHRIS A. DURNEY

The Army's chief of staff told lawmakers in very clear terms what budget reductions under sequestration would do to Soldiers and Army readiness, on Capitol Hill, Feb. 13. Sequestration could mean reduction of training for up to 80 percent of ground forces, said the Army's chief of staff. Here, Spc. Brian Odom receives training on the .50-caliber machine gun during convoy live-fire exercises at Fort Chaffee, Ark.

just spell out a danger to pilots, but also to their passengers, Odierno said. It also means limiting the kinds of missions that Aviation can perform, and the kinds of missions that can be performed that depend on Aviation support.

"So across a broader range, you lose your broader capability to conduct the type of operations that are necessary for us to be successful," he said.

Both infantry training and Aviation training are critical to the Army and the missions it conducts. But also important are the critical combat support functions like logistics. With the budget reductions that will come with sequestration, he said, new budget prioritization might mean logistics Soldiers also do not get the training they need, to run convoys for instance.

"All of those things now come at risk and ultimately those all result in the loss of life and the loss of capability we have," Odierno said.

The general told lawmakers that force reductions and loss of training will result in a hollow force, something he said he has seen in the past.

"All of us have experienced the Army post-Vietnam," he said. "It is one

that was under-resourced, one that was under-trained, one that lacked appropriate equipment, was not ready, and lacked discipline. We cannot allow careless budget cuts to bring us there again. I began my career in a hollow Army. I am determined not to end my career in a hollow Army. We owe that to the young men and women who are willing to raise their right hand and defend this country."

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A collage of images related to a heart transplant. The central focus is a framed text box that reads: "LET'S MAKE SURE YOUR HEART SKIPS A BEAT FOR ALL THE RIGHT REASONS." The text is in a serif font, with "LET'S" and "REASONS." in all caps, and "MAKE SURE YOUR HEART SKIPS A BEAT FOR ALL THE RIGHT" in title case. The frame is a simple, dark-colored border. Surrounding the text box are several images: a large, modern hospital building with a glass facade; a close-up of a human heart; a person lying in a hospital bed; a person in a white lab coat and mask; and a person wearing a graduation cap and gown. The overall theme is the journey from illness to recovery and education.

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Sequestration could mean delayed redeployment for Soldiers in Afghanistan

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The lack of an appropriations bill coupled with sequestration could eventually translate to Soldiers being delayed in their redeployment home from Afghanistan, the Army’s chief of staff said.

Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, speaking at the Brookings Institution Friday in Washington, D.C., explained that replacement forces to Afghanistan in 2014 could be affected by a shortage of training dollars and be forced to delay their deployment.

The Department of Defense has already agreed to nearly \$800 billion in cuts, the general said. Sequestration will mean an additional \$500 billion in defense cuts, and shifting funding for improvised explosive device detection and electronic warfare equipment from overseas contingency operations budgets to service operations and maintenance budgets will mean an additional \$100 billion in cuts.

The U.S. military is looking now at a possible \$1.3 trillion in defense cuts overall, Odierno said. Compounding cuts to defense budgets is the lack of a confirmed budget for the services – the military is operating now on a “continuing resolution,” which is how Congress funds the government if it has not passed an appropriations bill. A continuing resolution makes military planning difficult.

“Today, in my opinion, the greatest threat to our national security is the fiscal uncertainty resulting from the lack of predictability in the budget cycles,” Odierno said. “Our country’s inability to put its fiscal house in order compromises the future of the joint force, the Army, and ultimately will impact our ability to provide security to our nation.”

Right now, Odierno said, the continuing resolution has created a “mismatch of funds” that doesn’t leave enough in the operations and maintenance accounts, known as O&M funds. There’s a \$6 billion shortfall there compared to what the Army needs, and sequestration will add another \$5.4 billion to that shortfall.

It’s O&M funds that allow the Army to train, so a shortfall in O&M funds means that fewer Soldiers will be able to train for Iraq and Afghanistan.

“We’re funding, totally, Afghanistan. We’re going to fund, totally, Korea, and sustain the readiness level in Korea,” Odierno said. “What that means is the rest of the forces that are now back in the United States will not be able to train. They will be able to do very small-level, squad-level training. They will not be able to do platoon-level, company-level, battalion-level training back at their installations. They will not be able to go out to combat training centers, which is what provides them the final readiness certification at the battalion and brigade level.”

The general said the forces that are slated next to go to Afghanistan are going to be ready to go, insofar as training and equipping is concerned.

“What my concern is, the ones who come after them, they will now be behind,” he said.

What that means for the forces in Afghanistan in 2014 is that they might have to wait to redeploy while the follow-on forces are readied for their deployment.

Earlier this week he told Congress as much, saying he offered two options to lawmakers on how to keep forces in Afghanistan.

“If I can’t make them up quickly, I then have to send forces that aren’t ready, or I have to extend forces that are already there,” he said. “That’ll be a decision I have to make as we get closer. We will continue to try to divert money so we do not have to extend people in Afghanistan.”

Reset delays

The Army’s share of defense cuts could mean the loss of civilian employees at Army depots where war-ravaged combat equipment is “reset” and made serviceable again for Soldier training and deployment to combat zones.

Odierno said looming budget cuts will mean smaller depots and a drop in the civilian work force. That translates directly into a backlog of equipment to be reset, including the equipment that still needs to be reset from Iraq, and equipment coming out of Afghanistan right now.

The general said that due to those backlogs, it’s expected that delivery of that reset equipment could be delayed by two to three years, with some being delivered as late as 2016.

Unfortunately, not having that critical combat equipment available – tanks and helicopters and infantry fighting vehicles, for instance – means that Soldiers who need to train on the equipment won’t be able to train. Additionally, that equipment won’t be ready for deployment if the



PHOTO BY C. TODD LOPEZ

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond T. Odierno answered questions from the audience and from Michael O’Hanlon, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, Friday during a visit at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C.

Army is called upon to fight again, and predicting when that will happen is not something the military does well.

“We have not predicted very well when we will use forces,” Odierno said. “When the [Berlin] Wall came down in Europe, people said ‘this is it, we don’t need [the Army] anymore.’ But then a year later, we are deploying to the deserts of Kuwait. Then we went into Somalia. Then somewhere in there we had Panama, and ‘Just Cause.’ You just don’t know. It is our responsibility to prepared – that if the president decides he needs to use the military, that we are ready and prepared. And I am concerned whether we will be able to do that or not as we move to the future over the next couple of years.”

Right now, Odierno said, the Army has a “fairly high level of readiness.” But that will change soon, for both Soldier readiness and equipment readiness. When the time comes, unexpectedly, for Soldiers to deploy, emergency funding will not be enough to provide for Soldiers the readiness they need to fight successfully, Odierno said.

“It slowly degrades,” he said of military readiness. “So over the next six or seven months, if you are not taking care of your equipment, if you are not training, you degrade that readiness. And you can’t just recover that readiness by money, it takes time.”

Loss of Soldiers

Paying for people – Soldiers – takes up about 48 percent of the Army’s budget. Cuts to the budget means a reduction in the number of Soldiers the Army will have in the ranks.

The Army is already reducing the number of Soldiers in its ranks by about 88,000. Sequestration could bring the loss of an additional 100,000 Soldiers across the active force and the reserve components, Odierno said. In all, about 190,000 Soldiers will have to be cut, though the general believes it will be more than that.

“My guess, in the end, it’ll be over 200,000 Soldiers we will have to take out of the active duty, Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve,” he said.

That cut will mean a loss of force structure, he said. It will cost the Army a 40 percent reduction in brigade combat teams, when it’s all done.

A smaller Army means a loss of ability to influence and deter conflict, the general said. If the Army gets too small, “you lose your ability to deter conflict. My concern is you have people who miscalculate. Almost every great war we’ve been in to, or great regional conflict, has been based on a huge miscalculation by somebody. And what I worry about is we will cause people to miscalculate, which will then cause us to have to get involved.”

Odierno said that without sequestration, the Army may drop below 490,000 Soldiers, something he said is doable, if managed correctly to avoid loss of skill and capability. If sequestration does happen, he said, he is concerned about not dropping below a specific number, one he didn’t say, to avoid losing the ability to deter conflict, and to ensure the Army has the capability to do the things the president asks the Army to do.

That number, he said, might be smaller than 490,000, “but some of the numbers I hear are too small. I do worry that the capability will be much less than we need.

“I think there is a certain level of ca-

pability that I need to have, that I would propose to the president and the chairmen and others that we have to have in order to sustain our capabilities in order to respond globally,” he said.

Cutting the force that deep, he said, will have to be done carefully, and across all components of the Army. A proper balance must be made, he said, to preserve the unique capabilities each component brings to the fight. In particular, he said, the active component maintains a higher level of readiness, while the reserve component brings a more diverse mix of experience and capability to the table.

How to cut the force

Odierno said he doesn’t want to force Soldiers out of the service, but at some point, some of that might happen.

For the first set of cuts, he said, done over a five-year period, it’ll be mostly attrition.

“There will have to be some other

methods,” he said. “But it will be mostly, about 75-80 percent by attrition.”

With additional cuts, he said, “we’ll probably have to increase the amount we put out each year, but I would still like to leave it at a level where I can control it. If we can control it, we keep the people we want to keep, we are able to help the people transitioning to better transition, and that enables us to keep the level of readiness we need to respond.”

Odierno said his goal is to do the “large majority” of force cuts by attrition. But personnel boards that make other cuts might have to come in to the mix at some point.

“There will have to be some boards that we conduct that we maybe ask people to retire earlier than they might want,” he said. “And there might be some boards that tell us we need some officers and some senior noncommissioned officers to leave. But we will try to minimize that as much as we can.”

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Army surgeon general meets transplant recipient

By **Army Medicine**
Public Affairs

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — Lt. Gen. Patricia D. Horoho, Army surgeon general and commanding general of U. S. Army Medical Command, met with former Sgt. Brendan Marrocco, the Army’s first Soldier to survive after “giving” all four limbs in combat, Feb. 11, at the Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore.

During this visit, Horoho also met with Dr. W.P. Andrew Lee, the plastic surgery chief at Johns Hopkins, who led the team that conducted the limb transplant surgery on Marrocco.

