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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

JUNE 21, 2012

1-13th Avn. welcomes new commander

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker welcomed the new commander of the 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment during a ceremony at Howze Field Tuesday.

The unit colors were passed from the outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Darren V. Cox, to Col. Brian D. Bennett, 1st Aviation Brigade commander, to the incoming commander, Lt. Col. Steven M. Pierce, to signify the transfer of command from one commander to the next.

Pierce thanked Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, and Bennett for the opportunity to lead the 1-13th and said he was humbled to be afforded the opportunity.

“I can think of no greater honor in

our profession than being charged to lead America’s sons and daughters,” he said. “It is with the welfare of these Soldiers and their Families in the forefront of my mind that I assume my duties today.”

Pierce is from Chambersburg, Pa. and is a Senior Army Aviator qualified to operate the UH-1, OH-58A/C and OH-58D. Some of his assignments and duties range from platoon leader, 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment and regimental Aviation officer of the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., to instructor for the Army Joint Support Team, Hurlburt Field, Fla., which, according to Bennett, makes him qualified to lead the 1-13th

“Steve’s background, energy and commitment are clear, and I’m certain that he will continue to produce world-class Soldiers for our Aviation

force,” he said. “We are fortunate to have [Pierce] to continue to serve the Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment. Steve and [his wife], Ingrid, along with their three daughters ... are on board and ready to lead this battalion towards excellence.”

The incoming commander also thanked Cox and his wife, Kim, for welcoming him and his Family.

Cox served as the 1st Bn., 13th Avn. Regt. commander for the past two years and in that time his leadership trained Soldiers, air traffic controllers and Aviation operations specialists; prepared, trained and deployed Aviation and police Soldiers for combat overseas; and worked with the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation and other

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PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Col. Brian D. Bennett, 1st Aviation Brigade commander, passes the unit colors to incoming 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment commander Lt. Col. Steven M. Pierce, who assumed command of the unit from Lt. Col. Darren V. Cox, during a change of command ceremony at Howze Field Tuesday.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

CW3 Jim L. Ramge, HHC WOCC, and Staff Sgt. Sean Huling, 1st WOC, cut the Army birthday cake at Dining Facility No.2 to commemorate the Army’s 237th birthday June 14. Ramge and Huling are the oldest and youngest Soldiers of the WOCC.

Ceremonies honor Army past, present

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Birthdays are a time for people to remember the past and celebrate the future, but for the Army’s birthday they are also a time to honor achievement and sacrifice.

Fort Rucker celebrated the Army’s 237th birthday with cake cutting ceremonies at The Landing Zone for the general public and Dining Facility No.2 for Soldiers June 14.

Col. James A. Muskopf, Fort Rucker garrison commander, was

on hand at The Landing Zone to cut one of the Army birthday cakes.

“Today is the Army’s birthday and it’s a day we [observe] every year to celebrate our heritage all the way back to the Continental Army,” he said. “It’s a great day to remember what the Army has done over the past 237 years.”

Part of what the Army has done and the celebrated heritage is the Army’s ability to promote change, according to a tri-signed letter by Army leadership. From the beginning, the Army has

adapted and changed to meet the needs of the nation from securing frontiers, and building roads and canals, to fighting in two world wars on up to current conflicts.

At the dining facility cake cutting, Soldiers were the primary audience.

“It’s not so much the significance of the day itself, but the remembrance of those who came before us,” said CW3 Jim L. Ramge, Headquarters and Headquarters Company

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Full spectrum

*Army pilots, UAS operators
bring team effort to battlefield*

By Kelly Pate
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

Serving as an Army Unmanned Aircraft Systems operator once meant providing video feed and hoping someone was looking at the computer screen beside you.

Army UAS will take on a new role as a Combat Aviation Brigade element with the upcoming deployment this fall of the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky.

Because of a CAB redesign, UAS operators and helicopter pilots will now be better synched to support the ground commander’s mission and save lives, said Col. Paul Bontrager, 101st CAB commander, during the 101st CAB’s Aviation Training Exercise at Fort Rucker in June.

“It’s value added in having a UAS platform up, and Apache pilots and Kiowa pilots are both seeing benefits of utilizing UAS. When the operation is occurring the UAS operator has the understanding and the information needed for him to proactively use that asset. He’s not just a person waiting to be told what to do. He’s actually part of the mission now,” Bontrager said.

Organic UAS is one impact of the “Full-Spectrum” brigade re-design that makes the 101st CAB the Army’s first Full-Spectrum CAB.

“The Full-Spectrum CAB design includes attack, reconnaissance, lift and unmanned systems. The modular, standardized CAB structure is optimized to deliver maximum Aviation capabilities in the most timely and flexible manner,” said Ellis Golson, director, Capability Development and Integration Directorate for the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence.

