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ARMY FLYER

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

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FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

MAY 30, 2013

Post honors fallen Soldiers

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

A single bag piper played and a hush fell over the crowd to honor fallen service members who paid the ultimate price for freedom.

Soldiers, Family members and civilians gathered at Veterans Park May 23 during a Memorial Day ceremony to pay homage to fallen Soldiers.

“Today we pay tribute to those who have answered their country’s highest call,” said Col. Douglas M. Gabram, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker deputy commander. “This holiday that we now call Memorial Day is designated to gather our strength and remember the sacrifices that are made in order to enjoy the freedoms we have today.”

That sacrifice is one that Lt. Col. Eric Merck, French liaison officer at Fort Rucker, knows all too well, and

something that he will never forget.

“I came to pay respect to my friend, (Lt. Col. Guy Demetz), who died when the Black Hawk he was in went down in Iraq,” he said

Demetz was among 26 others who lost their lives in the Black Hawk crash, and his name is among those on a monument at Veterans Park.

Merck came out with his wife, Francoise, and son, Maverick, to lay a wreath at the monument and remember his comrade.

Gabram, CW5 Michael L. Reese, Chief Warrant Officer of the Aviation Branch, and Command Sgt. Maj. John L. Chandler, 110th Aviation Brigade command sergeant major, laid a wreath during the ceremony to honor all of those who gave their lives.

During the ceremony, Gabram shared a story he had heard in Fort Campbell, Ky., about a young private



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Col. Douglas M. Gabram, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker deputy commander, CW5 Michael L. Reese, Chief Warrant Officer of the Aviation Branch, and Command Sgt. Maj. John L. Chandler, 110th Aviation Brigade command sergeant major, salute after the laying of the wreath during the Memorial Day ceremony at Veterans Park May 23.

SEE SOLDIERS, PAGE A7



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS ANDREW KOSTERMAN

Waiting for a sign

WD1 Jason Smitherman, a flight student assigned to B Co., 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment, waits for a thumbs up from his instructor pilot to approach the AH-64D Apache helicopter on which he will train May 22. Smitherman and his classmates are currently in the “bag” portion of the AH-64 course. In the multi-week bag phase of training, a student’s cockpit windows are completely covered. The goal is to force the student pilot to fly the aircraft solely by reference to the AH64 Integrated Helmet and Display Sighting System. The IHADSS provides a monocular display of the outside of the aircraft via television or thermal sensor on the nose of the aircraft.

Pharmacy set to relocate in July

By Katherine Rosario
Lyster Army Health Clinic Public Affairs

The pharmacy at Lyster Army Health Clinic will relocate to the front of the main parking lot by Andrews Avenue the first week of July, and operate out of a temporary structure until renovation is complete inside the clinic.

The renovation, expected to be complete in summer 2014, will double the size of the current pharmacy to 7,000 sq. ft. and update its existing medication dispensing system to state-of-the-art equipment. The new pharmacy will be located where the laboratory currently sits and the lab will relocate to the pharmacy’s current spot. Both clinics are part of the \$4.9 million update to the facility.

The temporary pharmacy will have the same ticketing system and number of windows as the current pharmacy. There will be additional seating in the waiting area.

Aside from more space in the new pharmacy, patients can look forward to shortened wait times and quicker refills on medications, said Lt. Col. Taiwo Bolaji, chief of pharmacy.

“Our updated equipment will allow us to program the new robots to refill hundreds of medications each



PHOTO BY KATHERINE ROSARIO

Construction workers piece together the structure for the temporary pharmacy outside Lyster Army Health Clinic May 10. The pharmacy will move out to the new structure July 8 and be fully operational until construction is complete on the new, larger pharmacy inside Lyster. The new pharmacy will be twice the size of the current space and have state-of-the-art medication dispensing systems. Hours for the pharmacy will remain the same.

night to be ready for our patients in the morning,” he said.

Pharmacy technicians will also be able to quickly fill new prescriptions and have them ready in less time.

“The pharmacy (technician) and staff pharmacist can input the prescriptions on the computer and the medications will be filled into the bottles and packaged in minutes, not hours,” Bolaji said.

Throughout the construction process, the volunteer-run golf cart will be available to those who need assistance to and from the temporary pharmacy.

The new pharmacy will also offer patients the opportunity to speak one-on-one with pharmacists about medication-related questions over the phone or in person.

The pharmacy’s hours and phone numbers will remain the same.

Fort Rucker hosts Facebook town hall

By Fort Rucker
Public Affairs Office

Fort Rucker garrison leadership hosts a town hall June 4 that people can attend from the comfort of their homes, or wherever they may be during the time set aside for the event.

The Facebook town hall is scheduled for 6-7 p.m., allowing garrison leadership and the Fort Rucker community to take advantage of the communications capabilities of social media.

“People can read leaders’ posts about news, happenings and initiatives, and also ask questions,” said Col. Stuart J. McRae, garrison commander.

“There are a lot of great things going on at Fort Rucker – we offer a lot of services and programs that benefit Soldiers and Families, and there are a lot of things happening within our government that directly affect our Army home,” he said, adding that the post was recently honored by the Army with an Army Community of Excellence Gold award and also by the Department of Defense with the 2013 Commander in Chief’s Annual Award for Installation Excellence.

“It’s (ACOE award) been a long time coming for Fort Rucker,” he said. “Many of us are aware of the great amount of talent that we have here at Fort Rucker. What an awesome group of people we have here.

“When you grow up in the Army, you mostly see people in (Army combat uniforms) and on occasion you get to interact with civilians, but when you’re in a job like mine, you get the opportunity to mix with those (people) every day,” he said. “I get to see the huge amount of initiative and great amount of work that you all take on ... and I’ve seen people in this garrison take on more than just their share.”

The town hall is designed to offer an opportunity for two-way communication between the garrison leaders and the Soldiers, Families and civilian employees they serve, McRae said.

“This town hall will open up a line of communication between the garrison and the people we’re charged with taking care of — the Soldiers, Families and employees who call Fort Rucker home,” he said.

The Facebook town hall will offer people a convenient, comfortable venue to interact with the entire garrison leadership.

“We’d love to hear from as many people as possible, and we’ll entertain a variety of questions and comments,” McRae said. “We’ll address all the questions we can right away during the town hall, but if there are any we can’t answer right away, we’ll staff those and post responses on the Facebook page when we have the answer.”

If people would like to ask questions ahead of time, they can send a message via www.facebook.com/fortrucker.

All people need to take part in the Facebook town hall is an Internet connection and a Facebook account. Everyone is welcome to like the Fort Rucker Facebook page and take part in the town hall.

For more, call 255-1159.

PERSPECTIVE

Deployed Soldier

Fighting against the loneliness of combat

By Capt. John Marion
DCOE Blog

(Editor's note: Capt. John Marion flies the AH-64D Apache, and has carried out about 1,000 hours of combat flight time. He's served seven years in the Army, with tours to Baghdad, Iraq, and Al Kut, Iraq. Currently on his third deployment in Khowst, Afghanistan, he writes for the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Brain Injury (DCOE) Blog on what it has felt for him to be a Soldier and deployed. This post also appeared on the DOD Live blog.)

I never really know how to respond when people ask me about deployments.

With two tours in Baghdad under my belt, and currently serving in eastern Afghanistan, words like boring, chaotic, harsh, exciting, gratifying, depressing and just about every other descriptor you might expect come to mind.

Truth is, deployments can be such a rollercoaster that no one word can really capture the full extent of what it feels like, but, of course, I usually throw a few of them out there to satisfy their curiosity.

The only word, or feeling, I've found that remains constant, is loneliness. Now, most people don't want to hear that because it isn't what combat is supposed to be like, and most veterans don't want to say that because either it's too revealing or entirely unexciting to the listener. It seems to me that the loneliness that springs from combat results from the separation of pre- and post-combat experiences.

Looking back, I can recall the first onset of that loneli-

ness. When I was accepted to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, my life began to change. I certainly felt some excitement and anxiety as I started down this brave new path, but I also felt a deep regret that, in many respects, my life would never again be as carefree. I sacrificed wild college years for hard and tedious study, so that I could better serve my nation. Although I've kept close contact with my friends, I know that they simply can't relate to most of my military experiences. That lack of understanding separates you from the life that you led and the life you now lead. West Point initiated that crevice of isolation that has turned into a gorge.

The first time I deployed I accepted the thought that I might not make it home. I understood the risks and I had very little trouble moving from the academic theory to the practical reality. I would either get smoked, or I wouldn't. I had metaphorically put my name in a hat knowing that mine might be the next drawn.

As a deployed Soldier, the time I spent at West Point immersed in leadership examples (both good and bad) and rigorous academic study, seemed a waste. The brave, intelligent and disciplined Soldier could end up dead just as quickly as a cowardly, foolish one. Facing your own mortality with such random, unforgiving swiftness gives you a unique perspective ... and takes some time to accept.

Family and friends may try, but they will never really understand the loneliness of a deployed Soldier. And as that Soldier, you can only accept that "a man never steps into the same river twice," and know that you're not alone.

What words of encouragement do you have for Soldiers



Capt. John Marion
dealing with the loneliness of combat?
To see other people's answers to this question and to share your own, go to <http://armylive.dodlive.mil/index.php/2011/03/loneliness-of-combat/>.

Rotor Wash

“Temperatures will continue to rise as we edge closer to the heart of summer. What should people do to remain safe while working, exercising or playing in extremely hot and humid conditions?”



Spc. Jason Clare,
164th TAOG
“Always stay hydrated. Always have something to drink near you at all times, don't just drink water the night before.”



Spc. David Cartwright,
906th MWD detachment
“Make sure you wear loose fitting clothing that way when you sweat it can evaporate and keep you cool. Stay in the shade as much as possible, and have a good rest and work cycle — work for 30 minutes then rest for 30.”



CW2 Kevin O'Connor,
A Co., 3rd Bn.,
25th Avn. Regt.
“Stay hydrated and cover your skin with sunscreen and long sleeves.”



CW4 Abimael Hernandez,
Avn. Unit 5137
“Wear sun block, especially if you are going to be outside for long periods of time and definitely stay hydrated.”



2nd Lt. Justin Dailey,
926th Engineer Bn.,
Birmingham, Ala.
“Wear head protection like a hat and sunglasses.”

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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.

Pacific Islander NCO motivates junior Aviation officers

By Sgt. 1st Class
Andrew Kosterman
*B Co., 1st Battalion,
145th Aviation Regiment*

It's an early Thursday morning like so many other Thursdays on Fort Rucker. Apache helicopters can be seen flying in the distance; runners make their way on a traffic-blocked road during physical training. Clouds keep the sun from view.

Not far from the runners is a congregation of students. They laugh and joke with each other as they prepare their equipment for training, but an uncertainty can be sensed from behind their smiles. Today, the students of the Army Aviation Basic Officer Leadership Course will test their leadership capabilities.

Behind the wheel of a nearby Humvee, Staff Sgt. Mark Leon-Guerrero, one of the graders for the exercise, inputs channels on his radio and watches silently out view. His years of experience as an instructor help him to remain calm even though he sees mistakes being made by the students.

"LG," as he is known by other cadre, wants students to mess up so they can learn from the experience.

"I've buried two good friends and my cousin, (Sgt.) Brian Leon Guerrero," says LG of his motivation to teach the next generation of Army Aviation leaders to the best of his ability. He lists the names of those affected by combat, particularly improvised explosive devices, that he knew personally, as his voice trails off.

As he pauses to allow memories of closed-casket funerals to cycle through his consciousness, he says his "eye-opening" experiences with IEDs in two tours of



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS ANDREW KOSTERMAN

Staff Sgt. Mark Leon-Guerrero, an instructor at Army Aviation's Basic Officer Leadership Course, programs his radios prior to the start of training May 16. "LG," as he's known by students and fellow cadre, said he takes his mission to train the Army's next generation of Aviators personally.

duty in Iraq are what drive him and his fellow instructors.