Marrocco was wounded by an improvised explosive device in Iraq in 2009. He said that he could get by without legs, but hated living without arms. Marrocco is one of only 60 patients worldwide to receive a double-arm transplant and only the seventh double-hand or double-arm transplant in the U.S.

The ground-breaking procedure was the most complicated to date, taking more than 13 hours and involving 16 orthopedic and microvascular surgeons from five hospitals.

“Just not to give up hope. You know, life always gets better, and you’re still alive,” was his advice to other wounded warriors during a recent press conference, according to the Associated Press. “And to be stubborn. There’s a lot of people who will say you can’t do something. Just be stubborn and do it anyway. Work your ass off and do it.”

Lee said the new arms could eventually provide much of the same function as Marrocco’s original arms and hands. Marrocco, a former infantryman who is now separated from the Army, said he can already move his left elbow and rotate it some.

“Meeting with this 21st century warrior today reminds me of why I got involved with medicine in the first place,” said Horoho. “Sergeant Marrocco’s story is the story of sacrifice, determination and personal resiliency. His recovery has involved countless medical professionals dedicated to improving care for our wounded warriors. I am fortunate to have met such a remarkable Soldier, thankful for those that have cared for him, and proud to be a part of the Army Medicine team.”



COURTESY PHOTO

Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho, Army surgeon general, presents former Sgt. Brendan Marrocco with a coin during a short break in his physical therapy session Feb. 11 at the Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore.

Pray: Chaplain encourages community to help

Continued from Page A1

honesty, and that all of “these attributes be lived through-out our land today.”

Chaplain (Maj.) Chris Offen prayed for the people of the nation to “think of those who came before and sacrificed so much so as we might serve and inspire those who will come after us. Let us remain strong and free, and remain a beacon of hope through all the world.”

Chaplain (Capt.) Tim Gresham thanked God for military Families and their selfless support to their Soldiers.

“Thank you for their persistence and dedication in the face of so many difficulties. I ask that you bless them for their sacrifices,” he prayed.

The guest speaker was retired Chaplain (Col.) Alvin “Sonny” Moore III, who has touched many lives, according to Col. Douglas M Gabram, USAACE deputy commander.

“Many of us will not touch the magnitude of people like he has,” he said.

Moore said that throughout the past 100 years the person to make the greatest difference is the American Soldier.

“America owes a debt to the American Soldier that she can never pay. They give so much and they ask so little,” he said.

Moore compared the story of King David of the Bible going after captured women and children, and the struggle of his men having to either be a war fighter or a “stuff watcher” to the battle that many Soldiers face at Fort Rucker today.

“[King David] told 200 [men] in his Army that they had to stay back and guard the stuff, to stay with the supplies and the logistics. To the others he said, ‘Strap on your swords — this is the big one.’ We have always thought it was the big one, every time we go overseas.

“Back when I was stationed here at Fort Rucker, no one wanted to stay back home, everyone wanted to go and be a war fighter, but everyone, just like David’s men, finds out that it was and is very important,” he said.

Moore continued with his sermon, asking why it is important for some to stay behind.

“Well, No. 1 it is important because the king said so. And that is reason enough; that is what good Soldiers do. They didn’t get a say in it and he didn’t have to give any

reason, they are just supposed to obey.

“The second reason is because it was important, valuable stuff to watch over. They had to be the rear detachment. It is important to take care of Families. This training base is important. This is important [business] that we do here; guarding the stuff. Working on these helicopters, keeping these birds in the air is important.

“The third part to obey to stick by the stuff is because the king is coming back one day. We are going through tough times and we have to have a firm foundation, and part of that is staying by the stuff,” he said.

More finished his sermon by saying it takes three things to win a war: a capable military, resolute leadership and the will of the people.

“You can watch, you can run, or you can help — that is what it’s going to take. There are three types of people in life — people that watch things happen, people who make things happen, and people who don’t know what is happening,” he said. “I don’t want to watch things happen and I am too old to run very far, but I want to help and that is my challenge to you. I challenge you to help.”

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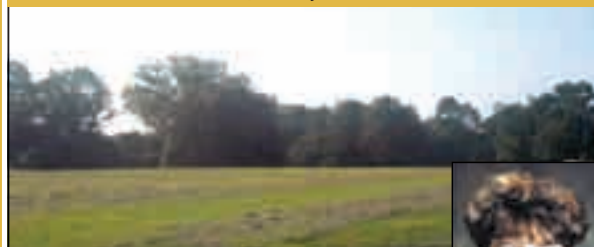
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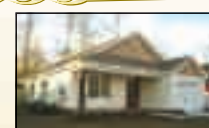
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PHOTO BY SGT. JONATHAN C. THIBAUT

The 4th CAB, 4th Inf. Div., received their first UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters at Butts Army Airfield on Fort Carson, Colo., Jan. 20. The helicopters are the first to arrive to the new combat Aviation brigade.

‘Iron Eagles’ receive first aircraft

By Sgt. Jonathan C. Thibault
4th Combat Aviation Brigade

FORT CARSON, Colo. — Roaring booms of powerful helicopter engines announced the arrival of the first 4th Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters at Butts Army Airfield, Jan. 20.

In addition to the three UH-60 Black Hawks, the unit’s first three CH-47 Chinook helicopters arrived Jan. 22. The 4th CAB currently has six of each aircraft and is expecting to have more than 100 helicopters when fully operational.

Capt. Joshua Meyer, commander, A Company, 2nd Battalion (General Support), 4th Avn. Regt., 4th CAB, coordinated getting the helicopters to Fort Carson. He and his Soldiers worked through the weekend to make sure there was a smooth transition when the helicopters arrived.

“It’s a big deal for us because it

marks the arrival of the CAB here at Fort Carson,” said Meyer. “A lot of people from the company, battalion and brigade have been working hard for the last six months. It means a lot to the Soldiers because they’re going to be working on and flying (the helicopters). They have been very busy working to meet the requirements so that these aircraft can arrive; establishing and validating our systems and procedures for maintenance and flight operations. We are looking forward to flying them and maintaining them at the company level.”

With the new helicopters, the brigade can start working toward full activation and completing its mission to provide attack Aviation, air assault, heavy lift and medical evacuation Aviation operations in support of 4th Inf. Div. and other division-sized units, said Maj. Jason S. Davis, brigade executive officer and acting bri-

gade commander, 4th CAB.

The 4th CAB consisted of only 50 Soldiers when Davis arrived in June, and now has more than 970 Soldiers. He said the brigade is projected to be completely manned and activated, including subordinate units by April 2014.

“We are ahead of schedule in a lot of areas, and areas that we face challenges in are going to be areas that any unit faces in the Army today, with funding and facilities,” said Davis. “I am really pleased with the progress we’ve made.

“We’ve gotten a great number of people in (who are) ready to work and they dive into whatever their task is,” he said. “They start building the systems and processes that we need.”

In addition to the arrival of new Soldiers, aircraft and equipment, training for the brigade is vital to becoming mission ready.

Upcoming preparation includes

basic Soldier training, such as weapons qualification, Soldier tasks and drills and other skills that troops need to be proficient at, said Maj. George A. Hodges, operations officer, 4th CAB, 4th ID.

To house the brigade’s equipment and Soldiers, new structures are being built at Butts Army Airfield. The directorate of public works is working to get the CAB’s building contracts approved and built. The biggest of the CAB’s construction projects is a complete renovation of Butts Army Airfield.

The CAB is getting five hangars, a new brigade headquarters building, runway and apron space, a control tower and barracks, said Maj. Eli Adams, an Omaha District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project manager at Fort Carson. He said there are currently nine authorized projects out of 27 proposed construction projects. All projects are expected to be complete by 2020.

Adams said the structure that stands out most to him is the first hangar to be completed for the Aviation support battalion. Most of the projects are proposed to be net zero developments.

“The need is there to rebuild that airfield,” said Adams. “The facilities that we provide will be top quality and will be a great contribution to Fort Carson. Our teams of engineers, who are working with the contractors, are highly professional. The CAB has a lot to look forward to with the facilities that they are going to get and when they see the work completed, it will be a transformed Butts Army Airfield.”

The Soldiers of 4th CAB worked quickly to get their first helicopters into the hangar and are continuing to work on them to make sure all preventive maintenance, checks and services are done, so they can be ready to train and perform missions.

Combat veterans refresh UAS skills



PHOTO BY SGT. MICHAEL J. MACLEOD

A UAS operator with the 82nd Abne. Div., 1st BCT, assembles a Raven during a UAS refresher course Feb. 5 at Fort Bragg, N.C. The Raven is slightly smaller than the UAS that infantry units commonly operate in Afghanistan, but the skills to fly them both are the same.

By Sgt. Michael J. MacLeod
Army News Service

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — Infantry Capt. Joseph Driskell ended his recent deployment to Afghanistan using unmanned aircraft systems differently than when he began. One thing he realized — that unmanned aircraft system training is critical.

“It’s like anything. It takes practice,” he said.

Five months after his battalion of paratroopers redeployed from restive Ghazni Province, its UAS operators began retraining on their piloting skills in one of western Fort Bragg’s many wide-open parachute drop zones during a week-long refresher course.

Staff Sgt. Angel Colon, the head UAS trainer for the 82nd Airborne Division’s 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, said that, while the smaller Raven UAS used in the training was not

the aircraft flown in Afghanistan, the basic system was virtually the same as the larger hand-launched Puma that he and his fellow operators flew in support of ground troops in Afghanistan.

“The Puma has a longer range and better camera, but if you can fly the Raven, you can fly the Puma,” he said.

Operating the hand-launched UAS is often an additional duty, as it was for Spc. Philip Piaget, a mortarman who flew a Puma for Driskell almost daily in Afghanistan, so training between deployments is important for retaining operator skills, said Piaget.

The Crestview, Fla., native said that operating a UAS in support of his fellow infantrymen made him an important asset to the company. Driskell, his company commander, readily agreed.

Unlike the larger UAS, the Puma was a

SEE UAS, PAGE B4

Rapid Equipping Force helps bring ‘solutions to battlefield’

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army’s Rapid Equipping Force launched a website in early February to solicit ideas and input from Soldiers, industry and tinkers.

People can go to www.ref.army.mil to give their ideas.

These ideas are helping bring “modern technologies and solutions to the battlefield,” said Col. Timothy Hill, director of the Operational Energy/Contingency Basing Task Force, which works closely with the Rapid Equipping Force.