The goal of Army UAS within the CAB is to give greater situational awareness and tactical flexibility to CAB and ground commanders, and UAS operators within the 101st CAB feel the structural difference already.

“We haven’t been integrating manned and unmanned systems before to this extent. We’re part of their team now and we can provide pilots another set of eyes,” said Sgt. Mark Lunday, UAS operator for Task Force Saber, 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment.

Part of that difference is the sharing of information and mission planning.

“Now we are going into briefs with the scout weapons team, getting the same information. We all know what’s going on, and we can go out with a mission set. They know how we work, we know how they work. We’re much more involved in what goes on,” said Spc. Tory Puetz, 2-17th UAS operator.

The impact on Apache pilots is integrating a new type of

SEE EFFORT, PAGE A7

Concert celebrates Army’s 237th birthday

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Music Under the Alabama Stars concert Friday features a Streamer Ceremony to celebrate the service’s birthday.

The MUTAS concert series, designed to give people a chance to relax and listen to music, returns Friday at 6:30 p.m. to Howze Field.

“This is all about the Army birthday. We’re going to do a short patriotic concert to start,” said 1st Sgt. Albert E. Kaufmann, 1st Sergeant of the 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band, adding that the Streamer Ceremony will follow afterwards.

The ceremony, according to Kaufmann, is a “snapshot of Army history from the beginning.”

“Each streamer on the Army flag represents a campaign that the Army has participated in throughout its history,” he said, “and the color of the streamer represents a campaign that the Army has participated in throughout history.”

Kaufmann, who also plays the trumpet in the 98th

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FILE PHOTO

A portion of last year’s Streamer Ceremony at the initial Music Under the Alabama Stars concert. This year’s Streamer Ceremony and concert celebrating the Army’s birthday is Friday at 6:30 p.m. on Howze Field.



PHOTO BY SPC. TOBEY WHITE

A Shadow Unmanned Aircraft System launches in Afghanistan in 2011.

PERSPECTIVE

Why Soldiers should care about the War of 1812

By Elizabeth M. Collins
Soldiers Magazine

(Editor's note: This article is reprinted with permission from the June issue of "Soldiers," the official U.S. Army magazine. Catch more of "Soldiers" at <http://soldiers.dodlive.mil/>)

June 18, 1812, President James Madison signed the United States' first declaration of war, catapulting the fledgling country into its second War of Independence, better known as the War of 1812.

Sandwiched between the Revolution and the Civil War, the War of 1812 has been largely forgotten, and when it is remembered, it's often thought of as a naval war.

But Soldiers and students of Army history shouldn't be so quick to dismiss it or forget it, said Glenn Williams, an Army veteran and a senior historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History. He explained that the Army, which barely 20 years earlier had been down to a single regiment, had several significant achievements during the war, more "than we give ourselves credit for."

Specifically, he said, the Army defeated several British invasions: two at Fort Meigs in Perrysburg, Ohio, in May and July 1813; at the Battle of Plattsburgh, N.Y., in September 1814 and in New Orleans in January 1815. And while the British were able to attack Washington and burn the White House and the Capitol in August 1814, the Army and the militia stopped them in Baltimore the following month.

"Let's not forget a couple of really important things," Williams said. "The 'Star-Spangled Banner' was the garrison flag of an Army post. The original name of the song, as Francis Scott Key wrote it, was 'The Defense of Fort McHenry.' It became 'The Star Spangled Banner' a little bit later and then it became the national anthem in 1931. But we're talking about the defense of an Army post.

"I know the other services like to claim some credit for



PAINTING BY HERBERT MORTON STOOPS, COURTESY OF THE U.S. ARMY CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY

The Battle of New Orleans, Jan. 8, 1815.

the Battle of Baltimore, but Fort McHenry had a garrison of about 1,100 (servicemen) when it was attacked. Of those, about 60 were Sailors. The rest were Soldiers.... We often forget that Fort McHenry was an Army post and the 'Star-Spangled Banner' was its garrison flag."

The Army continued to improve and "became relatively confident by the end of the war," he continued, and in fact, by the end of the war, the Army had occupied much

of western Ontario.

"Some of the enduring legacies of the War of 1812," Williams said, "that we do remember – Yes, we do call it the second War of Independence. I think that's when we finally got rid of the shadow of Britain. The Revolutionary War ... made us independent. The War of 1812 made sure we would stay independent. It gave us something to be proud of."

This month in Army Aviation history

This month the spotlight is on the June 1985 issue of the *U.S. Army Aviation Digest*. This issue features:

TANK BUSTERS

Maj. Gen. Nikolay Belov's contention that the tank is the best means of combating tanks has been cited again and again. But are tanks really the best means of fighting tanks? Let's look at the facts.