LG is an unassuming man. At just 5' 6", he is not imposing and his easy-going demeanor allows students and fellow cadre to approach him with questions. This has been the role the combat engineer has played for more than 3 ½ years.

"It is personal," says LG. "I don't want to send (the students) down to my brother unprepared. I want them to be competent and comfortable in their role." LG's brother currently serves as a UH-60 Black Hawk crew chief in the

Army.

LG says his experiences are a vital part of being a military instructor.

"It gives us credibility with our students," says the Dededo, Guam, native.

It takes time and experience to develop the skills necessary to be successful on a deployment, says LG. Even though the officers in training are preparing for a career in Aviation, LG says these officers may participate in logistical resupply missions, many of which have been executed as ground convoys.

His efforts don't go unnoticed by those with whom he serves.

"He's awesome," said Staff Sgt. Matthew Pitsenbarger, LG's platoon sergeant. "He's one of the workhorses of the platoon. He does more than is expected of him every time."

Pitsenbarger said LG's prior combat experience and drive to produce the best training that assists officers throughout their careers is what makes LG successful.

As students conduct a review of the training they've just completed, LG says it's all in a day's

work for him and his fellow NCOs.

"The NCOs out here won't leave them hanging," said LG, "We offer other ways of seeing things. We offer suggestions, not orders."

Seeing the confidence grow in the officer's lives is the part of his current job that he enjoys so much.

"What other environment in the Army can you impact future officers so much?" LG rhetorically asks. "If these guys leave here knowing the basics, then I've done my job."

News Briefs

Changes of command

- The Warrant Officer Career College Headquarters and Headquarters Company hosts its change of command ceremony June 11 at 1 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. CW3 (P) Joseph R. Scarpill will assume command from CW4 Eugene M. Murphy. People should RSVP by June 6 by calling 255-1287 or 255-1967.
- The 1st Aviation Brigade hosts its change of command June 14 at 8:30 a.m. at Howze Field. Col. Shawn Prickett will assume command of the unit from Col. Brian D. Bennett. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will take place in Yano Hall.

AER closing ceremony

Fort Rucker's Army Emergency Relief Campaign Closing Ceremony takes place Tuesday at 2 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.
For more on AER, call 255-2341.

CID seeks agents

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is seeking qualified applicants to become highly-trained criminal investigators. CID special agents are responsible for investigating numerous types of felony-level crime of Army interest, conducting protective-service operations, and working with other Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to solve crime and combat terrorism.

Agents receive training at the U.S. Army Military Police School and advanced training in specialized investigative disciplines. Selected agents receive advanced training at the FBI National Academy, Metropolitan Police Academy at Scotland Yard, Department of Defense Polygraph Institute and the Canadian Police College. Agents also have the opportunity to pursue a master's degree in Forensic Science from George Washington University.

To qualify, applicants must be a U.S. citizen, at least 21-years-old, minimum of two years and maximum of 10 years military service, maximum grade of sergeant (non-promotable) – sergeants (promotable) or staff sergeants with one year or less time in grade may apply with a waiver. Applicants must meet all other requirements.

To view the full list of requirements and to apply, visit www.cid.army.mil, or contact the Fort Rucker CID office in Bldg. 5430 on Raider Street, or calling 255-3108.

Poker run

The Daleville Veterans of Foreign Wars post hosts a Poker Run June 15 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to benefit members of the Directorate of Public Safety's first responders and their family members with the costs of the annual DPS Ball and other annual events. Registration takes place at 8 a.m. at Old Homestead in Level Plains. The route of the run travels from there to the VFW in

Daleville, with various stops in Hartford, Dothan and Ozark in between.

The cost is \$15 per bike and \$5 for passengers. Event drawings will take place at 1:30 p.m. with the event being completed by 2:30 p.m.

For more, call (803) 414-2532.

Siren test

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

Retiree council meetings

The Fort Rucker Installation Retiree Council meets the first Thursday of each month in The Landing at 11:30 a.m. The meeting is an open forum and all retirees are invited to attend.

MEDPROS phone number change

Lyster Army Health clinic advises people that the phone number to the Medical Protection System office, located at Bldg. 5700, has changed. The new phone number is 255-9916.

Thrift shop

The Fort Rucker 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 deductible.

For more, call 255-9595.

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.

Electronic retiree newsletter

The annual retiree newsletter is now available via email. To receive the newsletter electronically, people should send an email to ruck.retirees@conus.army.mil requesting the newsletter, and also include their name and U.S. Postal address.

Lyster open on DONSA's

Lyster Army Health Clinic is now open on all days of

no scheduled activities. Clinic hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Mondays-Fridays.

EFMP Needs Assessment

The Fort Rucker Exceptional Family Member Program conducts its needs assessment survey now through July 1. The survey is available at <http://www.ftruckermwr.com/acs/exceptional-family-member-program/>. Soldiers and Families should fill out the short form online or pick up a paper copy of the survey at Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities.

For more on the survey, call 255-9277.

Suicide prevention

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training is a two-day suicide intervention course intended for gatekeepers, such as commanders, first sergeants, chaplains, platoon sergeants and first-line supervisors (military or civilian) held at various times between now and mid-September. The goal of the course is to reach out to gatekeepers to teach them how to respond appropriately if a Soldier or civilian presents to them with suicidal thoughts or actions.

Course dates are June 12-13, with a signup deadline of June 7; and Sept. 11-12, with a signup deadline of Sept. 6. The courses take place 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day in the Wings Chapel. Each session is limited to 30 people.

To register or for more information on other suicide prevention training options, call Traci Dunlap at 255-7010, or send an email to traci.d.dunlap.civ@mail.mil.

Fire hydrant testing

The Fort Rucker Fire Department is conducting annual fire hydrant testing through mid-June, affecting the Allen Heights, Bowden Terrace and Munson Heights housing areas. During the testing, occupants may experience some cloudiness in the water. To clear any cloudiness, officials recommend allowing the water to run for a few minutes.

For more, call 255-0044.

DENTAC hours

The dental clinic's hours are Mondays-Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., with sick call and examinations from 7:30-10 a.m. The clinic does, however, see Aviators in the afternoons for sick call and examinations because of their flight hours.

The contact number for after hours and weekend emergencies is (877) 418-0983. Soldiers will speak to a triage nurse who will record the contact information of the caller. The nurse will give the contact information to the on-call dentist who will contact the Soldier. The doctor and the charge of quarters Soldier have access to the clinic for emergency care.

The clinic is closed during duty hours once per quarter for training. A sign is placed outside the front entrance to inform visitors on these days.

To reach the dental clinic, call 255-2367.

2-13th Avn. Regt. welcomes new commander

By Gabrielle Kuholski
Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

FORT HUACHUCA – The unit formerly known as the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Training Battalion chose a fitting location for its change of command ceremony May 22.

A small crowd gathered inside Hangar 1 at Libby Army Airfield to witness the 2nd Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment’s change of command. Lt. Col. Clinton Conzemius assumed command from Lt. Col. Victor Hamilton, whose new assignment will be as the deputy brigade commander, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, South Korea.

“I am honored to have had the opportunity to command one of the greatest organizations within the Army,” Hamilton said.

One of the highlights of the ceremony was the passing of the colors between the outgoing and incoming commanders.

“It was a great passing of the colors and a great tradition to be a part of,” said Capt. Tyler Penn, commander, Company A, 2-13th Avn. Rgt.

During his farewell speech, Hamilton mentioned how he became 2-13th Avn. Rgt. commander almost two years ago. Previously, he commanded the Region-West Afghan Security Force Assistance Team in 2009. In 2010, he was assigned as commander and professor of Military Science at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kan.

Conzemius is a master Army Aviator. Among other completed military courses, he attended the Airborne, Air Assault, John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center-Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape-level C, Combined Arms Services and Staff courses, and the U.S. Air Force Joint



PHOTO BY GABRIELLE KUHOLSKI

Col. Brian Bennett, reviewing officer (far right), receives the colors from Lt. Col. Victor Hamilton, 2-13th Avn. Rgt. outgoing commander (center), and passes them to Lt. Col. Clinton Conzemius, incoming commander during a change of command ceremony May 22 at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Firepower Controller courses. His most recent assignment began in July 2010, serving as commander of the Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe Flight Detachment in direct support of the Supreme Allied Command throughout

Europe.

The 2-13th Avn. Rgt. trains military operators and maintainers on the use of the MQ-1C Gray Eagle, RQ-7B Shadow, MQ-5B Hunter and MQ-1B Warrior Alpha UAS.

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Post offers suicide prevention training June 12-13

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Last Year, the U.S. Armed Forces lost nearly 350 service members to suicide — more than were killed in combat — and the Fort Rucker Army Substance Abuse Program is working to bring that number down.

There have been 127 suicides across the Army as of Friday, and of those, 26 were young males from the age of 18-25, said Traci Dunlap, ASAP suicide prevention program manager.

“This age group has been considered most at risk for suicide in the past, but the demographic of those who commit suicide in the Army is changing,” she said. “Suicide among officers and NCOs is on the rise, and we must look for risk factors in anyone in our lives.” ASAP is offering classes for those in direct contact with Soldiers to do their part to help “in the moment,” added Dunlap.

The Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training is a two-day class June 12-13 that teaches individuals the skills they need to help those that may show signs of suicide, said Dunlap.

“The classes are designed for what we call gatekeepers here on the installation,” she said. “These are people who are most likely to come in contact with someone who presents with ideation or thoughts of suicide, so they are the ones who need to know how to respond to someone in that moment.”

Those labeled as gatekeepers include: chaplains and chaplain assistants; ASAP counselors; Family advocacy program workers; behavioral health counselors; Army Emergency Relief counselors; emergency room medical technicians; medical and dental health pro-

fessionals; military police; inspectors general; trial defense lawyers and legal assistants; DOD school counselors; Red Cross workers and first-line supervisors and Unit Victim Advocates.

“Through the process, you help the person at risk to find some hope in their situation so that they can move forward,” said Dunlap. “It’s a very specific model that they’ll learn and they’ll leave (the training session) with these new skills.”

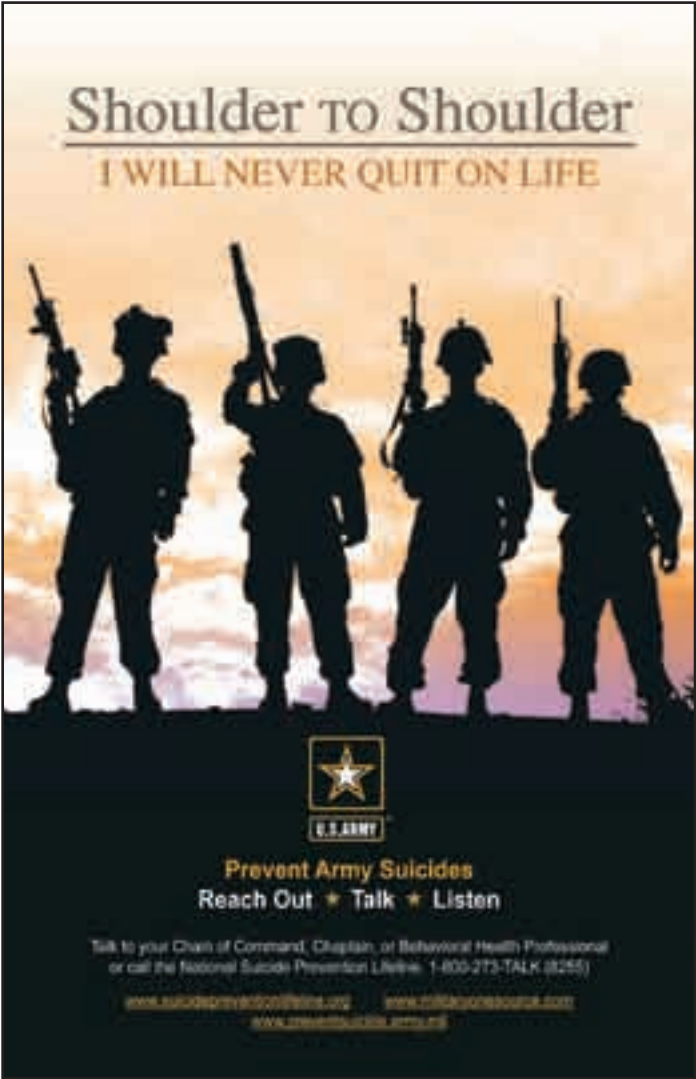
Upon completion, those that attend the classes will receive a card that they can carry with them to help them remember the process step-by-step, and they can use this in the event they come across someone that needs help, she added.