Hill spoke while visiting the REF’s modern weapons and equipment display at the 2013 Washington Auto Show in mid February in the nation’s capital.

An example of what the REF delivered to Soldiers in Afghanistan and elsewhere is a solar technology system, solar panels used to replace petroleum-based generators, tested during Network Integration Evaluation 13.1 in

November at the White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico and on display at the Washington Auto Show.

During NIE 13.1, Hill spoke to an armored brigade commander who was using the solar panels.

“He said it saved a lot of fuel and built flexibility into the force,” Hill said, explaining that logistics deliveries were reduced and the tanks and other equipment could realize added “efficiencies and effectiveness.”

He said similar logistics advantages were seen with new water-purification systems that had been fielded through the REF.

Soldiers who have served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan have also come to appreciate the work that REF has done.

When Sgt. 1st Class Mario Whitaker first deployed to Iraq in 2004, a lot of the latest technology fielded by the REF was not yet on the ground, as the REF had only been stood up less than two years earlier and new gear was still in



PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

Sgt. Maj. James Hash shows a Rapid Equipping Force-procured Dragon Runner, operated by Soldiers remotely in Afghanistan for reconnaissance and counter-improvised-explosive-device operations at the Washington Auto Show in mid February, in Washington D.C.

SEE SOLUTIONS, PAGE B4

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OPELIKA-AUBURN NEWS

UAS: Smaller units provide unique advantage

Continued from Page B1

company asset and as such, was entirely in Driskell's control. Because of that, he was able to get real-time data from exactly where he wanted it, Driskell said.

Sometimes a low-flying UAS could be used to deceive an enemy into thinking Driskell's forces were interested in one area when they were heading to another.

"Sometimes they sound like lawnmowers in the sky, right?" Driskell asked. "We use the noise as a tactical advantage."

More importantly, the video feed from the UAS allowed Driskell to become proactive rather than reactive.

"If I could see the enemy getting into fighting positions, if I could see their weapons systems and see them start to perform hostile intent, then I could go ahead and start to bring in [air support], artillery or indirect fire, and set up my own ambushes against their lines of retreat," he said. "We started off the deployment

with us getting shot at to identify hostile intent/hostile act. Having systems like this alleviates the fact that we have to react. I could see things ahead of time and be offensive," he said.

To get the most out of UAS, Driskell suggested that company commanders begin forging strong working relationships with their UAS operators during pre-deployment training.

"It takes 30-45 days to get good at it," he said. "Pick a guy who has retainability and the aptitude to fly."

One of the chief advantages of the smaller UAS is they are piloted by Soldiers who are very familiar with the area of operation as well as the patterns of life there. That knowledge helps a platoon leader or company commander tremendously as he strives to abide by the rules of engagement, said Driskell.

"The last thing I want to do is shoot the wrong person," he said.

UAS operators are required to re-certify annually.



PHOTO BY SGT. MICHAEL J. MACLEOD

Spc. Corey Deer, a UAS operator with 1st Bn., 504th PIR, launches a Raven during a UAS refresher course Feb. 5 at Fort Bragg, N.C. His battalion is part of the 82nd Abne. Div.'s 1st BCT.

Solutions: Some items fielded as quick as 90 days

Continued from Page B1

the pipeline.

"We had none of this," Whitaker said, pointing around at the REF equipment on display at the auto show. "We got around in soft-shell Humvees."

Two years later, Whitaker was back in Iraq.

"This time, we were rolling around in Up-Armored Humvees and we had stuff like the Minotaur and the Mine Hound," he said, pointing to some of the equipment used for mine and improvised explosive device detection and destruction.

"I didn't know about REF when I was in Iraq and saw these new technologies coming in," he said, "but now I have a greater appreciation for what the organization does."

Whitaker is currently an operations noncommissioned officer at REF headquarters at Fort Belvoir, Va. He said REF-funded technologies are now saving the lives of Soldiers in Afghanistan, a place he visited recently.

Sgt. Maj. James Hash, one of the senior enlisted Soldiers at REF, is another believer in what his organization does. He observed first-hand the REF-funded, life-saving technologies, particularly in ground robotics systems, unmanned aircraft systems and IED-detection equipment, during a recent tour in Afghanistan. He saw technologies Soldiers didn't have during his 2003 deployment to Iraq.

As the war in Afghanistan draws down, Hash said, REF-funded technologies will become even more critical because Soldiers will be spread thin in distant combat outposts, and other Soldiers, particularly those in Special Operations in Africa and South America, have a need for cutting-edge technologies.

The REF doesn't operate in a vacuum, he pointed out. It partners with PEO Soldier, the Asymmetric Warfare Group, Training and Doctrine Command, Army Medicine, the other services and outside organizations, collaborating and avoiding redundancy of efforts.

However, a lot of ideas come from the

Soldiers themselves, he said, citing Minotaur.

As he spoke, Katherine Hammack, assistant secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment, stopped by to chat with the REF Soldiers. She particularly liked the Minotaur, which is a redesigned Bobcat used for IED detection and destruction.

Minotaur is slim and small and can go down mountain paths in Afghanistan where other vehicles can't, she said. Also, it is remote-controlled so a squad can follow from behind it at a safe distance.

Hash agreed, adding that when one of them hit an IED, it bent some of the plow-like devices in the front, which were readily repaired with Minotaur returning quickly to patrols.

Hammack said REF looks for new technologies, like from the big companies at the auto show, but works just as diligently with small entrepreneurs which have unique capabilities that Soldiers can use. One technology being explored from a small business, she said, is a wireless

charging system that would enable a Soldier to recharge the battery that operates his gear remotely, within about 10 feet of a vehicle. Thus, the Soldier could be powered up without unplugging his battery, saving time.

Batteries are used for a lot of devices the Soldier carries, including night vision goggles and smartphones with apps that were fielded by the REF.

Hash said the key to "Rapid" in its title is that the organization "is not bound by the traditional military acquisition process. We can field stuff as quickly as 90 days, but more complicated things like Minotaur took about seven months." Still, that is fast, he said, because new gear typically takes years to field.

Soldiers who work at REF also routinely go to the field to get feedback from the users of the new systems, and if the systems need tweaking, they are tweaked and if they are good to go, they can go through the traditional acquisition process for distribution throughout the Army, Hash added.





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FEBRUARY 21, 2013

Girls Night Out

Event returns with new choices, more entertainment

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation invites women to enjoy the fifth bi-annual Girls Night Out at the ballroom in The Landing March 1.

Women are invited to leave their husbands and children at home for this lady's expo and event that has been revamped, and features dancing, shopping, browsing and entertainment, all of which are specifically catered to women, said Leigh Ann Dukes, DFMWR sponsorship and advertising sales manager.

The event is open to the public for ages 18 and older with tickets currently on sale at The Landing Zone. Tickets are \$10 and will also be available at the door the night of the event. Ticket price includes entrance to the expo and one adult beverage or fountain drink.

"Girls Night Out is a ladies-only event that provides local women the chance to meet business owners and employees in a relaxed yet vibrant atmosphere that is devoted strictly to them. They can browse booths, shop, learn current trends, discover new self defense techniques, get an update on women's health issues, meet with friends and just have a good time," Dukes said.

The vendor portion of the night is from 6-9 p.m. while the entertainment portion of the night is from 9-11 p.m. This year the expo will have six vendors where patrons can purchase merchandise.

"The vendor portion is more of an expo or a showcase event. People are basically window shopping, but this year cosmetics, makeup, jewelry, hair products and lingerie are some of the things patrons can buy," said Dukes.

For the booths that are not selling at the event, Dukes said that it's a chance for women to see what the local vendors have to offer.

"It lets women who may be new to the area know where these businesses are located and encourages them to explore the Wiregrass," she said, adding that women wear everything from casual jeans or date night clothes to business attire.

The focus changes from business to pleasure with the opening of the dance floor for everyone to hang out, let loose and have a good time with friends. This year men are encouraged to attend the DJ Dance Party for free.

"The DJ Dance party will have a club atmosphere. It will be like going to a club for no cover, so make sure you stick around for the after party because DJ Dave will keep the party going all night. It is the event that you don't want to miss," said Brian Jackson, DFMWR program manager.

The Southeast Alabama Medical Center has made the night possible, according to Dukes, supplying the 100 door prize hipster bags as well as giving away all sorts of goodies to patrons.

More than 40 other vendors that cater to women will be present at the event and each participates in the fun-filled atmosphere. They also provide door prizes to those who stop at their booths.

Door prizes range from designer bags to gift certificates to baskets filled with women's products. Patrons must be present to win the door prizes.



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Women dance during last year's Girls Night Out event. This year's event is March 1 at 6 p.m. at The Landing.

"Each vendor or booth gives out a door prize, some even give away several, so in addition to the 100 we give out, almost everyone will get a door prize," said Dukes.

Vendors that will be in attendance include: salons, retail stores, spas and boutiques.

"Mary Kay, Scentsy, 2 Girls and a Spa, Uptown Cheap-skate, Lock-N-Load and the Pink Poodle are some of the businesses that will be there, and a lot of photographers will be in attendance also," said Dukes.

Adding to the experience is a fashion show that will be held at 7:30 p.m.

"The You Nique Boutique and Stiletto show will last about 30 minutes and [the boutique] has a lot of cute things, so women will really enjoy the showcase," she added.

The demographic of the women who attend is large, with attendees ranging from 18 years old to 65 years old.

"It gets women out of the house and experiencing what Fort Rucker and the local area has to offer. We welcome women of all age, ethnicity and occupations; young female Soldiers to older female civilians, we want everyone to come," said Jackson.

Women who have busy or stressful lives are encouraged

to take a break and take a night for themselves.

"It's a good way for women to get away from work and the stress of the week. It's a morale-boosting event because women are going to be with their friends and will be able to live it up as well as get some insight on women's issues and do some window shopping," said Jackson.

The Women's Medical Center is bringing back the instant photo booth, which was missed by patrons last year.

"Not only are we bringing back the photo booth, but there will also be two karaoke booths this year as well. During the expo, not the dance party, patrons can go into a booth shut the doors and sing karaoke," said Dukes.

A special event food menu and beverage specials will be available for purchase all evening in Legends, but are not included in ticket price.