INSTRUCTOR DUTY: FOR FUN AND PROFIT

Capt. Will Riskit is downcast, chagrined, vexed and generally in a blue funk. He has just found out he's

to be assigned as an instructor at the Army Aviation Center at Fort Rucker. Oh, woe! Oh, grief! He thinks, "I've survived a thunderstorm on partial-panel, a tornado in a hang glider, my mother-in-law's cooking, but I won't last through the next three years."

I AM THE AVIATOR – ABOVE THE BEST

From the beginning, many themes have been woven into the fabric of flying: man against gravity; man against distance; man against time. But the basic theme of the early years was as old as the oldest flying legend, and still remains so today: "Man against death!"

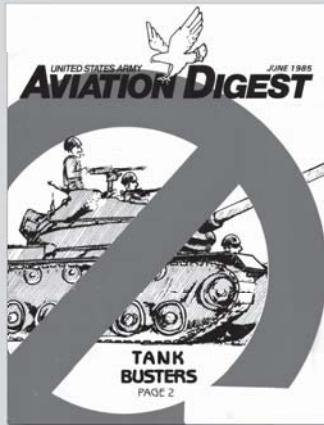
– "I am the Aviator. Above The Best! "

THUNDERSTORMS: NATURE'S KNOCKOUT PUNCH

Astraphobia is a fear of thunderstorms. If you are an Aviator and you aren't an astraphobe, this article is meant for you. A healthy fear of thunderstorms and the assorted package of woes they contain could save you and your aircraft.

PEARL'S

... and more!
Download this issue of the *U.S. Army Aviation Digest* at <http://bit.ly/av8-jun85>



Rotor Wash

“Many stands are now open and offer a variety of fireworks to begin celebrating our nation's independence. What safety tip would you offer for anyone who purchases fireworks?”



Peggy Roca,
A Co., 1st Bn.,
145th Avn. Regt.

"Use a longer fuse."



Steve J.,
retired military

"Let the professionals handle the explosives – I almost blew my hand off one time."



Samantha Hunter,
Family member

"Shoot them in a big open space, make sure there's no dry grass, and keep your kids well back."



Kevin Oaks,
Fort Hood, Texas, TDY

"Let the professionals do it."



1st Lt. Dhulfiqar Jabbar,
pilot

"Be careful not to start a fire, keep a five-meter safe-zone."

COMMAND

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FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

Col. James A. Muskopf
FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

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

Fort Rucker provides virtual training for deploying CABs

By Kelly Pate
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

When it's time to go to war, the first step into theater for deploying Combat Aviation Brigades is not on foreign soil. It's at Fort Rucker, where the final phase of the brigade training takes place.

The Aviation Training Exercise is an intensive weeklong event that brings about 300 members of a brigade team together in one location, and it serves as an important event for CAB commanders thanks to the simulations technology here, said Lt. Col. Craig Unrath, deputy director for the Directorate of Simulation.

"We bring together live, virtual, constructive and gaming into one venue that trains up through the brigade commander level. Very few places in the Army can really integrate all those elements. It's all interactive, it's completely integrated and it provides a training venue like nothing else," Unrath said.

Training and Doctrine Command conducts this final certifying training event for deploying CABs at Fort Rucker on behalf of Forces Command because of the post's tech-savvy ability to train the full spectrum of Aviation combat operations in an integrated training environment.

The training devices include simulators, live tactical operations centers, constructive elements with 2-D screen, and gaming (Virtual Battle Space 2) with first-person-shooter-type games, Unrath said.

In June, the Army's first "Full-Spectrum" CAB, the 101st CAB, 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky., completed