“You can never really tell when something is going to happen, and if you help a person identify the reasons for living, then you can give them some hope, even if it’s just to get them to the next day,” said the program manager. “ASIST is basically suicide first aid — it’s only in that moment — we’re trying to keep them safe, it’s very important to know what to do at those times.”

The classes will last eight hours per day and only 30 spots are available per class, and although the classes are available to anyone who wishes to attend, Dunlap said that gatekeepers get priority.

“You never know what you can do or how positive words could impact someone’s life,” she said. “Most people aren’t counselors, but a couple positive words could help somebody move forward in their life — we’re talking about saving lives and you’ve got to be ready to respond.”

For more information or to register in advance, call 255-7010.



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Army launches ‘Know the Signs’ summer safety campaign

By U.S. Army Combat Readiness/
Safety Center

Directorate of Communication
and Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center commences its official summer safety campaign and encourages all Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and Family members to remain prepared for the fun and hazards associated with warmer weather.

The campaign, which runs now through Sept. 3, encourages every member of the Army Family to stay aware, vigilant and engaged.

“We’ve entered the deadliest time of year (May through September) as our Soldiers, civilians and Family members tend to travel and spend more time outdoors,” said Brig. Gen. Timothy J. Edens, director of Army Safety and commanding general, USACR/Safety Center. “Our campaign products, by design, are meant to help leaders and safety professionals engage their Soldiers, civilians and Family members on risk and risk management. Engagement and vigilance are key to reducing on- and off-duty accidents.”

In August 2012, the USACR/Safety Center introduced the Know the Signs slogan as the Army’s safety awareness theme. Targeted at individual accountability and focused around training, discipline and standards, KTS encourages leaders and Soldiers to first Know the Signs, because someone always knows when a Soldier is at risk.



U.S. ARMY COMBAT READINESS/SAFETY CENTER GRAPHIC DESIGN

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center commences its official summer safety campaign and encourages all Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and Family members to remain prepared for the fun and hazards associated with warmer weather.

Then, Know What’s Right (know what right looks like; know the standards, regulations, guidelines and laws), and then, Do What’s Right (break the cycle of an accident waiting to happen by taking action and intervening before the loss or injury). With the majority of off-duty Army accidents

currently attributed to indiscipline, this campaign also reminds Soldiers that standards apply 24/7, whether on or off duty.

To help unit leaders and safety professionals Armywide build and manage their

summer campaigns, the USACR/Safety Center team developed a website hosting feature articles, posters, videos and other tools focusing on summer seasonal, as well as non-seasonal, topics.

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FOR RENT  <p>239 WAKEFIELD WAY, This 3BD/2.5BA townhome includes washer and dryer, refrigerator, microwave, stove, garbage disposal, dishwasher, patio, and fence. Lawn care, pest control, use of clubhouse and pool included. Pets Neg. with non-refundable pet fee!</p>	FOR RENT  <p>132 WOODMERE DRIVE, *MOVE IN SPECIAL* On this 2BD/2.5BA townhome with washer, dryer, refrigerator, stove, microwave, garbage disposal, dishwasher, fence, and patio. Lawn care, monthly pest control, use of clubhouse and pool included.</p>	FOR RENT  <p>328 JASMINE CIRCLE, This 2BD/2.5BA townhome features stainless kitchen appliances refrigerator, microwave, stove, dishwasher, washer and dryer, custom lighting, and sprinkler system. Lawn Care and Quarterly pest control included! Pets OK with a non refundable pet fee!</p>

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Soldiers: Community honors fallen heroes

Continued from Page A1

who stopped early-morning traffic in the rain to pay tribute to fallen Soldiers that had lost their lives in the Gander International Airport Newfoundland airplane crash in 1985. The crash killed 250 Soldiers, the worst redeployment accident in the history of the 101st Airborne Division.

“It was close to Memorial Day and small American flags had been laid out next to each Soldier’s memorial plaque,” said Gabram to the audience. “(This) private jumped out of his car, into the pouring rain ... and drenched from head to toe, picked up a small American flag that had fallen to the ground, set it up right, came to attention, saluted, then ran back to his car and drove off. “That Soldier demonstrated the Army values more

than 100 books and 1,000 lectures could ever do,” he continued. “That simple salute and single act of honoring his fellow brother and his flag ... said I’ll never forget, I will keep the faith, I’ll finish the mission, and I’m an American Soldier.”

Gabram said that remembering and honoring fallen Soldiers is something that everyone should do always, not just one day out of the year.

“Memorial Day may last only 24 hours, and it occurs only once a year, but remember that our gratitude and pride should show every day,” he said. “Remember those who fought and died for our precious way of life. Those who made the ultimate sacrifice and remember also the Families they left behind who are still paying the price.”

After the ceremony, small American flags were given to those in attendance, so that they could personally pay

respect and lay a flag at the monument of their choosing.

Jenna Gibbs, civilian, was among those in attendance to lay a flag.

“Coming out to honor those who came before us and paid the ultimate price is important in itself, but laying the flags at the different monuments makes it feel so much more personal,” she said. “This is our way to personally say ‘thank you’ to those that paid that price so that I can be here today and enjoy what I do today.

“It makes me emotional to think of all the people that had to fight and die just so that we can live free in this country, and if you stop and think about it, it makes us extremely lucky to call ourselves American,” Gibbs continued. “It really makes me proud to be a part of this nation.”

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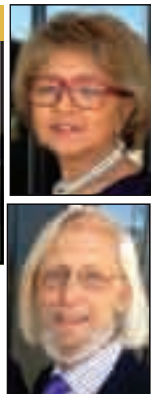
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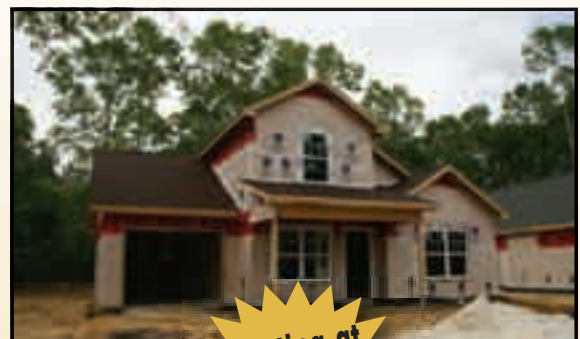
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MAY 30, 2013

Iraq receives final IA-407s

By Sofia Bledsoe
Army News Service

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. — The Army completed a significant milestone in helping to maintain stability in Iraq now that the U.S. military has departed from that theater of operations.

The Project Office for Armed Scout Helicopters, along with several representatives from different organizations on Redstone Arsenal, made the eighth delivery of the Iraqi Armed-407 Bell helicopters to Iraq.

Three IA-407s were rolled away from the Science and Engineering Services, Inc. hangar and into a C-17 military transport aircraft flown by the New York Air National Guard April 3. This was the 24th delivery of IA-407 aircraft and associated support equipment to the government of Iraq.

Lt. Col. Chris Mills, product manager for the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter, who is also leading the charge for the

development and management of the Iraqi Armed-407 program, said that the program is crucial for the U.S. and for the Army for several reasons.

“First, our Army is providing an armed scout capability to our allies in the country of Iraq,” Mills explained. “Second, we’re meeting the obligations of a foreign military sales case. And finally, this delivery showcases the capabilities of the Redstone Arsenal enterprise.”

That enterprise is a total team approach from many organizations on Redstone. They include the Program Executive Office for Aviation with PM ASH, U.S. Army Security Assistance Command including the Security Assistance Training Management Office, Aviation and Missile Command with the Security Assistance Management Directorate, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center with the Aviation Engineering Directorate and the Prototype

SEE DELIVERY, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY DENISE DEMONIA

Redstone Arsenal employees finishes loading the last three IA-407 helicopters into a C-17, April 3. This marked the 24th aircraft and final delivery of the armed version of the Bell 407 helicopter.



PHOTO BY SGT. MICHAEL J. MACLEOD

Joining forces

Indian soldiers with 2nd Battalion, 5th Gurkha Rifles, and U.S. Army paratroopers with the 82nd Airborne Division’s 1st Brigade Combat Team exit a CH-47 Chinook helicopter during a field training exercise May 11 at Fort Bragg, N.C. The exercise is part of annual training between the Indian Army and U.S. Army Pacific, hosted this year by the XVIII Airborne Corps.

UAS pilots provide situational awareness

By Staff Sgt. Richard Andrade
Army News Service

FORT IRWIN, Calif. — Unmanned aircraft system pilots maintain an “eye-in-the-sky” view providing real-time surveillance high above the battlefield in order to keep Soldiers safe from unexpected simulated attacks, at the U.S. Army National Training Center.

Before putting Soldiers in harm’s way, military UAS perform aerial reconnaissance, be it night or day. At night the UAS uses night-vision to find the point of origin of any attack. Some even carry out attack missions. UAS have many uses, including safely scanning a large area and providing accurate information on potential enemies.

The ground data terminal antenna receives intelligence between the ground control station and the UAS up to 125 kilometers away. The GCS is where the pilots drive the UAS, and is located near the tactical operations center providing vitally important real-time video.

“My Soldiers and I provide a bird’s-eye view situational awareness for the Soldiers on the ground,” said Staff Sgt. Thomas Tichy, 66th Military Intelligence Company, 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, at Fort Hood, Texas.

“We provide valuable intelligence to our regimental TOC,” he said. “They decide what to do with our intelligence and put it into action.”

Pvt. Aaron Grumm, also of the 66th MI Co., said his mission at NTC is to provide reconnaissance using a wide array of tactical UAS. The aerial vehicles cover a larger area than regular ground units would cover in the same amount of time.

“If for example, a Soldier would be lost, we would help find them,” said Grumm, “We can search from above covering a larger area faster than a ground team.”



PHOTO BY SGT. JEREMY PITCHER

An unmanned aircraft system launches in support of operations for the 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division.

“From high above the ground they can spot someone about to bury an improvised explosive device, or people who are engaging our ground forces,” Tichy said.

Tichy said some of the UAS operators in his company have combat experience using their real-time UAS feed to coordinate with Apache and Kiowa helicopter fire teams to engage enemy forces.

Sgt. Joshua Peterson, also of the 66th MI Company, said his team has direct communication with the TOC and consequently his team is called upon the second there is mortar, artillery fire, or indirect fire directed towards coalition forces.

The vehicle uses a pneumatic launcher upon take-off and is recovered using an arresting hook and cable system similar to the ones used on aircraft carriers. At the conclusion of a mission, once the UAS lands, proper maintenance is conducted to prepare it for any future missions.

Peterson suggests that UAS are a valuable asset that helps save lives in the combat zone.

“UAS are the future of warfare,” Peterson said. “Hopefully there will be a time when we can actually go into war without sending any personnel.”

Army’s 2014 modernization plan prioritizes Soldiers in fight

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army’s fiscal year 2014 Equipment Modernization Plan, now working its way through Congress, prioritizes equipping warfighters in Afghanistan while simultaneously preparing for an uncertain future.

Programs in the modernization strategy are grouped within ten “portfolios,” but some of those programs the Army has called out as being priorities for the service.

Several programs that make up the Army network have been included as priorities in the plan. Among those are the Warfighter Information Network-Tactical, at \$1.3 billion; the Family of Networked Tactical Radios, at \$402.1 million; the Joint Battle Command-Platform, at \$110.6 million; the Distributed Common Ground System-Army, at \$295 million; and the Nett Warrior system, at \$122.6 million.

Among combat vehicles, the Army has prioritized the Ground Combat Vehicle program, at \$592 million; the Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle, at \$116 million; and the Paladin Integrated Management system, at \$340.8 million.