The high-energy night is the perfect time to get a babysitter, dance and shop with girlfriends, according to Dukes.

"You get so much for 10 bucks. You get all these chances to win about 160 prizes, you get the opportunity to meet new friends, to shop and window shop, to see an amazing fashion show, to get sample massages and information pertinent to women, to attend the dance party and even a free drink," she said.

Military Saves Campaign encourages wealth, not debt

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

Financial institutions on post are joining forces and gearing up for Military Saves Week, Monday through March 2, to help educate military Families about how they can save and spend their money wiser.

Military Saves is a partner in the Department of Defense Financial Readiness Campaign, according to Mike Burden, Army Community Service accredited financial counselor.

"We like to do outreach and information tables during the week. In conjunction with the Army Aviation Center Credit Union and Armed Forces Bank, we will set up different tables at different locations to help reach as many people as possible," he said.

According to a memo from Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and his senior enlisted adviser Sgt. Maj. Bryan Battaglia, Military Saves is a national campaign to persuade, motivate, and encourage military service members, their Families and DOD-associated personnel to save money every month, and to convince leaders and organizations to be aggressive in promot-

ing automatic savings.

"Military Saves Week is an opportunity for our military community to come together with federal, state, and local resources including military banks and credit unions to focus on the financial readiness of military members and their Families to help them reduce debt and save for the future," the memo reads.

A table will be set up March 1 in the atrium of Bldg. 5700 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Three other outreach tables will be set up at the neighborhood centers in conjunction with Picerne Military Housing.

The tables are manned by financial counselors and bank representatives with pamphlets and helpful information. There will be some giveaways as well.

"We provide information about the program and answer financial questions people have. It is also a chance for people to set up appointments if they wish to get further information about saving and finances in general," said Burden.

There will be a table set up at the Bowden Terrace Neighborhood Center Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Allen Heights Neighborhood Center Wednesday from 10-11:30 p.m. and one set up at the Munson

Heights Neighborhood Center Feb. 28 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

"[People] will get information on how to start saving or how to improve their savings," said Burden. "We like to have the on-post financial institutions involved because they provide excellent information because they are experts in savings."

Events such as the tables are key to maintaining financial fitness and personal readiness, according to the memo, which places a lot of value on the military spouse.

"Engaging our military spouses is important as they play a vital role in maintaining financial discipline and stability within a military Family. Furthermore, by learning good financial habits early in life, our children will strengthen their financial fitness for the future," it stated.

More people are saving money now than they have in the past, according to the financial counselor, but for those who have not started saving, he said they need to begin immediately.

"The key is to start yesterday. The sooner you start saving the more you have because of the interest. Whether [people] want to save money for a year or for 50 years, the sooner the better,"

he said.

Anyone is allowed to stop and speak with the representatives at the tables but only military personnel and their Families can make an appointment with Army Community Service financial services.

Burden said that there are many types of savings accounts and long-term investments like thrift saving plans or 401Ks that many people may not know very much about and that stopping at a table can help clear up any misconceptions.

"People have questions about their saving vehicle; things concerning interest or how to do this or how to do that. They should take a few minutes to get some information and some refreshments," he said.

Many people may think they know how to save and pass up the chance to speak with a representative, but Burden said that people should take advantage of the convenient opportunity.

"Typically younger people are not sure about ways to save, like money market accounts and the like. Others may just be putting away a few dollars a pay check, which is good, but we might be able to help them save even more," he said.

Since the economic adjust-

ment from 2007 Burden said that it is more than smart to save money away, it can make life safer.

"Everyone has those unexpected emergencies, and if you have some money put away it is not as stressful. Unfortunately, there are some people living from paycheck to paycheck, but we always say regardless of how much it is, to save it, put it away and leave it there; be it \$10 a payday or \$100," he said. "If you don't start saving now you will probably wait and wait, and you will regret not starting earlier."

If people get into the habit of saving, it is easier to do, said Burden, adding that people should pay themselves first and that the first step is stopping to talk to a counselor at one of the four tables.

"We like to engage people first at the tables and ask them a few questions and give them our information for them to make an appointment with us. Savings, like most financial counseling, can be hard to talk about to people and we want to set up private times to talk to people to help them," he said.

For more information, visit www.militarysaves.org or call 255-3817.

ON POST

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

Girls Night Out

The Landing hosts its Girls Night Out March 1 from 6-11 p.m. The event features a DJ, fashion show, door prizes and numerous organizations that cater to women. The event is for women ages 18 and older. Tickets are \$10 and available at The Landing Zone. After Girls' Night Out, from 9-11 p.m., there will be a dance party with music from DJ Dave that is open to all ages 18 and older.

For more, call 255-9810.

Financial Readiness Training

Army Community Service offers its Financial Readiness Training March 1 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, Rm. 284. The free training provides a practical approach to personal financial management so Soldiers can gain control of and manage money effectively. Financial Readiness Training is required for all first-term junior enlisted Soldiers (E-1 through E-4).

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

Hired! prerequisite training

The Hired! Apprenticeship Program offers valuable paid work experience and training to better equip participants with needed skills for a highly-competitive job market. Prerequisite training is required prior to start a term, with the next session taking place Tuesday through Feb. 28 from 4-6 p.m. at the teen center. Valid child, youth and school services registration is required.

People can enroll for Hired! at parent central services in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 193, or call 255-9638 or 255-1093 for more information.

Taco Bar Tuesday

Beginning March 5, The Landing Zone will offer Taco Tuesday, featuring \$2 tacos (beef or chicken) every Tuesday beginning at 5 p.m. There will be a bar set up for guests to serve themselves with shredded lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, sour cream, guacamole, etc. People can make it a meal by adding black beans and rice for only \$1.95. The LZ will also have \$2 chips and queso. Specials are applicable only with the purchase of a beverage. The special is not valid with any other coupons or promotions and is for dining in the LZ only.

For more, call 598-2426.

Teen Book Club

The Center Library hosts its Teen Book Club March 7 from 4-5 p.m. to allow teens to connect and share their passion for reading. A new title is featured every month, and teens meet to talk and share their thoughts on the book. Light refreshments will be served.

For more, call 255-3885.

Military Saves Week

The Military Saves Campaign kick-off week is scheduled for Monday through March 2. The 2013 theme is, "Set a Goal, Make a Plan, Save Automatically."

For more information about Military Saves Week, call 255-1037.

AFTB Level I

Because being new to the Army can be confusing, Army Community Service offers Army Family Team Building Level I Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950. The class helps people gain the knowledge and tools they need to thrive in this Army life. Topics will include military acronyms, chain of command, customs and courtesies and more. Registration is required.

For more, call 255-2382.

St. Patrick's Day craft activity

The Center Library will host a St. Patrick's Day craft making activity March 12 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages



FILE PHOTO

Travel Extravaganza

Kathy Isaacs, left, talks about Medieval Times with Jamie Hendzel, Flatiron, at last year's Travel Extravaganza. Leisure Travel will again host its annual Travel Extravaganza March 6 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Landing. People can stop by to learn about discounts and vacation destinations for all travelers. As part of the casino theme this year, patrons are invited to roll the dice for chances to win a door prize provided by vendors. Door prizes will include attraction tickets, hotel stays, dinner show tickets and more. For more, call 255-2997.

3-11. Space is limited to the first 65 children to register.

For more, call 255-3885.

Mission IMPROVable – Entertainment Show

The Landing hosts MISSION IMPROVable March 15 from 8-9:30 p.m. The agents of the MISSION IMPROVable Comedy Team will perform an original comedy production, based on audience suggestions. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. The event is open to ages 18 and older.

For more, call 255-9810.

Spouse-to-Spouse Sponsorship Training

Army Community Service hosts its Spouse-to-Spouse Sponsorship Training program March 15 from 9-10 a.m. at The Commons. The training is open to active duty, retiree, and Army civilian spouses that are interested in sponsoring and welcoming new spouses to the Fort Rucker community.

For more, call 255-3735.

CYSS Job College Fair

Child, youth and school services hosts its second annual Job College Fair March 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the youth center. Attending youth will be able to meet and talk to prospective employers and college representatives all in one location.

For more, call 255-0666.

EDGE! March activities

Child, youth and schools services hosts various activities as part of its EDGE! program in March. March activities include Frisbee golf, pottery and framing. EDGE! activities cost \$5 per hour and occur weekdays from 4-6 p.m.

For more, call 255-0666.

Steak Night

Every Monday starting at 5 p.m. is Steak Night at The Landing Zone. The special features an 8-oz. Flat Iron Steak with a baked potato or fries for \$8, with the purchase of a beverage. Add a side salad for an additional \$1. Other sides are also available for purchase. This special is limited to the first 100 guests per night, is available for dine in only and limited to one per guest. The offer is not valid with any other coupons or promotions.

For more, call 598-8025.

DFMWR Spotlight

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Chaplain offers tips for ‘transitioning’

By Chaplain (Maj.) Rory Rodriguez
Fort Rucker Spiritual Life Center

Very recently I arrived from overseas (Belgium and Germany) where I have been the last five years. I have to adjust to the surroundings, change of weather, change of food, change of water, change of house — change, change and change. The Army calls this “transitioning.” I call this “pain.” When you think about it, your whole mind, emotions and body have to undergo horrendous

amounts of change during this process -- at this present time, my body still has not recovered from the infamous jet lag. There are tremendous changes going on psychologically, physically and emotionally that you may not be aware of, but it is there and you are experiencing it in a powerful way. For some, this transitioning is traumatic. Yes, I said traumatic. The Army calls this “cultural shock.” I call this “more pain and strain.” What can one do about this? Let me give you some practical tips.

- Prepare yourself (physically, emotionally and mentally) and others for this battle. You and your Family will be battling stress, fatigue, frustration, 500 meters of red tape strapped around you, 500 yards of duct tape to try to fix the issues, pain of uprooting, time constraints, last minute hoops to jump through, sickness and suffering. There may indeed be blood, sweat and tears in the battle.
- Cover the details. Leave no stone unturned in your planning opera-

tions. You have heard this before and it is true: “the devil is in the details,” and Murphy’s Law: “if something can go wrong it will.”