Additionally, the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle is a priority for the service, at \$84.2 million; as is the Kiowa Warrior, at \$257.8 million.

A complete breakdown of the Army’s equipment modernization plan for fiscal year 2014, including cost and what is being purchased, can be found at www.g8.army.mil.

Focal points

In advance of plan development, Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Ray Odierno laid out three priorities to use as guidelines, said Brig. Gen. John G. Ferrari, director, joint and futures, Army G-8. He is one of the architects responsible for assembling the plan.

First among those priorities was a focus on the Soldier and squad, Ferrari said. Developers of the Army’s modernization strategy were told to ensure that as budgets come down, Soldiers will continue to be provided with advances in lethality and protection, then build outward from there.

SEE PLAN, PAGE B4

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city ordinance. Carries out account
receivable procedures; receives and
processes funds generated from various
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assists senior administrative assistant
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OPENING DATE: May 15, 2013

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Delivery: Program shows positives, negatives of COTS

Continued from Page B1

Integration Facility, Army Contracting Command, Army Test and Evaluation Command with the Aviation Flight Test Directorate and Redstone Test Center, Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, SESi with the Joint Venture Yulista and SES, Joint Munitions Command, the U.S. Air Force, Redstone Garrison, the Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq, and the Iraqi 21st Aviation Squadron in Iraq.

“This is an important milestone in this program,” said Mills. “The PM is the lead systems integrator, but almost all the major activities on the arsenal were involved in the success here.”

Three training aircraft, or T-407s, were delivered to Iraq in 2010. The first production IA-407 was delivered in August 2012.

“We’ve been delivering three a month except for March due to availability of transportation,” said Mills.

Three prototype aircraft will remain on Redstone in accordance with the Iraqis’ wishes for the aircraft’s future development and testing.

“If they change their mind and want us to deliver those, then we will bring them to a production configuration and deliver them,” said Mills.

Hal Ridley, chief logistician for PM ARH, has made all the deliveries except for two. Mills noted that this is an impressive feat since each rotations take anywhere between 10-15 days.

“Each time the team returns from Iraq, we’re preparing for the next delivery, so it’s a pretty aggressive schedule,” said Ridley.

Ridley said the process of delivery has been impressive. “The first time the team loaded the aircraft in the C-17, it took three hours,” he said. “Now it takes them less than two hours.”

The buildup of each aircraft has also become vastly efficient.

“The first one took about three days,” said. “Now we’re knocking it out in two.”

The success of the program has proven that the resources needed for program success are resident on Redstone Arsenal and in the Huntsville area.

What makes the IA-407 program unique is that the

Army had to take a commercial off-the shelf platform like the Bell 407 and conduct a total reconfiguration according to the specifications that the government of Iraq wanted. Most foreign military sales cases on the other hand involve aircraft or products that are already built with some minor modifications made.

“The team proved that we could develop and prototype something here, and actually produce it in a reasonable amount of time,” said Ridley.

The program also showed the Army both the positives and negatives of using COTS.

“We knew the concept was possible,” said Ridley, “but there were risks.”

The PM had to take a COTS product, modify it, then test it for military purposes.

“It becomes a big challenge for the program because of unique issues you run into converting commercial products into something for military use,” he added.

“Additionally, we had to take contractual concepts, look outside of the box in several cases because this program is something that a normal contracting process wouldn’t fit into,” said Ridley.

Plan: Army must remain prepared for decisive action

Continued from Page B1

The second priority, he said, is to enable mission command. He said that means providing viable and robust communications network capacity so Soldiers at the small-unit level can operate with “intent, guidance and mission,” he said. With such a network, Soldiers will be able to pull the information they need to innovate and solve the problems and tasks they’re given.

The third priority, he said, was to “always remember, we’re the U.S. Army and we have to remain prepared for decisive action, to fight and win in a large conflict, because that’s what the Army’s all about.”

Modernization plan

Ferrari said having a modernization plan doesn’t necessarily mean funding is guaranteed, or that Congress won’t make changes.

There’s a lot of uncertainty, he said, not only about funding for future equipment, but even with paying for programs the Army is trying to execute today.

Because of the budget control act and sequestration, the Army still doesn’t know how much money it has to purchase equipment in fiscal year 2013, much

less fiscal year 2014. This creates a ripple effect in purchasing, he said, causing a backlog of things that need to be purchased.

However, he pointed out that Congress is performing its constitutional duty to fund the Army and that process must be respected. He said Army leaders remain in close consultation with lawmakers regarding the process. So how does the Army make its purchasing recommendations?

The Army takes a three-pronged approach to its equipment acquisition strategy, Ferrari said, including consideration of the strategic environment, a staggered procurement approach and smarter investing.

Strategic environment

First, the strategy takes into account the current and future strategic environment, Ferrari said. That includes equipment needed as troops leave Afghanistan and what becomes of that equipment once they’re out.

The strategy also includes the shift to the Pacific and regional alignments. The president’s National Security Strategy, the Defense Department, the secretary of the Army and the Army chief of staff, along with the Army’s Training and Doctrine Command, provide the blueprint and inform

direction.

For the strategy to work, Ferrari said, the Army needs a balanced force composed of armor brigade combat teams, or BCTs, lighter infantry BCTs and medium Stryker BCTs. Included with that, he said, is the equipment that goes with each type of unit.

Other “enablers,” he said, include intelligence, military police, engineers, and medical support.

Smarter investing

Ferrari said the Army needs to slow down spending on development of technologies that are similar to what is already available in the private sector.

The civilian sector already is investing massive amounts of research and development dollars into its hardware, software and other electronic devices, so investing Army dollars in those same endeavors might be foolhardy, he said.

“As technology moves forward we can get the latest technology off the shelf and run with it,” he said.

On the other hand, there are certain technologies the Army would be wise to invest in, he said.

Missiles, armor and rotorcraft are a few examples that the Army needs to continue focusing on, he said.

When the Army first went about looking for a replacement for the Vietnam-era OH-58 Kiowa, he said he was “surprised” that there had not been an improved platform developed since Vietnam.

“There’s not a huge market for rotorcraft in the civilian world so the military needed to invest its R&D dollars on engines and blades to push technology forward,” he said.

All the integrators, systems engineers and mechanical engineers who build those rotorcraft and all of the other new equipment are themselves an investment the Army needs to continue making to retain their skills, he added. No one else understands how all this stuff goes together and works.

Soldier-driven focus

An important step in the equipment funding request is saving money through user testing, Ferrari said.

Over the last several years the Army has conducted a number of Network Integration Evaluation exercises on training ranges in Texas and New Mexico. These exercises are known for testing network gear, as the name implies, but they’re also being used to test other equipment.

Ferrari said last year, Soldiers got to put infantry fighting vehicles from around the world

through their paces.

“What better place to test it than with Soldiers in a brigade?” he said, adding, “Any time you get equipment in Soldiers’ hands and let them train with it, you’ll wind up with a better piece of gear.”

The NIE success story has its roots in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, where equipment was fielded on the battlefield within weeks.

“That’s been the real success story of the war,” he said. “We got Soldiers equipment that would have taken years under the normal process. We put it in their hands. Did every piece of equipment work? No. But a lot of it did.”

Ferrari said there will be failures along the way, but from the kind of testing that goes on at NIE, the Army can better learn and observe how equipment will be used in the war fight.

It’s a “win-win” for Soldiers and the private sector, he explained, since the Soldiers themselves are doing the market research.

“So when you get that early in the developmental process, it’s much easier to fix and change than buy it and then change it,” he said. “It also familiarizes us with what’s in industry as well, so we know when you go to war what’s out there.”

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Be prepared!

NOAA predicts active 2013 Atlantic hurricane season

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Press Release

In its 2013 Atlantic hurricane season outlook issued last week, NOAA's Climate Prediction Center is forecasting an active or extremely active season this year.

For the six-month hurricane season, which begins Saturday, NOAA's Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook says there is a 70 percent likelihood of 13 to 20 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which seven to 11 could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including three to six major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5; winds of 111 mph or higher).

These ranges are well above the seasonal average of 12 named storms, six hurricanes and three major hurricanes.

"With the devastation of Sandy fresh in our minds, and another active season predicted, everyone at NOAA is committed to providing life-saving forecasts in the face of these storms and ensuring that Americans are prepared and ready ahead of time," said Kathryn Sullivan, Ph.D., NOAA acting administrator. "As we saw firsthand with Sandy, it's

important to remember that tropical storm and hurricane impacts are not limited to the coastline. Strong winds, torrential rain, flooding and tornadoes often threaten inland areas far from where the storm first makes landfall."

Three climate factors that strongly control Atlantic hurricane activity are expected to come together to produce an active or extremely active 2013 hurricane season. These are:

- A continuation of the atmospheric climate pattern, which includes a strong west African monsoon, that is responsible for the ongoing era of high activity for Atlantic hurricanes that began in 1995;
- Warmer-than-average water temperatures in the tropical Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea; and
- El Niño is not expected to develop and suppress hurricane formation.

"This year, oceanic and atmospheric conditions in the Atlantic basin are expected to produce more and stronger hurricanes," said Gerry Bell, Ph.D., lead seasonal hurricane forecaster with NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. "These conditions include weaker wind shear, warmer At-

lantic waters and conducive wind patterns coming from Africa."

NOAA's seasonal hurricane outlook is not a hurricane landfall forecast; it does not predict how many storms will hit land or where a storm will strike. Forecasts for individual storms and their impacts will be provided throughout the season by NOAA's National Hurricane Center.

New for this hurricane season are improvements to forecast models, data gathering and the National Hurricane Center communication procedure for post-tropical cyclones. In July, NOAA plans to bring online a new supercomputer that will run an upgraded Hurricane Weather Research and Forecasting model that provides significantly enhanced depiction of storm structure and improved storm intensity forecast guidance.

Also this year, Doppler radar data will be transmitted in real time from NOAA's Hurricane Hunter aircraft. This will help forecasters better analyze rapidly evolving storm conditions, and these data could further improve the

SEE NOAA, PAGE C4

Being ready beforehand critical when storms strike

By Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Kosterman
B Co. 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation
Regiment

For anyone who has survived the devastating effects of severe Gulf-effect storms, merely mentioning the word hurricane can produce a palpable response.

This response isn't just from those who live on the beach, but from those who live inland as well. Empirical evidence reveals that damaging winds and excessive amounts of rain can be as damaging as any storm surge.

As part of the NOAA Hurricane Preparedness Week now through Saturday, Fort Rucker officials are warning residents to stay vigilant to changing weather conditions.

Residents should have an emergency supply kit, said Cindy Howell, Fort Rucker meteorological technician. Items to include in the kit are three gallons of water per person, three days non-perishable food, any necessary medications for three days, a first aid kit, ID cards, cash, gasoline for engines and generators, flashlights with batteries, battery-powered radio and weather receiver.

She also recommends that people have an emergency plan. Residents should know the location of a safe



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS MICHAEL J. CARDEN

Sgt. Daniel Loeffler and his team of paratroopers from 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division wade through the flooded streets of the French Quarter in New Orleans, during a patrol following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Fort Rucker officials say flooding is a possibility here if a major storm hits.

room in the places they go most. Familiarization with emergency evacuation routes and knowing how to prepare a home for a storm, such as boarding up windows and securing outdoor objects, is also important.

Howell said if a tropical cyclone

SEE READY, PAGE C4

NWS warns of hazards

National Weather Service
Press Release

Tropical cyclones are among nature's most powerful and destructive phenomena.

People who live in areas prone to tropical cyclones need to be prepared. Even areas well away from the coastline can be threatened by destructive winds, tornadoes and flooding from these storms.

The numbers speak to the frequency of the storms. From 1970-2010, the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean or Gulf of Mexico regions saw an average 11 tropical storms per year. A little more than half of the storms evolved into hurricanes. Over a typical two-year period, the U.S. coastline is struck by an average of three hurricanes, one of which is classified as a major hurricane.

While hurricanes pose the greatest threat to life and property, tropical storms and depressions can also be devastating. Floods from heavy rains and severe weather, such as tornadoes, can cause extensive damage and loss of life.