- Realize you cannot and should not be doing this all alone. Bite the tongue; swallow your pride if you have to. Remember, we are just flesh and blood. Receive the support offered and don’t be afraid to ask for assistance.
- Keep fueled up and prayed up. Your body and spirit are burning extra calories during

this time. So you have to refuel and fill the tanks of your body and spirit.

- Support your significant others around you. Everyone will be coming apart at the seams, and you have to be gentle, patient and helpful. Lean on each other. Use this difficult time to enhance your relationships.
- Say this mantra: “I can do this, I’ve got to do this.” In other words, forge ahead!
- Build new relationships around you. You should not be alone. It

is not healthy. You need people and people need you. Remember, during this difficult time of transitioning, it is a process, an experience and you can grow from it as a person. You have to embrace this experience and trust the process to become what you need to become for yourself and others. Look at yourself in the process. Look at how you are handling this and treating others around you. Experiences are like an invisible mirror: take a look at yourself and realize what is happening.

Religious Services

WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday.

HEADQUARTERS CHAPEL, BUILDING 109

Multi-Cultural Worship Service 8 a.m. Sunday.

MAIN POST CHAPEL, BUILDING 8940

9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass Sunday
11 a.m. Liturgical Worship Service Sunday
12:05 p.m. Catholic Mass (Tuesday - Friday) 4 p.m. Catholic Confessions Saturday 5 p.m. Catholic Mass Saturday.

WINGS CHAPEL, BUILDING 6036

9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Chapel Next Contemporary Worship Protestant Service.

SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER, BUILDING 8939

9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School
10:45 a.m. CCD (except during summer months).

BIBLE STUDIES

9 a.m. Protestant Women of the Chapel, Wings Chapel, Tuesday 11 a.m. Above the Best Bible Study, Yano Hall, Wednesday 1 a.m./6 a.m. Adult Bible Study, Spiritual Life Center, Wednesday noon/1 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Soldier Service Center, Wednesday 5:30 p.m. Catholic Adult Bible Study, Spiritual Life Center, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. Youth Group Bible Study, Headquarters Chapel, Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Chapel Next (Meal/Bible Study), Wings Chapel, Thursday 9

a.m. Adult Bible Study, Spiritual Life Center, Thursday.

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)

MOPS is a Christian-based mom’s group. MOPS is about meeting the needs of every mom of a child from conception through kindergarten. MOPS will meet every first and third Thursday, 9 a.m., at Wings Chapel, Bldg 6036. For more information, call the Religious Support Office at 255-2989.

Fort Rucker Protestant Men of the Chapel

Fort Rucker Protestant Men of the Chapel meet the first Saturday of each month in the Fort Rucker Spiritual Life Center, from 8-9 a.m. Men are encouraged to attend for a time of fellowship and a short devotion. Free breakfast is provided.

Protestant Women of the Chapel

PWOC meets every Tuesday at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. at Wings Chapel, Bldg 6036. Childcare provided. For more information, call 255-9894.

Military Council of Catholic Women

MCCW meets every Tuesday from 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Spiritual Life Center. Childcare provided. For more information, call 255-9894.

Catholic Adult Fellowship

CAF meets regularly throughout the year. For more information, call 255-9894.

Youth Groups (CLUB BEYOND)

1836 Varsity Club (Ninth-12th Grade), Tuesday
1703 JV Club (Sixth - Eighth Grade), Thursday For more information, call Eric Gillis at (850) 333-3039.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Cricket, a 5-month-old female available for adoption at the Fort Rucker stray facility. She is very sweet and loving, just like her brother Grayson. It costs \$81 to adopt Cricket and other animals at the facility, which includes all up-to-date shots, the first round of age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip and spaying. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. 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 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.

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Sat - Sun 2:10, 7:10 & 9:30
WESTGATE CENTER
III **WARM BODIES - PG13**
Mon - Fri 7:00 & 9:10
Sat - Sun 2:00, 7:00 & 9:10
IV **SIDE EFFECTS - R**
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Sat - Sun 2:00, 7:00 & 9:15
II **HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS - R**
3D - Mon - Fri 7:10 • S & S 7:10
2D - Mon - Fri 9:00 • S & S 2:00 & 9:00
III **IDENTITY THIEF - R**
Mon - Fri 7:00 & 9:15
Sat - Sun 2:00, 7:00 & 9:15

Church Directory

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

First United Methodist Church
Traditional Worship Service
8:30 am & 11:00 am
Contemporary Worship - New Connection
8:45 am
The Gathering - Youth
5:45 pm
Sunday School
10:00 am
Nursery Care: During all services
217 S. Main St • Enterprise, AL
Office: 334-347-3467
efumc@adelphia.net
Prayer Line (24 Hours) 334-393-7509

Center Point Community Church
†Charismatic †Relational †Purposeful†
Pastor: Ed Corley
† 3351 Lynn Road – Enterprise (right off Rucker Blvd)
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☼ Wednesday Evenings – 7 PM
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PHOTO BY KATHERINE ROSARIO

Jennifer Husson, diet technician at Lyster, explains the different flavors of apples and their nutritional value to Vanessa Rudolph and Shirley Brown during the Shopping for Good Health commissary tour Feb. 11.

Lyster commissary tour helps people make healthy choices

By Katherine Rosario
Lyster Army Health Clinic
Public Affairs

Walking down the aisles at a grocery store can be overwhelming and that's why Lyster Army Health Clinic offers commissary tours to teach participants how to shop for healthy food.

A group of spouses and veterans met Feb. 11 to tour the commissary with a diet technician from the Nutrition Care Clinic.

Tours are given on Mondays when the commissary is closed to allow participants a chance to learn about different healthy foods without feeling rushed through a crowd of shoppers.

The first lesson of the morning was to shop the outside of the store first and then go into the aisles to stock up on pantry basics.

"Shopping the outside of a grocery store first ensures

you are visiting the fruits and vegetables section, the meat counter and the dairy section," said Jennifer Husson, the diet technician who led the tour. "Most of these products are fresh, and though they may have a shorter shelf-life than items in the aisles, they are usually better for you."

Husson encouraged participants to fill their plate with colorful fruits and vegetables. A money-saving tip when buying lettuce is to purchase the whole lettuce instead of the pre-chopped lettuce in the bag.

When looking for a snack, choose whole fruits, but if fruit cups are easier to carry around, Husson suggested looking for ones that are low in sugar and packaged in water.

The deli counter at most grocery stores can slice your meat choice in standard one-ounce servings, Husson said.

"For those who don't eat meat, a good source of protein is beans," she said.

Many brands claim to make low-fat foods, but Husson said it is important to check the sodium content as well.

"What is lower in fat is usually higher in sodium and

those who need to watch their sodium intake could easily go over their daily recommended amount if they don't read the labels," she said, adding people should aim to consume no more than 2,400mg of sodium a day, unless they have high blood pressure, then the suggested amount drops to 1,500mg a day.

Vanessa Rudolph, a veteran, attended the tour to learn how to make healthier choices and control her sodium intake.

"The tour was very helpful and gave me a lot of good information," she said. "I am amazed at the amount of sodium in processed foods."

Shirley Brown, a spouse, also attended the event to learn how to shop and cook healthier.

"I had heard that red meat was bad, but today I learned that no food is particularly bad as long as it's eaten in moderation," she said.

For more information about nutrition or to sign up for the next tour, call 255-7298.



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300 VICTORIA DRIVE, FRESHLY PAINTED, This 3BD/2BA home includes a living room, dining area, stove, refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher, garbage disposal, utility/laundry room with washer and dryer connections, double car garage, patio, and fence. **Pets Neg. with non-refundable pet fee!**

FOR RENT

305 ELM ST. "POOL AND POOL SERVICE" With this 4BD/2.5BA home. Additional features include living room, dining area, stove, refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher, garbage disposal, utility/laundry room with washer and dryer, patio and fence.

FOR RENT

176 CONCORD AVE, This 3BD/2BA, townhome comes complete with washer and dryer, refrigerator, stove, garbage disposal, dishwasher, single car garage, and fence. Lawn care, pest control, use of clubhouse and pool included. **Pets OK with non-refundable pet fee!**

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122 CLAREMONT AVE, This 2BD/2.5BA townhome comes with washer and dryer, refrigerator, microwave/hood combination, stove, garbage disposal, dishwasher, one-car garage, and fence. Lawn care, monthly pest control, use of clubhouse and community pool included. **Pets OK with Non Refundable Pet Fee!**

FOR RENT

55 COURTYARD This 2BD/2.5 BA townhome comes with washer and dryer, refrigerator, stove, microwave, garbage disposal, dishwasher, ceiling fans, and single garage with remote. Lawn care, pest control, use of clubhouse and pool included. **Pet's neg. with non-refundable pet fee!**

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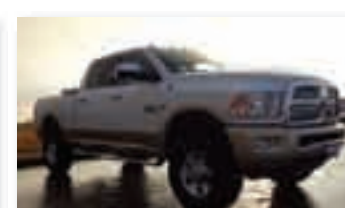
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‘Unwind with Vulcan after-hours’ kicks off today

Vulcan Park and Museum
Press Release

BIRMINGHAM — Join Vulcan Park and Museum after-hours every third Thursday of the month from February through April and unwind with Vulcan as it reveals the people, places and events that have helped shape the dynamic city.

Admission is charged and includes light refreshments, a one-hour program and entrance to Vulcan Center Museum and Observation Tower. Tickets are \$10 in advance online or \$15 at the door. Patrons can also purchase a \$25 series pass for discounted admission to all three programs.

For more information or to purchase tickets log on to

<http://www.visitvulcan.com/eventInfo/BirminghamRevealed.html>.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

2013 series schedule

Today

The Golden Age of Birmingham Broadcasting: Radio Edition

Remember radio of decades past, when you listened to the radio to hear the latest hit song or be entertained by a local radio personality that actually made you laugh? In the decades following World War II, Birmingham radio featured homegrown programming, served up by larger-than-life personalities who spun records suited especially to local musical tastes and, through comedy bits, developed characters just for local listeners. Vulcan Park and Museum remembers the Birmingham radio of yesteryear with The Golden Age of Birmingham Broadcasting: Radio Edition. Moderated by radio personality Greg Bass and featuring a panel of local radio professionals, The Golden Age of Birmingham Broadcasting relives some of the best radio moments from decades past and recounts inside stories that never made it on the air.

March 21

Bobby Horton: Music, Migration and Industrial Birmingham

Lately, multi-instrumentalist and music historian Bobby Horton has been considering Alabama’s amazing vernacular music tradition. Bobby Horton: Music, Migration and Industrial Birmingham is the result of his contemplation. In this concert and discussion, Bobby will explore the connections between music of the rural South and music that traveled into Birmingham. Bobby will perform blues and gospel straight from Alabama’s Black Belt, as well as selections rooted firmly in industrial Birmingham. To tell this wide-ranging musical story, Bobby will perform a variety

of instruments, offering historical commentary as he works through a set list like no other.

April 18

Crossing Lines: Birmingham and the Southern Conference for Human Welfare

It’s 1938 and people from all over the country are coming to Birmingham for the inaugural meeting of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Attendees include Eleanor Roosevelt, Hugo Black, Mary McLeod Bethune, and Virginia Durr. In Crossing Lines, Lee Shackleford’s new play about the SCHW in Birmingham, we meet the fictional character Eunice, who has come to Birmingham eager to support the causes of tolerance, education and opportunity for all Southerners. While staying in a segregated hotel, Eunice strikes up a friendship with a down-to-earth bellboy named Pete, and she sparks within him a passion for change and a desire to challenge the way things have always been.

In recent years, Vulcan Park and Museum has looked at the life of one of the conference’s participants in the one-woman show Too Many Questions: An Evening with Virginia Durr. This installment of Birmingham Revealed!, featuring Crossing Lines, reminds us that the city known as the birthplace of civil rights in the 1960s was also the cradle of new ideas in the South, a place where the Old South and the New Deal lived side by side.

Vulcan Park and Museum is a 501©3 organization. All proceeds from the Birmingham Revealed Programs will be used to support Vulcan Park and Museum’s mission to preserve and promote Vulcan as the symbol for the Birmingham region, advance knowledge and understanding of Birmingham’s history and culture, and to encourage exploration of the region.

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 hosts bingo nights Tuesdays and Fridays at the Legion Hall, 32335 N. US Hwy. 29, from 4:30-9 p.m. The organization also has a dance, with live music, every Saturday from 7:30-11:30 p.m. All proceeds from the bingo events go to help local veterans and their Families, as well as causes such as Girls State, Boys State and scholarships for high school students. For more information, call 222-7131 or visit www.andalusialegionpost80.org.

DALEVILLE

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.

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. The meetings are open to all. Post can host parties, weddings, and hails and farewells.

For more information, call 598-6211, 598-1297, 598-6211 or 379-9187.

DOTHAN

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY — Sherry Burkhalter, owner of Quilted Creations will hold a quilting class, Raggedy Reverse Appliqué at Landmark Park From 5-9 p.m. Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Each participant should be able to complete a small quilt including binding in class. Cost is \$55 per person and includes a soup and salad supper on Friday night and lunch on Saturday. Sewing machines will be needed and three fat quarters per 18 inch block. Registration required. For more information, call 794-3452.

NOW-FEB 28 — Every Thursday at The Cultural Art Center ballroom dance lessons are held from 7-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$2 per person per night or \$16 for an eight-week session. For more information, call 792-9192 or 714-5701.

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

or call 794-3871.

ONGOING — Landmark Park has a reptile feeding at 4 p.m. every second Sunday of each month. Children and adults can learn why these animals are important to the environment. The program is free with paid gate admission. For more information, call 794-3452 or visit www.landmarkpark.com.

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 — Landmark Park hosts a dulcimer club jam session the first Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. Must have a mountain dulcimer, 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, 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 (334) 696-2320.

ENTERPRISE

NOW THROUGH APRIL 27 — Two beginners classes in the Taoist Tai Chi Society Internal Arts and Methods are offered at the YMCA. Classes will be offered on Thursdays from 1-2:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 10-11:30 a.m. Suitable for all ages and physical conditions. Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese exercise that promotes health and relaxation. The beginner class covers all 108 moves of the Tai Chi set. All classes are taught by accredited volunteer instructors. For more information, call 348-9008 or 347-4663.

FRIDAY — The Coffee County Habitat for Humanity Winter Wonderland third annual Father-Daughter Banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church. Event includes dinner, dancing and a photo opportunity. Cost for a father-daughter ticket is \$110. The first additional daughter is \$30 and the second additional daughter is \$10. Attire is semi-formal. Recommended ages are 4-16. For more information or to make reservations, call 208-1108 or email ashleyavery@roadrunner.com.

MARCH 9 — The National Women’s Conference will be held at Enterprise High School from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Fresh Grounded Faith. The event is for women of all ages, denominations and ethnic groups to empower women to live a life of tenacious faith. Several female speakers will be presenting. Tickets can be purchased by calling (800) 859-7992 or go to www.FreshGroundedFaith.com. For more information, call (828) 342-7463.

ONGOING — Every Monday and Tuesday at 7 p.m. the city of Enterprise hosts line dancing. Fee is \$3 per class. For more information, call 348-2684 or visit www.cityofenterprise.net.

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 73 meets at the American Legion/Doer’s Shrine Club building at 200 Gibson Street in Enterprise on the fourth Saturday of each month, beginning at 8 a.m. This building is across the street from the Lee Street Baptist Church on Lee Street. 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.

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

MARCH 2 — Disabled American Veterans Chapter #99 will host an indoor yard sale at the Town Hall from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Public participation is invited. Booth rentals for an inside 12 X12 foot space is \$20 and outdoor space rentals for \$5 each. Hot dogs, chips and other refreshments will be for sale. For additional information, call 477-9861 or 406-6700.

ONGOING — Every Tuesday and Wednesday, Disabled American Veterans Chapter No. 99 maintains a service office in the New Brockton police station.

The officers can help veterans and their spouses with disability compensation claims, VA pension, death benefits, VA medical care, Social Security disability benefits, veterans’ job programs and other veteran services. All veteran services provided are free of charge.

For more information, call Chuck Lobdell at 718-5707.

OZARK

NOW THROUGH MARCH 23 — Dale County Council of Arts and Humanities host the Black and White Show at the Ann Rudd Art Center. The Valentine Dance with DJ Time R. will be tonight from 8-10- p.m. For more information, visit www.ruddartcenter.org.

ONGOING — Every Monday through Friday aerobic classes are open to the public at the Autrey Recreation Center from 8-10 a.m. Call 774-2042 for more information.

PINCKARD

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

SAMSON

ONGOING — 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

Car Show

The Florida Mopars third annual car show is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at TGI Friday’s in Panama City. The event is open to all makes and models, including motorcycles. Model

car contest for children. The entry fee is \$20. The event will continue rain or shine. The event features music, cars and door prizes. Proceeds will benefit the Animal Rescue Center of Bay County. For more information, call (850) 866-8964.

Road Race

The 35th annual Winston Howell 10,000-meter road

race is March 9 at the National Guard Armory in Hartford. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m., race begins at 9 a.m.

Course is described as being fairly flat with four turns, being paved the entire length with aid stations. Entry fee is \$20.

For more information, call 588-2343 or visit www.winstonhowellroadrace.blogspot.com.

Mouth device in clinical trials as possible treatment for TBI

By J. Ellen Crown
*U.S. Army Medical Research
and Materiel Command
Public Affairs*

FORT DETRICK, Md. — The tongue is an amazing organ.

Thousands of nerve fibers in it help us eat, drink and swallow. Without them, we would not taste. The tongue helps us speak. Quietly, its surface defends our bodies from germs.

Yet for everything the tongue can do, perhaps one of its most exciting roles is to serve as a direct “gateway” to the brain through thousands of nerve endings.

Now researchers at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-Madison and NeuroHabilitation Corporation are leveraging the power of those tiny nerves. They are aiming to restore lost physical and mental function for service members and civilians who suffered traumatic brain injury or stroke, or who have Parkinson’s or multiple sclerosis.

The treatment involves sending specially-patterned nerve impulses to a patient’s brain through an electrode-covered oral device called a PoNS, a battery-operated appliance placed on the tongue. The 20-30 minute stimulation therapy, called cranial nerve non-invasive neuromodulation, or CN-NiNM, is accompanied with a custom set of physical, occupational, and cognitive exercises, based on the patient’s deficits. The idea is to improve the brain’s organizational ability and allow the patient to regain neural control.

NeuroHabilitation Corporation is funding the commercial development of the device, and has more than just financial investments in PoNS. The company was created with support by Montel Williams, a celebrity and military veteran who was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1999.

Williams was originally introduced to the research through an American Way magazine an attendant gave to him while he was on an American Airlines flight. The magazine included an article about work being done at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Shortly after reading the article, Williams joined a study at the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Tac-



PHOTO BY J. ELLEN CROWN

The PoNS device is an electrode-covered appliance user's place on the tongue. The 20-30 minute stimulation therapy, called cranial nerve non-invasive neuromodulation, is accompanied with a custom set of physical, occupational and cognitive exercises based on the patient's deficits.

tile Communication & Neurorehabilitation Lab, which is in the Department of Biomedical Engineering.

“The third day there I said we need this in the mouths of our Soldiers,” recalled Williams, stating that he has always kept his ties with the military after serving in the Marine Corps and graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy.

The PoNS prototype and associated therapeutic use were developed by Uni-

versity of Wisconsin-Madison scientists Yuri Danilov, Ph.D., Mitchell Tyler, M.S., P.E., and Kurt Kaczmarek, Ph.D. Their research is driven by the principle that brain function is not hardwired or fixed, but can be reorganized in response to new experiences, sensory input and functional demands. This area of research is called neuroplasticity and is a promising and rapidly growing area of brain research.

Preliminary data from University of

Wisconsin showed CN-NiNM to have great potential for a wide variety of neurological issues. Remarkably, the therapy doesn’t only slow functional loss, but also has the potential to restore lost function. That’s why researchers are saying that it “breaks the rules.”

“When we talk about a brain changing itself, this is what we mean,” said Danilov.

Because of its possible application for service members, especially those returning from combat with blast-related traumatic brain injuries, the USAMRMC signed a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with NeuroHabilitation Corporation (founded by Williams and his colleagues, including the University of Wisconsin scientists) Feb. 8 that allows the Army to further evaluate the device.