For example, Tropical Storm Allison produced more than 40 inches of rain in the Houston area in 2001, causing about \$5 billion in damage and taking the lives of 41 people.

Tropical cyclones forming between 5 and 30 degrees north latitude typi-

cally move toward the west. Sometimes the winds in the middle and upper levels of the atmosphere change and steer the cyclone toward the north and northwest. When tropical cyclones reach latitudes near 30 degrees north, they often move northeast.

Hurricane season in the Atlantic and Caribbean region lasts from Saturday to Nov. 30, with a peak in mid-August to late October. Residents and visitors in areas that could be affected by hurricanes should be aware of several dangers.

Storm Surge/Tide

Storm surge and large waves produced by hurricanes pose the greatest threat to life and property along the coast.

Storm surge is an abnormal rise of water generated by a storm's winds. Storm surge can reach heights well over 20 feet and can span hundreds of miles of coastline. In the northern hemisphere, the highest surge values typically occur in the right front quadrant of a hurricane coincident with onshore flow; in the southern hemisphere, the left front quadrant. More intense and larger hurricanes produce higher surge.

In addition, shallower offshore waters contribute to higher storm surge inundation. Storm surge is by far the

SEE HAZARDS, PAGE C8

Category	Sustained Winds	Types of Damage Due to Hurricane Winds
1	74-95 mph 64-82 kt 119-153 km/h	Very dangerous winds will produce some damage: Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof, shingles, vinyl siding and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles likely will result in power outages that could last a few to several days.
2	96-110 mph 83-95 kt 154-177 km/h	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage: Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads. Near-total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks.
3 (major)	111-129 mph 96-112 kt 178-208 km/h	Devastating damage will occur: Well-built framed homes may incur major damage or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.
4 (major)	130-156 mph 113-136 kt 209-251 km/h	Catastrophic damage will occur: Well-built framed homes can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Most trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
5 (major)	157 mph or higher 137 kt or higher 252 km/h or higher	Catastrophic damage will occur: A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.

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

Pamper Yourself

Military spouses are invited to the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Pamper Yourself event Friday from 6-9 p.m. in The Landing ballroom. The event will feature a fashion show and vendors that offer clothing, accessories, and other products and services that cater to women. All tickets will include a free beverage and a customized glass. Spouses can also sign up for either a manicure or massage at the event. Services will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Limited tickets are available at The Landing's catering office. The event is open to military spouses ages 18 and older.

For more, call 255-9810.

Throwback Party

Darryle E and the Train return to The Landing Saturday with their Throwback Party to provide music from the 80s, 90s and early 2000s. People can party to some old favorites beginning at 8 p.m. There will be a \$10 cover charge at the door and people must be 21 years old to enter. Picture ID is required. The event is open to the public.

For more, call 598-2426.

Taco Bar Tuesday

Every Tuesday, The Landing Zone will offer Taco Tuesday, featuring \$2 tacos (beef or chicken) 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.

June EDGE! programs

Child, youth and school services will host its June EDGE! program with activities such as tubing and paintball at outdoor recreation, and painting and ceramic arts at the arts and crafts center. June EDGE will be held Mondays through Fridays from 2:30-4 p.m. and will be open to children ages 6-18. The cost will be \$5 per hour. Valid CYSS registration is required and people can enroll at parent central services in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, Rm. 193, or at the facility where the activity is being held. EDGE! is open to youth of military, Department of Defense civilians and contractors working on Fort Rucker.

For more, call 255-0666 or 255-9638.

Youth summer camp

Youth services offers summer camp Mondays-Fridays until Aug. 9 at the youth center in Bldg. 2800 on 7th Avenue. Camp hours will be 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be free open recreation beginning at 1 p.m. Camps will include: archery, ultimate flying disc, flag football, volleyball, basketball, money management, beading, fine arts, preventing cyber bullying, rockets, computer recycling, renewable energy, photography, robotics, anime pro/Studio 6, Flight Simulator/Microsoft Office Suite, arts and crafts, performing arts, culinary arts, sewing, scrapbooking, softball and rock climbing. Field Trips will also take place on Wednesdays and Fridays. Camp fees are based solely on income.

For more, call 255-2245.

Summer Reading Program

The Center Library offers its Summer Reading Program, with theme, Have Book - Will Travel, Monday through June 28. The free program is open to children completing grades kindergarten through eighth. Registration is



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS ANDREW KOSTERMAN

Auto center special

Randy Varner, a mechanic for hire at Fort Rucker's Auto Skills Center, helps Lancaster, Pa. native W01 James Kerwin, 1st Battalion, 150th Aviation Regiment, Pennsylvania National Guard, troubleshoot mechanical problems with a car. The center is available to Soldiers for \$5.50 per hour, plus the cost of tools. Maintenance personnel can assist with simple projects, such as changing oil, to more complicated tasks. Also, the center will offer a Beat the Heat special throughout June. The special includes \$10 off mechanic for hire air conditioning evac and recharge service - does not include diagnostics or Freon. For more, call 255-9725.

ongoing at the library. The program features the chance for children to win prizes for reading their favorite books. Prizes will be awarded to the top reader for kindergarten through fourth grade and fifth through eighth grades at the end of the program.

For more, call 255-0891.

Financial Readiness Training

Army Community Service offers Financial Readiness Training June 7 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Soldier Service Center, Rm. 284. ACS officials said 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.

Mobile Dairy Classroom

Southwest Dairy Farmers' Mobile Dairy Classroom visits the Center Library June 7 at 10 a.m. to offer children the chance to learn about the modern-milking process, the characteristics and anatomy of a cow, the importance of healthy foods in their diet and food safety. There will also be a live cow milking demonstration during the free event. The event is Exceptional Family Member Program friendly.

For more, call 255-3885.

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.

Father's Day craft-making activity

The Center Library will host a Father's Day craft making activity for children ages 3-11 June 11 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Space is limited to the first 65 children to register. Light refreshments will be served.

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

DFMWR Spotlight

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Center Library hosts ‘udderly’ educational event

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

It’s not every day that people get the opportunity to get close to farm animals, let alone learn firsthand how and where their food comes from, but the Fort Rucker Center Library is giving people that chance with an up-close and personal look at a live cow.

The Southwest Dairy Farmers’ Mobile Dairy Classroom returns to Fort Rucker June 7 at 10 a.m. to educate people on the modern-milking process, anatomy of a cow, and the importance of food safety and a healthy diet, said Gayle McCarthy, library technician.

“It’s all about teaching (the children) something that’s fun in a different way,” she said.

The classroom will take place behind the Center Library and is hosted by Amanda Griffith, MDC instructor, who came last year and travels throughout Alabama teaching people about the milking process.

“Everyone just loved the event last year,” said McCarthy. “There were more than 300 people who attended and a lot of people are excited for the event to come back.”

“How many children these days actually get to see a cow?” asked Jackie Chappell, a reference librarian. “You go to the store and you get some milk, but you don’t know where it comes from, so this is a good chance for the children to actually see where it comes from.”

During the presentation, Griffith will demonstrate the milking process, show how technology plays a role in the process and teach those in attendance about the importance of pasteurization. They also learn that great care is given to each cow that provides milk, and that their safety is just as important as the safety of those who drink their milk.

The cow’s teats are sterilized before milking to ensure the safety of both the cow and people that consume the milk, said Griffith during last year’s presentation, adding that the cows aren’t harmed in any way during the milking process. Cows actually “volunteer” to be milked, she said.

During last year’s event, children also learned that a single cow can produce up to 50 pounds of milk a day, the equivalent of eight gallons.

One of the main goals of the event is to show that the library is more than what people are used to, and that it can and is changing with the times, said Chappell.

“Libraries have changed a lot, especially these days with so many electronics and different types of technology,” she said.



FILE PHOTO

Amanda Griffith, Mobile Dairy Classroom instructor, let children examine the “milk claw” after explaining its part in the milking process behind the Center Library last year. The MDC returns to Fort Rucker June 7 at 10 a.m.

“People just feel like you can (search for anything on the Internet), so they don’t feel like libraries have much of an importance in the community anymore.”

Chappell believes that libraries play a bigger role now as community centers rather than a place where people come only to check out books.

“We’re really trying to draw the community into the library with all of our programs,” she said. “I think it’s important, especially for children, to see that the library’s fun and there are things to do here.”

The Center Library offers movie rentals, game rentals, computer and Internet access, as well as access to books – electronic and traditional. There is even language-learning software available to some patrons.

“We have a lot of newcomers to the facility that don’t know everything that we have to offer,” said Chappell. “This is just a great place for (children) to come, especially in the summer when school is out and they get bored easily.”

For more information, call 255-3885.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Juliet, an 8-week old female tabby available for adoption at the Fort Rucker stray facility. She is fun, loving and energetic. It costs \$81 to adopt Juliet and other animals at the facility, which includes all up-to-date shots, the first round of age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip and spaying when old enough. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. 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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NOAA: This week focuses on hurricane preparedness

Continued from Page C1

HWRF model forecasts by 10 to 15 percent.

The National Weather Service has also made changes to allow for hurricane warnings to remain in effect, or to be newly issued, for storms like Sandy that have become post-tropical. This flexibility allows forecasters to provide

a continuous flow of forecast and warning information for evolving or continuing threats.

“The start of hurricane season is a reminder that our families, businesses and communities need to be ready for the next big storm,” said Joe Nimmich, FEMA associate administrator for Response and Recovery. “Preparedness today can make a big difference down the

line, so update your family emergency plan and make sure your emergency kit is stocked. Learn more about how you can prepare for hurricane season at www.ready.gov/hurricanes.”

This week is National Hurricane Preparedness Week. To help those living in hurricane-prone areas prepare, NOAA is offering hurricane preparedness tips, along with video

and audio public service announcements in both English and Spanish, featuring NOAA hurricane experts and the FEMA administrator at www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/.

NOAA’s outlook for the Eastern Pacific basin is for a below-normal hurricane season and the Central Pacific basin is also expected to have a below-normal season. NOAA will issue an updated out-

look for the Atlantic hurricane season in early August, just prior to the historical peak of the season.

NOAA’s mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth’s environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and our other social media channels.

Ready: Officials share tips on preparing before storm

Continued from Page C1

were to strike near Fort Rucker, residents should “stay indoors and away from windows.”

After the storm, Howell said residents should assess the damage to homes.

“Be on the lookout for downed power lines,” said Howell. “Use generators and chainsaws safely. In the event of a power outage longer than 4-6 hours, refrigerated food may be spoiled. If you are evacuated,

do not return home until you receive the all-clear from local officials.”

Howell said that while Fort Rucker is not likely to suffer the same effects that coastal areas endure in hurricanes, the damage rendered during these storms can still be severe.

“Our main threats here at Fort Rucker are heavy rain, flooding, strong winds and tornadoes,” said Howell. “There are some low-lying areas that are prone to flash flooding. Power outages are pretty

common during and after big storms.”

Fort Rucker Weather Operations posts weather watches and warnings on unit’s Facebook and Twitter pages. Fort Rucker Weather Operations also has a mobile app that can be found at www.ftrucker.mobi.

Willie Worsham, Emergency Management Specialist at Fort Rucker’s Operations Center, said residents on Fort Rucker can also tune in to cable Channel 6 on base or radio channel 1640 AM for

updates. If severe weather happens while service members are at work, a desktop alert will pop up for those connected to Fort Rucker’s intranet.

He added that Fort Rucker is ready to protect personnel and equipment from inclement weather as it appears.

“Fort Rucker has recently completed its emergency stack plan (for aircraft) and has taken all necessary steps that can ensure the safety of all personnel and assets,” wrote Worsham in e-mail.

Thank You Fort Rucker!!

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Seated L-R: Betty Jones, Steve Shiver, Jodi Searcy, Joel Ellis, Joy Marsh
Standing L-R: Darren Wallace, Starla Flowers, Wanda Roberts, Leann Chancellor,
Ashley Edwards, Haley Reynolds, Evelyn Carnley, Joanne Lesh
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Ocean Camp

Children ages 5 through 12 are encouraged to take part in a fun and educational summer day camp experience Tuesday through Aug. 9. Marine education activities will be guided by ocean literacy principles with a variety of themes. The cost is \$125 per session per camper and sessions will take place Tuesdays through Fridays each week. Children ages 5-8 will enjoy activities from 9 a.m. until noon and children ages 9-12 will attend from 1-4 p.m. Camps are available at Perdido Beach Resort as well as Gulf Shores and Fairhope through Faulkner University. For more information, call (251) 802-8605 or visit www.facebook.com/oceancamp.

COURTESY PHOTO

WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ANDALUSIA

ONGOING — The American Legion Post 80 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.

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

DALEVILLE

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

DOTHAN

TUESDAY THROUGH JUNE 25 —Troy University's Summer Spectacular Children's Camp at Kelley Springs Elementary School for local children has the theme, "Kids as NASA Scientists." Camp is open to children ages 4 to 12 and the camp will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday. Under this year's "NASA" theme, children will engage in a variety of activities exploring science, technology, engineering and math. For more information, or to request a registration form, contact Dr. Cynthia Hicks at hicksc@troy.ed.

JUNE 6 — The Morris Slingluff Memorial Golf Tournament will be held at the Highland Oaks Golf Course. Tee off is at noon with lunch at 11 a.m. Registration is \$125 per golfer. It is a four-man scramble with cash prizes for low gross

and low net, plus several prizes such as tires and a \$10,000 hole in one. For more information, call 794-6585 or visit www.dothaneducationfoundation.org.

JUNE 8 — Landmark Park will host the annual Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social from 5-8 p.m. Entertainment will include music in the gazebo, butter churning, wagon rides, a cakewalk, old-fashioned games and a quilt exhibit. An exhibit of antique dairy implements-including butter churns, molds and ice cream separators will be displayed. People will receive a free single dip cone of ice cream. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 4-15, and free for members and children 3 and under.

NOW THROUGH JULY 14 — The Memories of World War II exhibit at the Wiregrass Museum of Art features the nearly 200 reporters and photographers that fanned out around the globe to cover World War II. This exhibition is a spectrum of more than 100 photos from all theaters of the war and the home front. For more information, visit www.wiregrassmuseum.org.

JUNE 24 - AUG. 9 — The Wiregrass Museum of Art will feature three separate summer camps highlighting different aspects of visual arts. Art Attack! is a camp about creativity and fun. Everyone will learn art fundamentals and display their masterpieces in the Art Attack! showcase at the week's end. Art Attack! for ages 6-9 will be held June 24-28. The camp for ages 10-13 will be held July 15-19. Sessions will be held in the morning, from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1-4p.m. Price is \$105.

Play in the Clay! is a pottery camp where children can learn a variety of ceramic techniques and create three projects to take home. Play in the Clay! is available for children ages 5-9 July 23-26 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Price is \$65.

Art Around the World gives children the chance to explore the world through various art forms. Children will travel to a different country each day, learn the culture and customs, and create a work of art native to that region. This camp is available for children ages 5-10 Aug. 5-9 from 9 a.m. to noon. Price is \$105.

For more information or to register, call 794-3871 or visit www.wiregrassmuseum.org.

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.

ENTERPRISE

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.

GENEVA

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

MIDLAND CITY

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

NEW BROCKTON

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

894-2350 for more information.

ONGOING — Disabled American Veterans Chapter No. 99 meets each Tuesday and Wednesday at 6 p.m. at New Brockton City Hall. Food and drinks are served followed by regular chapter business. Chapter No. 99 maintains a DAV service office in the New Brockton Police station. All veteran services provided are free.

For more information, call 718-5707.

OZARK

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

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

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

ONGOING — Every 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

Tomato Festival

The 25th annual Slocomb Tomato Festival will be June 5-8 in Centennial Park. Event features a City-Wide Prayer at the First Baptist Church, 4 p.m.-until, Zack's an all-you-can-eat buffet at Zack's starting at 4 p.m., karaoke, music, food and craft vendors, and prize drawings.

Pea River Day Festival

A 5K Color Run and 1-mile fun run will be held June 8 in Elba at 8 a.m. with registration at 7:30 a.m. The color run is \$10 per person and the fun run is \$5 per person. Following the color run, the Pea River Day Festival will begin at the boat landing park area (Hwy. 84 bridge in Elba) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Event features pontoon boat

rides, arts and crafts, entertainment and a Kids Zone. For more information, call 897-3125 or email elbachamber@troycable.net.

Fishing Tournament

D12 will hold its' two-day Division Championship on Lake Eufaula, going out of Lake Point Marina July 7-8. Registration will be in front of the marina building from 3:30-4:45 a.m. Weigh-in will be at the marina at 2 p.m. For more information, visit www.lakeeufaula.com

Friday Fest

Friday Fest in downtown Panama City is Bay County's largest street festival with more than 200 show cars, 50 vendors and live bands— filling up six blocks of Harrison Avenue on the first Friday of each month from 6-10 p.m. Local shops and restaurants stay open late.

Fiesta Days Celebration

This 10-day annual event celebrates the founding of Pensacola now through June 7. Event features boat parades, street parades, parties, a sand- sculpting contest and more. For more information, visit www.fiestaoffiveflags.org.

Shrimp Basket Giving Run

The Shrimp Basket in Gulf Shores will host a 5K run June 8 at 9 a.m. Registration includes a specialty-designed race T-shirt, a \$10 gift card, water and Powerade, a boxed lunch and two adult beverages for those of age. By participating, names will be entered into a drawing for door prizes. Race registration begins at 6 a.m. at Shrimpy's Mini Golf. Parking will be provided at Shrimpy's and Mikee's Seafood. Registration is \$25 and \$10 for the 1-mile fun run. For more information, call (251) 752-5211.

Lyster recognizes National Mental Health Month

By Katherine Rosario
Lyster Army Health Clinic
Public Affairs

Since 1949, when Congress designated the month of May as National Mental Health Month, agencies have helped increase the public's awareness of behavioral health issues and the reality of behavioral health illnesses.

Lyster Army Health Clinic is recognizing National Mental Health Month to raise awareness about behavioral health diagnosis such as depression, post-traumatic stress and a host of other behavioral health diagnosis impacting Soldiers, Families and retirees.

Behavioral health is far more than the absence of a behavioral health disorder.



It includes overall psychological, physical and spiritual resilience.

"The brain is just like

any other organ in your body, and you need to exercise it and take care of it," said Col. James Later-

za, commander of LAHC.

Behavioral health diagnosis and symptoms are treatable, and seeking help

is the first step toward recovery and overall resilience.

The Army has developed ongoing training to empower Soldiers, Families, retirees and civilians to conduct self assessments, and support others to intervene and save lives by understanding risk factors, protective measures and warning signs, and by taking appropriate intervention actions when needed.

At LAHC, support groups are offered to spouses of patients undergoing behavioral health counseling.

LAHC also offers one-hour yoga classes twice a week on Monday and Thursday at 11:45 a.m. to anyone wishing to participate. The class fits up to 12 people.

Yoga is another form of relaxation, and has been found to be helpful to those suffering from depression or post-traumatic stress by helping them calm their mind, and focus on balance and breathing.

"Yoga is a great way to bring about mind and body awareness and when dealing with behavioral health issues is such a key ingredient," said Belinda Jellison, licensed professional counselor at LAHC.

Behavioral health is such an important part of life, that by fiscal year 2017, the Army will increase the uniformed behavioral health provider force by an additional 1,000 personnel.

To make an appointment with a behavioral health specialist, call 255-7028.



The first service will be on
June 2nd
at
8:30 a.m.

"Coffee Café"

There will be a "Coffee Café" following the service with plenty of hot coffee and fresh doughnuts!

NEW WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

This service is ideal for those seeking a less traditional worship environment.

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For more info call the Daleville Baptist Church office at **598-4530** or visit us online at **www.dalevillebc.org**.

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Hazards: Hurricanes bring weather risks miles inland

Continued from Page C1

greatest threat to life and property along the immediate coast.

Storm tide is the water level rising during a storm due to the combination of storm surge and the astronomical tide.

For example, if a hurricane moves ashore at a high tide of two feet, a 15-foot surge would be added to the high tide, creating a storm tide of 17 feet. The combination of high winds and storm tide topped with battering waves can be deadly and cause tremendous property damage along an area of coastline hundreds of miles wide.

The destructive power of storm surge and large battering waves can result in loss of life, buildings destroyed, beach and dune ero-

sion and road and bridge damage along the coast. Storm surge can travel several miles inland. In estuaries and bayous, salt-water intrusion endangers public health and the environment.

Tornadoes

Hurricanes and tropical storms can also produce tornadoes. These tornadoes most often occur in thunderstorms embedded in rain bands well away from the center of the hurricane; however, they can also occur near the eye-wall.

Usually, tornadoes produced by tropical cyclones are relatively weak and short-lived, but they still pose a significant threat.

Winds

Hurricane-force winds, 74

mph or more, can destroy buildings and mobile homes. Debris, such as signs, roofing material, siding and small items left outside become flying missiles during hurricanes. Winds can stay above hurricane strength well inland.

In 2004, Hurricane Charley made landfall at Punta Gorda on the southwest Florida coast and produced major damage well inland across central Florida with gusts of more than 100 mph.

Rainfall

Tropical cyclones often produce widespread, torrential rains in excess of six inches, which may result in deadly and destructive floods. In fact, flooding is the major threat from tropical cyclones for people living inland.

Flash flooding, defined as a rapid rise in water levels, can occur quickly due to intense rainfall. Longer term flooding on rivers and streams can persist for several days after the storm.

Rainfall amounts are not directly related to the strength of tropical cyclones but rather to the speed and size of the storm, as well as the geography of the area. Slower moving and larger storms produce more rainfall. In addition, mountainous terrain enhances rainfall from a tropical cyclone.

Rip currents

The strong winds of a tropical cyclone can cause dangerous waves that pose a significant hazard to mariners and coastal residents and visitors. When the

waves break along the coast, they can produce deadly rip currents — even at large distances from the storm.

Rip currents are channeled currents of water flowing away from shore, usually extending past the line of breaking waves, that can pull even the strongest swimmers away from shore.

In 2008, despite the fact that Hurricane Bertha was more than 1,000 miles offshore, the storm resulted in rip currents that killed three people along the New Jersey coast and required 1,500 lifeguard rescues in Ocean City, Md., over a one week period.

In 2009, all six deaths in the United States directly attributable to tropical cyclones occurred as the result of drowning from large waves or strong rip currents.



Adopt a pet

For more information about animal adoptions, call the Veterinary Clinic at 255-9061. The Stray Facility needs donations. Donations can be dropped off at the Veterinary Clinic.

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(No 2:00 Matinee on Wed)
II EPIC - PG
2D - Everyday 2:15 & 7:15
3D - Everyday 4:15 & 9:15
III FAST AND FURIOUS PART 6 - PG-13
Everyday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00 & 9:30

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MAY 30, 2013



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Capt. Thad Solhjen, a Captains Career Course student, takes aim at an opposing team member during a game of paintball last year.

DODGING PAINT

Paintball offers adrenaline rush

By Nathan Pfau and Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writers

Adrenaline junkies are often searching for the next thing to get their rush, and Fort Rucker is offering one way for Soldiers and civilians to get their fill using strategy and tactics.

Paintball is offered on the installation at outdoor recreation in conjunction with Dothan Survival Games, and is available to the general public, said Brian Jackson, Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

“Paintball is just one of the great activities provided by DFMWR,” he said. “It’s recreational, but it also helps tie into the team cohesiveness component that Soldiers are accustomed to. Although (participants) are using paintball guns to fire at one another, the activity creates a competitive environment on the leisurely side.”

There are three different courses avail-

able on Fort Rucker near Lake Tholocco, each with their own character, said Jackson.

“The speedball course is a flat area with wooden barriers that are mirrored on both sides,” he said. “Games end rather quickly on this course, but make for an exciting and high-adrenaline experience.”