“This exciting agreement leverages a unique private-public partnership,” said Col. Dallas Hack, director of the USAMRMC Combat Casualty Care Research Program. “By collaborating with University of Wisconsin-Madison and NeuroHabilitation Corporation, we maximize our resources to explore a potential real-world treatment for injured service members and civilians with a variety of health conditions.”

Testing will include a collaborative study with researchers and clinicians at the Blanchfield Army Community Hospital in Fort Campbell, Ky., due to start this month as the result of a year-long coordination effort led by Capt. Ian Dews, deputy director of CCCRP. The hospital is home to the Warrior Resiliency and Recovery Center, which is dedicated to the treatment of Soldiers with physical and neuropsychological problems due to service-related trauma.

Additional patient testing will be conducted at other veteran facilities and civilian medical institutions. Concurrently, the USAMRMC, in collaboration with its subcommands the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency and the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity, will conduct environmental testing, such as temperature and humidity limitations for the device, to better understand potential constraints. At the conclusion, the USAMRMC hopes to seek U.S. Food and Drug Administration clearance for PoNS.

Mine was earned in Vietnam. By my dad.

Barbara Q., USAA member

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Old Guard Soldier’s quick reaction saves Caisson horses

By Staff Sgt. Megan Garcia
Army News Service

JOINT BASE MYER-HENDERSON HALL, Va. — More than 50 Soldiers and 30 horses from The 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) Caisson platoon bear the solemn mission of transporting service members and their Family members to their final resting place in Arlington National Cemetery, Va.

Each day, teams of four Soldiers and six horses set out to accomplish this honorable mission. On Feb. 4, as one Caisson team made their way to their first of many missions, they were unaware how the quick actions of one Soldier would save the day.

“As we were coming up to Memorial Chapel [on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall] to receive remains to take to the cemetery, one of the horse’s shoes got stuck in a grate,” said Staff Sgt. John Ford, infantryman, Caisson platoon.

The horse’s shoe became lodged in the drainage grate. As Babe, the Caisson horse, fell forward, the grate lifted from the ground leaving a hole below it. Tillman, the horse following behind Babe, fell in the opening.

“As soon as I realized we were in the hole, I jumped off right away,” said Tillman’s rider, Spc. Jacob Eberly, infantryman, Caisson platoon.

Due to the weight of the caisson and the fact that the team had been traveling uphill, Tillman was unable to climb out of the hole.

A caisson is a horse-drawn wagon that is used to carry coffins for military funerals and can weigh up to 2,500 lbs.

“The farther the caisson would go back, the farther Tillman would go down into the hole,” said Eberly. “I ran to the back where the wheels were and grabbed the spokes and began pushing the wagon forward. I was just trying to help my horse as much as possible.”

With Eberly’s assistance, Tillman slowly pulled himself up.

Ford said by the time he realized Tillman had fallen into the hole, Eberly already had him out of it.

“Without spending a lot of unnecessary time evaluating the situation, Eberly immediately saw the right thing to do and that was to get the wagon off of the horse to where the horse could get himself up,” said Ford.

Ford said in that moment, Eberly epitomized the core value of selfless service.

“He definitely risked his own well-being,” said Ford. “Once the horse got out he could have ran off and dragged Eberly with him. Eberly also could have been run over by the



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. MEGAN GARCIA

Spc. Jacob Eberly, infantryman, Caisson platoon, 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), checks on Tillman, Caisson horse, Feb. 12 at the Caisson stable on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va. When Tillman fell into a hole during a mission, Eberly’s quick reaction helped prevent serious injuries to the horse.

wheels or kicked by the horse.”

However, Ford said he understood why Eberly took the chance.

“It speaks to the training we have here in the Caisson [platoon] and it speaks to the personal relationship the Soldiers have with the horses themselves,” said Ford. “The horses rely on us in a lot of situations and we have the responsibility to take care of them in those situations.”

Following the incident, Sgt. J.E. Snider, an animal care specialist, Public Health Command District-Fort Belvoir, treated

and stitched up some of the deeper cuts the horses sustained on their legs. Nonetheless, Snider credits Eberly for minimizing the damage that could have been done.

“The injuries could have been a lot worse

then what they were had Eberly not done what he did,” said Snider. “It could have also gone into more horses because they were all hooked up. I really honestly think that Eberly saved the day.”

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FEBRUARY 21, 2013

SWGC seeks new, old members for 2013 season

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker's Silver Wings Golf Course is looking to keep its current members while recruiting new members to join its ranks during its membership drive through the month of March.

The membership drive will not only give people the chance to become a member at Fort Rucker's golf course, but give them up to 31 chances to win various prizes, according to Stan Tanna, assistant business manager for SWGC.

"The basics are going to be the same as last year. We will have a daily drawing when people sign up or renew their memberships, and if you renew or join on March 1, that means you've got 31 chances to get your name drawn and win a prize," he said. "If your name gets drawn early, your name will go back into the drawing and be eligible for another prize."

Tanna said the prizes range from a pair of golf gloves to a set of clubs, and people don't have to be present in order to win, so he encourages people to come out and join if they have a love for the game.

The Silver Wings Golf Course boasts three different 9-hole courses – red, white and blue – that people can enjoy year-round, and even a lit driving range that is available at all hours of the day. It also houses the Silver Wings clubhouse, a full golf shop and Divots Restaurant and Grill for a well-rounded golf experience, according to the assistant business manager.

Last year's membership drive boasted a scheduled member's tournament, but this year's tournament was delayed due to construction on the blue course, but Tanna said once the blue course is up and running, members can look forward to a bit of friendly competition.

There are economic and logistical advantages to becoming a member at the SWGC, but getting the full benefit of what the golf course has to offer all depends



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Eneicy Seitz, wife of Col. Steve Seitz, USAACE director of simulations, lines up a putt while her husband and friends watch during last year's Swing FORE Life Golf Tournament. The 2013 SWGC membership drive through the month of March looks to recruit new members while maintaining current members.

on the amount of a person's play. The golf course offers a per-play basis, but for those that play more than once a week, a membership would be well worth it.

"Not only do people save money on membership costs by joining here, they can save money on the drive if they live close to Fort Rucker," said Tanna.

Along with the money saved on green fees and commuting costs, becoming a member of the golf course has other added benefits such as: discounts for merchandise and equipment in the golf shop; member-only golf tournaments throughout the year as well as reduced entry fees in

other tournaments; and discounts for members that wish to use the clubhouse facility for functions like wedding receptions or parties.

Tanna said that this is a good course for people to join if they enjoy a challenge.

"I believe that this golf course is probably the most challenging of all the golf courses in this area," he said. "People will argue either way depending on who you talk to, but any military course you play on in the world is going to be difficult because they were built to the old standards of golf course construction.

"The courses [on military in-

stallations] have long par threes, long par fives, and although some golf courses in the area might have better play conditions, you won't get as much of a challenge as you will here," he added.

The Silver Wings Golf Course is open to the public despite being on a military base, said Tanna, and people don't have to have an affiliation with the Army to play.

There is also no initiation fee to join like with other clubs, said Tanna. People only have to pay the monthly dues, which can be paid in full or on a monthly basis.

If the one-year membership dues are paid in full, a month of

dues is taken off of the cost of the year so people paying upfront pay only for 11 months instead of 12, according to the assistant manager. The cost of membership also depends on whether or not the person is civilian or military, active duty or retired, and is based upon their rank.

The monthly membership rates for the 2012-2013 season are: \$40 for ranks E-1 to E-6 and juniors aged 12-17; \$65 for E-7 and up and Department of Defense civilians; and \$83 for the general public.

For more information, call 598-2449, or visit www.ftwruck-ermwr.com.



FILE PHOTO

Youth Turkey Hunt

Perry Velverton and Bailey Holland show off their turkeys that earned them second and first place, respectively, at the 2011 Youth Turkey Hunt on post. This year's hunt for children ages 7-15 is March 9 from 5-11 a.m. Before the hunt, participants should meet at outdoor recreation. Parents or escorts of participating youth must have a valid Alabama State Hunting License and a hunter education safety completion card. Door prizes and prizes for the top three turkeys will be awarded. The event is open to the public. For more, call 255-4305.

DOWN TIME



Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

TRIVIA

1. LITERATURE: Who created the character of Walter Mitty?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Which Central American country has coastline only on the Pacific side?
3. GAMES: How many players are on a volleyball team?
4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president eventually courted and married a woman who was briefly his school-teacher?
5. HISTORY: What was the name of the system of racial segregation used in South Africa in the second half of the 20th century?
6. MYTHOLOGY: Which Greek heroine refused to marry any man who could not beat her in a foot race?
7. ANCIENT WORLD: What field of study was Euclid known for?
8. MUSIC: What is a hurdy-gurdy?
9. FIRSTS: Who was the first (and only) woman to win the Medal of Honor?
10. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Why is a catamaran different from other boats?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword

CLACKING CAT

- ACROSS**
- 1 "My dear," in Milan
 - 8 Early calculators
 - 13 Miser visited by ghosts
 - 20 Protective plastic film
 - 21 — rex (cat breed)
 - 22 Chewed the fat
 - 23 Start of a riddle
 - 25 Thaws again
 - 26 Procedure: Abbr.
 - 27 Muscle fitness
 - 28 Sport — (4WD vehicle)
 - 29 Galley tool
 - 30 A number of
 - 31 Riddle, part 2
 - 36 Painter Rousseau
 - 38 In another country
 - 39 Vision problem
 - 40 Klensch of fashion
 - 41 Terse denial
 - 44 — Aviv
 - 46 "Ad — per aspera" (motto of Kansas)
- DOWN**
- 19 "Crow's" calls
 - 2 In need of a massage
 - 41 "King" Cole
- ACROSS**
- 48 Riddle, part 3
 - 53 Fifth of XV
 - 54 Novelist Santha Rama
 - 55 In — (before birth)
 - 56 Table crumb
 - 57 "Viva" Vegas
 - 58 On top of, to bards
 - 59 — Martin (British auto)
 - 61 Cast — for
 - 63 Pops
 - 64 Cuts short
 - 65 Riddle, part 4
 - 70 LeBlanc of "Friends"
 - 73 Reminiscent of
 - 74 First Hebrew month
 - 75 Bovine milk pitcher
 - 79 French
 - 80 Blowup, in photog.
 - 81 — Lingus
 - 82 Elk's call
 - 85 Rebs' gp.
 - 86 Paw bottom
 - 87 Riddle, part 5
 - 91 Sharp insults
 - 93 Municipal reg.
- DOWN**
- 94 Verdugo or Kagan
 - 95 Repetitious learning
 - 96 Moroseness
 - 98 Hopes that one will
 - 101 Lube again
 - 102 End of the riddle
 - 107 Apple line
 - 108 "A," in Arles
 - 109 — offensive (1968 attack)
 - 110 Gehrig and Gossett
 - 111 Very little
 - 114 Bacon slices
 - 116 Riddle's answer
 - 119 Saint — (Loire's capital)
 - 120 Six Flags attractions
 - 121 Unable to tear oneself away from
 - 122 Most tightly packed
 - 123 At — of (priced at)
 - 124 Energy-draining things
- ACROSS**
- 3 Thinks through logically
 - 4 "Boston Legal" fig.
 - 5 Tiki bar drink
 - 6 "The show's starting"
 - 7 Cigna rival
 - 8 Suffix with lime
 - 9 Desensitized
 - 10 2009 film set on Pandora
 - 11 Show up at
 - 12 Ending for Benedict
 - 13 "Scat!"
 - 14 Second-order angel
 - 15 Cup top
 - 16 Baby bodysuits
 - 17 Like films not shot in a studio
 - 18 Tie the knot
 - 19 Ford dud
 - 24 Clutch sifter
 - 29 More strange
 - 32 Berlin Mrs.
 - 33 Hit for the Jackson 5
 - 34 Really ink
 - 35 Smelting residues
 - 36 — pin drop
 - 37 Places of exile
 - 41 "King" Cole
- DOWN**
- 42 Show a deficit
 - 43 Albania's capital
 - 45 Purple bloom
 - 47 Melodies
 - 49 Melody
 - 50 Alternative to a 401(k)
 - 51 Twistable little treats
 - 52 "Nothin'"
 - 60 Frequently, to a poet
 - 62 Held the deed to
 - 63 Strip bare
 - 64 Slithering swimmer
 - 66 Narrow road
 - 67 "Feel free to send me"
 - 68 Hanging Gardens city
 - 69 Comply with
 - 70 Atlas filter
 - 71 Merge into a single body
 - 72 Artificial inlet subject to ebbs and flows
 - 76 Affecting the entire college, say
 - 77 Question from Judas
 - 78 Stand for a canvas
 - 80 The sun, in Spain
- DOWN**
- 81 "— shall come to pass ..."
 - 83 Pistol or rifle
 - 84 Meadowland
 - 88 Clear, as a chalkboard
 - 89 Dubs anew
 - 90 Russian city or region
 - 92 Sacs
 - 97 Shows grief
 - 99 Like fictitious tales
 - 100 Big name in stretchy swimwear
 - 101 Rebel as a group
 - 102 Sacked
 - 103 Not solidified
 - 104 Mop & — (cleaning brand)
 - 105 Karaoke selections
 - 106 Fran and Ollie's friend
 - 112 "— act" (play break)
 - 113 Parts of psyches
 - 115 Pittsburgh-Boston dir.
 - 116 Chorus syllable
 - 117 Suffix with lobby or hobby
 - 118 Counterpart of "nope"

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★ ★ ★

★ Moderate ★ ★ Challenging
★ ★ ★ HOO BOY!

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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID's CORNER



Wounded warriors take recovery to ice

By Elaine Sanchez
Brooke Army Medical Center

SAN ANTONIO — Balanced on a low-lying sled and with a stick in each hand, Army Sgt. Dorian Leon swiftly propelled himself across the ice to enter the scrimmage.

He dodged one opponent and nearly rammed into another as he fought for possession of the puck. He flipped his stick to cup the puck before passing it to an open teammate.

Cheers erupted from the sidelines and Leon's twin sons, perched on shoulders for a better view of the ice, yelled: "Go, daddy, go!"

Leon heard the cheers, but kept his head in the game as he battled for his team's victory during the San Antonio Rampage Sled Hockey Tournament, which kicked off Feb. 8.

The three-day tournament, sponsored by the nonprofit Operation Comfort, pitted Leon's team, the San Antonio Rampage, against teams from Chicago, St. Louis, Florida and Colorado at the Ice and Golf Center at Northwoods in San Antonio.

Like Leon, the bulk of the players on the San Antonio team are Wounded Warriors, both active duty and retired. The majority are new to both ice and sled hockey, but developed a passion for the game while undergoing rehabilitation at the Center for the Intrepid Brooke Army Medical Center's state-of-the-art rehab facility.

Leon was a reluctant newcomer to the sport. He was undergoing treatment at the CFI for a spinal-cord injury suffered in Afghanistan when Fred Jesse, his physical therapist and a Rampage coach, asked him if he'd like to join the team.

"He suggested I try it out, but I said no," Leon recalled. "I had no interest in the game. I had never



PHOTO BY ROBERT SHIELDS

San Antonio Rampage sled hockey player Sgt. Dorian Leon, No. 18, gets checked by a Colorado Avalanche player during the opening game of the San Antonio Rampage Sled Hockey Tournament at the Ice and Golf Center at Northwoods in San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 8.

played ice hockey or watched it."

Convinced it would be beneficial to his recovery, Jesse booked Leon a sled hockey session as a physical therapy appointment. After one game, Leon was hooked. He's now one of two active duty players on the team. Two other Wounded Warriors, still patients at the CFI, are training to be on the team.

"It has fantastic benefits," Leon noted. "It helps to build core strength, which is very important with spinal cord injuries, and it gives back a sense of Family, of team, to Soldiers."

Across the ice, retired Marine Cpl. Luke McDermott sat on the sidelines, poised to enter the rink.

McDermott was injured June 9, 2010, in Afghanistan, when the vehicle he was riding in struck a roadside bomb. The injuries resulted in the Marine's loss of both of his legs.

Like Leon, McDermott had never played hockey, but his unrelenting PT, Jesse, talked him into trying it out.

"I love the sport," he said. "It's high intensity, constant action, and the exercise is good for the mind and body."

McDermott now attends school in Fort Worth, Texas, but travels to San Antonio when possible to participate in games with his team.

Called into the game, McDer-

mott sped across the ice, joining Leon in a massive clash for the puck. Their former PT and now coach, Jesse, watched them both from the sidelines. Their dedication to the game isn't surprising, he said, and beneficial on many levels.

"It works on their conditioning, their balance," he said. "Plus, it gives them confidence when they're able to accomplish something they never thought they could do."

Jesse spoke proudly of his team's accomplishments. Three of his players — veterans Rico Roman, Jen Yung Lee and Josh Sweeney — are on the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team. They

aspire to represent the United States during the Paralympics in Russia next year, he said.

"These guys work well together," he said, wincing slightly as two players collided. "And they play hard."

JT Tyler, a physical therapy assistant at the CFI, agreed.

"Sled hockey proves to them that they can still be athletic and accomplish great things," he explained. "They can overcome."

Thanks in part to the efforts of Leon and McDermott, the San Antonio Rampage prevailed against the Colorado Avalanche that night 3-0. The final winner of the league contest will be determined next month in Chicago.

ATV TRAIL RIDE

Outdoor recreation will host its All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Ride Saturday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$20. Pre-registration is required. The event is open to ages 16 and older. Patrons must provide their own ATV and protective gear. Protective gear must be worn at all times.

For more, call 255-4305.

YOUTH BASEBALL, JUMP ROPING REGISTRATION

Registration for youth baseball and jump roping will take place now through Feb. 28. Children must meet age requirements by Sept. 1, 2012. A current sports physical and valid child, youth and school services registration are required to participate. Coaches are needed for all age groups.

For more, call 255-2267.

SWGC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Silver Wings Golf Course will conduct a membership drive March 1-31. For more on how to join or the benefits of membership, call 598-2449.

ENTERPRISE BASEBALL

Enterprise's semi-pro baseball team is gearing up for another season and hosting tryouts on weekends now through the

end of March. The team is looking for players who are high school age or older. The team's first game will be in April. For more, call Joe Jackson at 806-6929 or 347-4275.

TWO-MAN BUDDY BASS TOURNAMENT

Outdoor recreation hosts its Two-Man Buddy Bass Tournament at the marina on Lake Tholocco March 2 from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$100 per team. Door prizes will be offered throughout the event. Cash prizes will be awarded to participants with the top three weigh-ins. The person with the largest catch will also win a prize. All participants must have an Alabama State Fishing License and a Fort Rucker Post Fishing Permit. Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged. The event is Exceptional Family Member Program friendly. For more, call 255-4305.

MEMBER MATCH PLAY

Silver Wings Golf Course will host member match play March 4, with tee times from 7-9 a.m. For more, call 598-2449.

SOFTBALL COACHES MEETING

The men's and women's intramural softball coaches meeting will be held March 5 at 9 a.m. at the Fort Rucker Physical

Fitness Facility conference room. People interested in coaching a team should attend the meeting. Pre-season will begin April 8.

For more, call 255-2393.

YOUTH TURKEY HUNT

Outdoor recreation hosts a youth turkey hunt for children ages 7-15 March 9 from 5-11 a.m. Before the hunt, participants should meet at outdoor recreation. Parents or escorts of participating youth must have a valid Alabama State Hunting License and a hunter education safety completion card. Door prizes and prizes for the top three turkeys will be awarded. The event is open to the public.

For more, call 255-4305.

GOBBLER CLASSIC TURKEY HUNT

Outdoor recreation will host the Gobbler Classic Turkey Hunt March 15 to April 30. Cost is \$25 per person. People can register for the event now through March 14 at outdoor recreation. Participants must have an Alabama State hunting license, a Fort Rucker post hunting permit and a hunter education card. Turkeys are scaled on weight, beard length, and left and right spur.

For more, call 255-4305.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword Answers



Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

TRIVIA

- Answers
- James Thurber
 - El Salvador
 - Six
 - Millard Fillmore, Millard and Abigail Fillmore were only a couple of years apart in age.
 - Apartheid
 - Atlanta
 - Mathematics, specifically geometry
 - A hand-cranked string instrument
 - Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, for her medical work during the Civil War
 - It has two bulls.



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~Albert Einstein

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