The other two courses are woodland courses, one big and one small.

“Both woodland courses give you a genuine feel of a fraction of being downrange when it comes to strategy and downrange tactics used by military units,” said Jackson. “I have learned numerous tactics through paintballing with Soldiers, and it’s truly impressive to see the camaraderie and skill set used by our service members.”

The price of paintball depends on the size of the group and rental equipment needed. The fields are only available by reservation and a minimum of six people is needed to utilize the courses on Fort

Rucker. For more information or to make reservations, call 763-8202.

Paintball isn’t used only for recreation, however. It’s also used in the Installation Management Command Warrior Adventure Quest program, which is designed to recondition Soldiers who are returning from deployment, said Lance Oliver, ODR maintenance and WAQ facilitator.

“They get that rush every day (when deployed) and when they get back they seek that high again, often in very dangerous ways,” said John Clancy, ODR manager. “When they are all pumped up and don’t know how to get that out of their system, it can lead to injuries and even death, often caused by POV (personally owned vehicle) accidents. So, to help prevent that, this program and others like it were developed.”

The funding from IMCOM enables Soldiers to participate in activities like this without any cost to them.

“It is a chance for them to find a free, reachable norm without them going off post alone and being reckless or getting into trouble,” said Jackson. “WAQs activities provide a transition from overseas to being back in the states.”

Fort Rucker is unique with IMCOM’s requirement that Soldiers who participate must have been downrange in the past 120 days because it is a non-deploying base.

Oftentimes Soldiers go into the program looking for “the catch” but Clancy is determined to prove that the program is strictly about improving Soldier’s mental states.

Some of the programs that have been set up for the program in the past are paintball, white water rafting, ropes courses, golf, deep sea fishing, zip lining, wave runner and parasailing, and Clancy said that other activities that are cost efficient are in development.

For more information on WAQ, call



PHOTOS BY TANIA JOBSON

Bull’s-eye!

Above: CW4 Wayne Grimes, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, removes his arrow after shooting in the 2013 National Field Archery Association Championship at Fort Rucker May 11. The championship featured 21 archers from Alabama and Florida competing at Fort Rucker May 11-12. Grimes placed third in the Men’s Hunter Division, after a draw for second place.

Right: Grimes takes aim before shooting in the 2013 National Field Archery Association Championship at Fort Rucker May 11.

Full standings:

Men’s Pro – Mike Stone, Mason Smith and Steve Smith;
Men’s Senior Pro – Eddie Sullivan;
Men’s Open – Tommy Glasgow;
Men’s Limited Freestyle – Oliver Austin;
Men’s Hunter – Bruce Daniels, Casey Weston, Wayne Grimes, Larry Cornell;
Men’s Traditional – Kirk Thomas;
Women’s Pro – Janice Smith;
Women’s Open – Lori Glasgow, Tania Jobson;
Youth Hunter – Clarissa Smith, Bryce Henning;
Youth Traditional – Jessica Kuhn;
Cub Open Recurve – Chloe Wyatt;
Cub Hunter – Louis Epperson, Montana Glasgow; and
Cub Traditional – Holly Jobson.



DOWN TIME

CHARACTER PROFILE!

SECRET AGENT X-9

WRITTEN BY DASHIELL HAMMETT AND ILLUSTRATED BY ALEX RAYMOND, "SECRET AGENT X-9" FIRST APPEARED IN NEWSPAPERS ON JANUARY 22, 1934.



DURING RAYMOND'S TENURE ON "SECRET AGENT X-9" HE WORKED SIMULTANEOUSLY ON TWO OTHER COMIC STRIPS...

—INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURER "JUNGLE JIM" AND A SCI-FI STRIP CALLED "FLASH GORDON."



HE'S DEFINITELY HUMAN, BUT SOMETHING HAPPENED TO HIM WHEN HE WENT THROUGH THE SPACE PORTAL. HIS MOLECULAR STRUCTURE DESTABILIZED.

HE CLAIMED TO KNOW ME. IF HE'S FROM EARTH, THEN WHY THE ATTACK?

UNDERSTANDABLY, HE WAS BARELY OF SOUND MIND DURING THE INITIAL TRANSFERENCE. THE PAIN MUST HAVE BEEN UNIMAGINABLE.

I'M NOT SO SURE I CAN BUY IT, DOC. HOW DO WE KNOW HE WASN'T SENT BY MING—AND WHAT'S HIS CONNECTION WITH PALE?

HEY, GOLDFLOCKS... YOU WANT TO SAVE THE EARTH...? WHA...?

IF YOU WANT ANSWERS, YOU'D BE WISE TO STOP ASKING QUESTIONS AND JUST START LISTENING.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Philippe



Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

T R I V I A

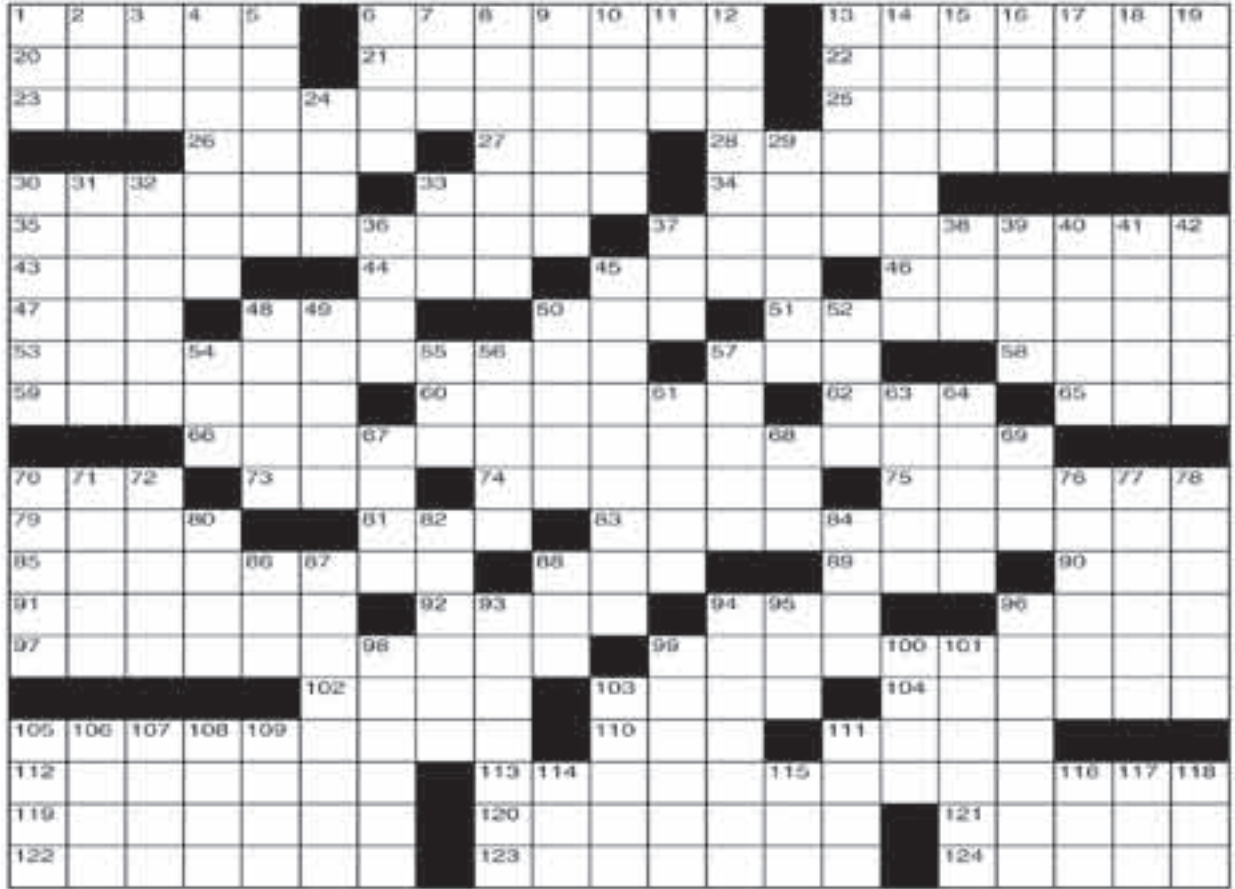
1. ENTERTAINERS: What actress's original name was Natasha Gurdin?
2. LANGUAGE: What is a dyarchy?
3. TELEVISION: What was the Skipper's nickname for Gilligan in "Gilligan's Island"?
4. GEOGRAPHY: On which coast of Africa is the country of Gabon located?
5. ADVERTISING SLOGANS: What company's cookies are baked by elves?
6. HISTORY: What was Attila the Hun's moniker?
7. PSYCHOLOGY: What fear is represented by pharmacophobia?
8. GAMES: How many color groups of property are in the game of Monopoly?
9. INVENTIONS: Who invented the Frisbee?
10. ANATOMY: Where are the adrenal glands located in the human body?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword

INNER LANES

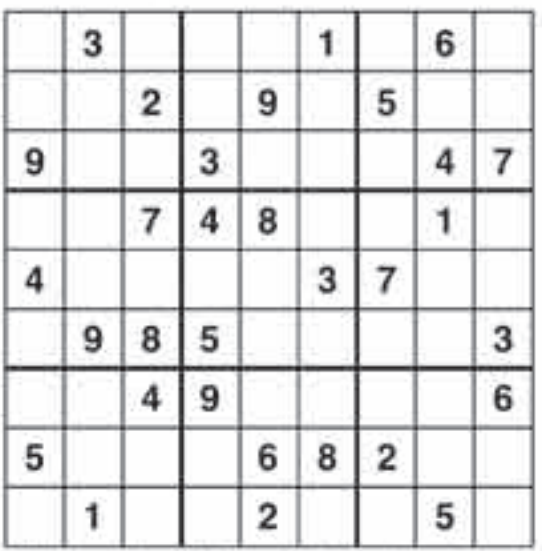
- ACROSS**
- 1 "GoodFellas" co-star Joe
 - 6 London subway route diagram
 - 13 Plate umpire's call
 - 20 "Par —" (stamp on airmail)
 - 21 Religious hermit
 - 22 Wyoming tribe
 - 23 "A Boy and His Dog" sci-fi writer
 - 25 Pronto
 - 26 Bus, college course
 - 27 Aircraft abbr.
 - 28 Star of the silent film "Madame Du Barry"
 - 30 "Dharma & Greg" co-star Jenna
 - 33 Pupil locale
 - 34 Pick — (caviar)
 - 35 In a certain folk singing style
 - 37 Relief pitcher with the 2004 World Series-winning Red Sox
 - 43 Revered one
 - 44 Horse's kin
 - 45 Padlock part
 - 46 Sneaker stringers
 - 47 Even if, briefly
 - 48 Old crone
 - 50 — di-dah (stamp on airmail)
 - 51 "Got some thoughts?"
 - 53 Old city buried by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius
 - 57 Man-mouse link
 - 58 Additionally
 - 59 Bun seed
 - 60 1965 Yardbirds hit
 - 62 Bad, in Brest
 - 65 Census
 - 66 Novocain, for one
 - 70 Twisty curve
 - 73 U lead-in
 - 74 Foray
 - 75 First family as of 2009
 - 79 Coal mines
 - 81 High-fashion inits.
 - 83 Boarding of a jet
 - 85 Derides
 - 88 Before, in verses
 - 89 Hair stiffener
 - 90 Sea, to Fiji
 - 91 Forest feline
 - 92 Dark leaves
 - 94 Greek letter
 - 96 Domicile
 - 97 Native of Fiji or Vanuatu
 - 99 Places to see stars in science centers
 - 102 Back part
 - 103 Lab bottle
 - 104 Bond girl player d'Abo
 - 105 Have practical usefulness
 - 110 Kin of Ltd.
 - 111 In a crowd of
 - 112 Stage names
 - 113 Assorted
 - 119 Tooth puller
 - 120 Unicellular swimmers
 - 121 Romanov royals
 - 122 Chip away at
 - 123 Gets thinner
 - 124 Toss about
- DOWN**
- 1 Oom — band
 - 2 Hungarian-born Gabor
 - 3 English title
 - 4 Gary of "Diff'rent Strokes"
 - 5 How soup is often sold
 - 6 Juvenile
 - 7 Address for a dot-com
 - 8 Minsk locale
 - 9 Oskar Schindler's wife
 - 10 Sea vapors
 - 11 — Z (thoroughly)
 - 12 Letter-writing friends
 - 13 Attach with brads, e.g.
 - 14 In a florid way
 - 15 "Slither" star James
 - 16 Church nook
 - 17 Sharp taste
 - 18 Blacken on a grill
 - 19 Arizona tribe
 - 24 All-or —
 - 29 More or less even (with)
 - 30 Wharton and Bunker
 - 31 Chinese nut
 - 32 They're often tile-covered
 - 33 Brains have high ones
 - 36 Trilogy, often
 - 37 Spa sound
 - 38 — tai
 - 39 A-F filler
 - 40 Movie units
 - 41 Make blank
 - 42 County whose seal is Newark
 - 45 Hard-hitting carpenters
 - 48 Comics' forte
 - 49 Baldwin and Guinness
 - 50 Greg Evans comic strip
 - 52 Dog tag info
 - 54 Fresno loc.
 - 55 Zip
 - 56 PC letter
 - 57 Saloon sign
 - 61 In unison
 - 63 Make up for, as sins
 - 64 Slander's kin
 - 67 "Comin' —!"
 - 68 "Good" cholesterol abbr.
 - 69 Spying aid, briefly
 - 70 — salts (cathartic)
 - 71 After then
 - 72 Sword material
 - 76 Recollection
 - 77 Vigorless condition
 - 78 Watercourse
 - 80 "Sisters" co-star Ward
 - 82 Tiny grooves
 - 84 Opposed to, in dialect
 - 86 Politico Paul
 - 87 Most severe
 - 88 Nighttime, in verses
 - 93 Hired lawn maintainer
 - 94 Sugar pill
 - 95 1968 film computer
 - 96 Most difficult
 - 98 Attends
 - 99 — movement (military maneuver)
 - 100 Actress Watson
 - 101 Infects
 - 103 Sunshade
 - 105 Get dimmer
 - 106 Intestine divisions
 - 107 Dryer fluff
 - 108 Sol followers
 - 109 F —
 - 111 Heady brews
 - 114 "— comin'!"
 - 115 Judge's field
 - 116 Scull mover
 - 117 Suffix with strict
 - 118 NNE's opposite



See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

© 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID's CORNER

Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman

CATCH 45! Eight numbers — 2, 3, 6, 7, 11, 12, 15, and 18 — are hidden from the diagram at right. You are challenged to count them up that way.

1. LION
2. LION
3. LION
4. LION
5. LION
6. LION

CATCH 45! BY TALEB

BOARD THESE LIONS in their den. Six different lion-earrings are shown in the den. LIONs are also shown in the den. (You can't catch a lion in the den.)

1. This LION's a lion with a yellow mane.
2. This LION's a lion with a red mane.
3. This LION's a lion with a blue mane.
4. This LION's a lion with a green mane.
5. This LION's a lion with a purple mane.
6. This LION's a lion with a pink mane.

WE'VE HAD HO! What's the best way to read the word? Put a dot in the middle of the word. Then, read the word. (You can't read the word without a dot.)

Wishing Well

ICE-CAPIES! Here comes the little, green and red wheel. Apply colors wisely! 1—Red, 2—Blue, 3—Purple, 4—Yellow, 5—Green, 6—Pink, 7—Orange, 8—Light Blue, 9—Dark Blue.

SPELLBINDER

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

STUDENT

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

Try to score at least 10 points.

Wishing Well

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

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

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOCKWOLF

CAMP BUS

CAMP BUS

CAMP BUS

Warrior Games 3-peat for Army wheelchair basketball

By David Vergun
Army News Service

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The Army ran away with the wheelchair basketball gold medal, defeating the Marine Corps, 44-19, at the 2011 Warrior Games. Last year, the Army conquered the Marines, 54-34. This year, the Army did it once again during the 2013 games.

During the May 15 gold-medal game of the 2013 Warrior Games, the Army posted yet another win against the Marines, but this time, it was anything but a sure thing. Army pulled out the win in the final minute of the game, ending the night with a score of 34-32.

“I had no idea this game was going to be that close, I’m not gonna lie,” said Army veteran Anthony Pone, of Fort Worth, Texas. “But I wasn’t unsure about the victory.”

This was Pone’s third Warrior Games and third wheelchair basketball gold medal, although he noted it “feels like the first time I won a gold medal.”

This was also Pone’s hardest fought Warrior Games victory. The game proved to be a nail-biter, with constant turnover and a tug-of-war for the leading score throughout the night. In fact, the Marines led after the first half, 18-16.

Earlier in the night, the Marines won the bronze-medal game against the Navy, 49-18, which advanced them to the gold medal game. Navy ended the 2013 Warrior Games with a 2-2 record and a bronze medal.

Though the Army’s strong offense kept the Marines from ultimately claiming victory, the close battle still felt like a victory for the Marines.

“We had a lot of energy and a lot of heart,” said Marine



PHOTOS BY EJ HERSOM

Players battle for a rebound during the 2013 Warrior Games gold medal wheelchair basketball match May 15 in Colorado Springs, Colo. From left are James Green of Army, Marine Lance Cpl. Zach Blair (back), Marine veteran Cpl. Anthony McDaniel, and Blake McMinn of Army.

Corps Sgt. Anthony McDaniel, of Chula Vista, Calif. “We did good. We never gave up, so it felt like a win. I’m proud of what we accomplished tonight.”

McDaniel, a two-time Warrior Games participant, proved to be a valuable asset to the Marines, scoring 10 of the team’s 32 goals. The 10-member team displayed plenty of versatility overall, with six of the players scoring points. Cpl. Josue Barron, of San Diego, was right behind McDaniel with nine points, including the only three-pointer scored in the game.

For the Army, Pone was the leading scorer for the second

night in a row, claiming 12 of Army’s 34 points. Four of his points came from free throws. Veteran Blake McMinn of Arlington, Texas, was a close second to Pone, scoring 11 points. Five Army players scored during the game.

Pone attributes his three Warrior Games gold medals to the Army’s strong team bond.

“Besides all the rigorous training that we do year-round, it’s definitely the Family cohesion,” Pone said. “We hang out together; if there’s a problem, we all talk about it together. We’ve got that Family cohesion. It’s tight; keeps us focused.”



Marine veteran Cpl. Josue Barron puts up a shot over the Army’s Perry Price during the gold medal wheelchair basketball match of the 2013 Warrior Games.

Post golf championship

Silver Wings Golf Course hosts the Post Championship Golf Tournament June 8 with a 7 a.m. tee time.

For more information and to register, call 598-2449.

Army Strong Triathlon

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosts the Army Strong Triathlon June 15 from 7 a.m. to noon at West Beach, Lake Tholocco. The event includes a quarter-mile swim, a 10.6-mile bike race and a 3.1-mile run. Cash awards will be given to the top overall finishers and the top relay team. Cost to register is \$40 for individuals and \$70 for a three-person relay team until June 8. After June 8, the cost is \$50 for individuals and \$80 for teams. All pre-registered participants will receive T-shirts while supplies last after June 8.

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

Daddy and Me – 3 for Free Bowling

Rucker Lanes offers free bowling for dads June 16. Each dad will receive three free games of bowling and shoe rental. Children, 13 and younger, will

receive three games of bowling and shoe rental for \$4.75 per child when they bowl with dad. No reservations are accepted and the special is not available for any group functions, birthday parties or with discounted rates and coupons.

For more, call 255-9503.

Swim Season at West Beach

West Beach is open for swim season now through Sept. 2 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays through Tuesdays and is closed Wednesdays and Thursdays. West Beach swimming is also be open on weekends and holidays only while school is in session. Admission for swimming is free for ages 2 and younger, \$1.50 for ages 3–9, \$2.25 for ages 10–17, and \$3 for ages 18 and older. Season passes, valid at both Splash! and West Beach, will be available once the summer season begins at both physical fitness centers, outdoor recreation, and leisure travel services.

For more, call 255-9162.

Disc Golf

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation offers Disc Golf – played much like traditional golf, but instead of using a ball and clubs,

players use a flying disc. DFMWR welcomes novices and experienced players to bring their friends out and enjoy some friendly competition. The 18-hole disc golf course is located at Beaver Lake. People can visit the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility to check out a disc and give it a try. There is a \$10 deposit required per disc. The Disc Golf course is open to the public. Disc check-out is open to authorized patrons only.

For more information, call 255-2296.

Riding Stables rules

Riding Stables staff reminds community members that letting horses out of their stalls can be dangerous to the horses and motorists. Visitors are also reminded to stay on the main roadways, do not approach any of the horses without owners’ permission, stay out of the pastures and obey the speed limit of 10 mph at all times. For more information, call 598-3384.

Enterprise baseball

Enterprise’s semi-pro baseball team needs players, high-school aged and older, for its ongoing season.

For more information, call Joe Jackson at 347-4275 or 806-6929.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword Answers

PESCI	TUBEMAP	NOCATCH
AVION	EREMITE	ARAPAHO
HARLANELL	LISON	INASNAP
ECONALT	POLANEGRI	
ELFMAN	IRIS	ANIT
DYLANESQUE	ALANEMBREE	
ICON	ASS	HASPLACERS
THO	HAG	LAHANYIDEAS
HERCULANEUM	ORA	ELSE
SESAME	IMAMAN	MALSEX
LOCALANESTHETIC		
ESS	RST	INROAD
PITS	YSL	ENPLANEMENT
SNEERSAT	ERE	GELMER
OCELOT	RYES	PHI
MELANESIAN	PLANETARIA	
REAR	VIAL	MARYAM
FILLANEED	INC	AMID
ALIASES	MISCELLANEOUS	
DENTIST	AMOEBAE	TSARS
EATINTO	NARROWS	STREW

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

TRIVIA

- Answers
1. Natalie Woods
 2. Dual governance
 3. Little buddy
 4. West
 5. Keebler’s
 6. “Scourge of God”
 7. Fear of taking drugs or medicine
 8. Eight
 9. Walter Frederick Morrison
 10. On top of the kidneys

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Video Game Spotlight >>



COURTESY SCREENSHOT

‘Fuse’ provides lighthearted fun, good action

By Jim Van Slyke
Contributing Writer

(Editor’s note: All opinions stated in the Video Game Spotlight are solely those of the article’s author.)

Don’t cringe when you hear that “Fuse” is yet another “cover-based, co-op shooter.” It is and we’ve certainly seen enough of those, but there is enough that’s different about “Fuse” that helps it stand out.

The story of this game begins in the 1940s, when alien life forms bring Fuse, a volatile, seemingly sentient extraterrestrial substance that enhances weapons — and can turn things that aren’t weapons into weapons — to Earth. The government kept the substance under wraps until a terrorist cell steals Fuse many decades later and, of course, threatens to destroy the world. Enter

the four-person, anti-terrorist team Overstrike 9 to save the day.

The game is built to make it fun for you and three friends to fight together against the bad guys, but gamers can play alone and still jump back and forth between each of the four members of Overstrike 9. Each of the four elite agents has unique weapons and abilities, as well as distinct personalities. They aren’t all equal in terms of play value,

but the imbalance isn’t awful. The weapons include things like warp rifles that create small black holes and crossbows that fire bolts that stick to walls and enemies. These bolts can be detonated on command, turning whatever they are stuck to into lava.

The graphics aren’t memorable and the most impressive thing about the audio is the

funny conversations the agents have, but overall, this game rises above the clutter. The game will feel silly at times and it’s not a hard-core shooter, but there is fun to be had. It won’t win any awards, but don’t be afraid to light this “Fuse.”

Reviewed on the Xbox 360



Publisher
Electronic Arts
Rated
Mature
Systems
Xbox360, PS3
Cost
\$60
Overall
3 out of 4

Linda Kelsey
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