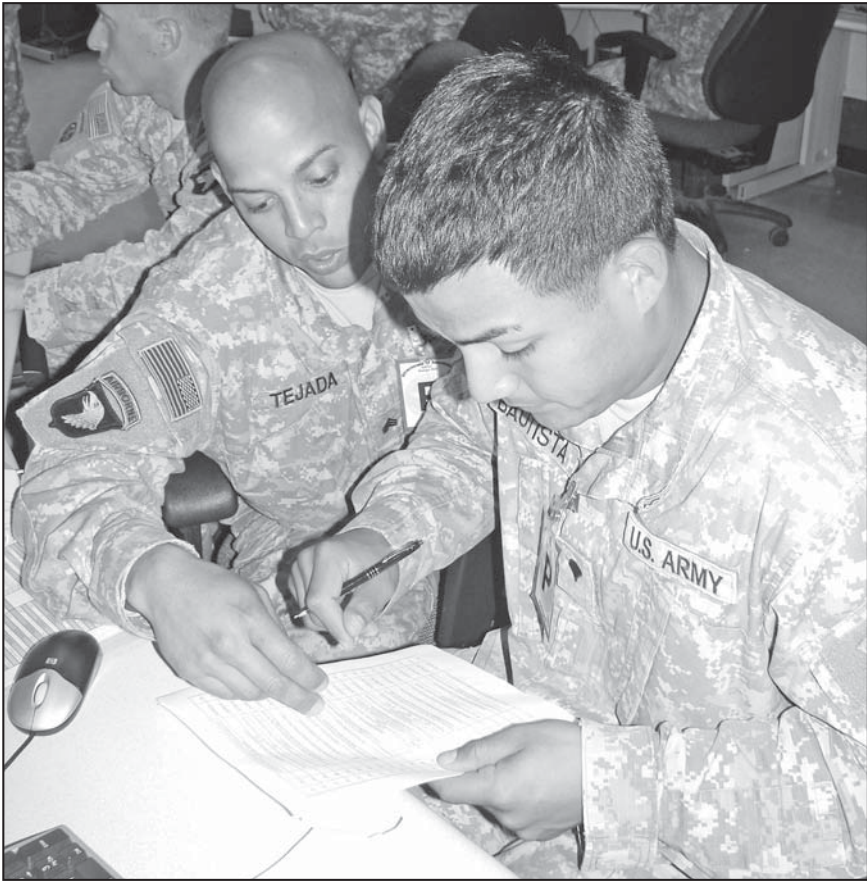


PHOTO BY CAPT. CHRISTINA WRIGHT

Soldiers of the 101st CAB participated in an Aviation Training Exercise at Fort Rucker in June. The 101st CAB, the Army's first Full-Spectrum CAB, will deploy to Afghanistan in the fall.

an ATX at Fort Rucker in preparation for deployment this fall.

The Full-Spectrum CAB structure includes manned and unmanned Aviation systems, and is designed to be more flexible and capable across the full range of military operations.

For the 101st CAB commander, Col. Paul Bontrager, one of the major benefits of the exercise

was the opportunity to have his Soldiers together as a focused audience prior to deployment.

"From January until about two weeks ago we were scattered across America between here, Colorado, California, Louisiana, and none of us were all together at one time in once place. This is the first time in five months I've had all my battalion com-

manders together at one time, and we're able to focus and get ready," Bontrager said.

For commanders, an important aspect of the training is the chance to rehearse the Tactical Operations Center command and control prior to battle, Bontrager said.

"Primarily it's the information flow within the brigade, to bat-

talions and down to flight crews. This includes the simulations piece of it here where we actually have crews flying the missions, doing the tactics, talking back to the TOC. The whole information flow down to aircrews and back up is the primary piece of this," Bontrager said.

Part of the exercise for the 101st included their helicopter pilots and Unmanned Aircraft Systems operators learning to communicate with each other as they work together on mission sets for the first time as a team, as UAS are now a brigade asset.

"When you listen to the mission on the radio, sometimes it's difficult to tell if you're listening to manned platform or unmanned platform because they're tracking what's going on, moving the sensor around looking at different things; it's remarkably helpful. There's some pretty significant benefits to having UAS integral to our brigade. It goes back to the human element, part of the team, part of the mission, part of the plan, so it will be value added when the mission actually occurs," Bontrager said.

The pre-deployment exercise is overseen by a retired general officer who serves as senior mentor, includes controllers who critique and evaluate and brings in valuable current information from the battlefield, Unrath said.

"Subject matter experts that have been in theater with the unit the CAB is replacing come back here and watch over their shoulder, and give them tactics, techniques and procedures for how things are going in theater and how they need to be trained to do business," Unrath said.

Quad A inducts veteran into Order of St. Michael

By Connor Wolanski
Army Flier Contributing Writer

The Army Aviation Association of America honored one of Army Aviation's early contributors with induction into the Order of St. Michael Monday at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

Retired Maj. Roy Howell was chosen as a recipient of the Order of St. Michael Bronze Award after a career in which he helped pioneer Army Aviation's evolving role in day-to-day operations.

The Order of St. Michael recognizes individuals who have contributed significantly to the promotion of Army Aviation in ways that stand out in the eyes of the recipient's seniors, subordinates and peers, according to AAAA officials.

"[Howell] contributed significantly to the advancement of Army Aviation throughout his service," said Col. Kevin Christensen, commander of the 110th Aviation Brigade and president of the Fort Rucker chapter of AAAA.

Entering service as an enlisted Soldier Jan. 9, 1946, Howell initially served with the Medical Service Corps and became a noncommissioned officer during the Korean War. He was awarded a bronze star for his involvement in combat

operations.

Soon after returning to the U.S., Howell was selected for Officer Candidate School, which he completed at Fort Benning, Ga. He earned a commission as a second lieutenant, completing flight training and launching a career in Aviation. He became rated in several rotary wing aircraft, including the H-13, H-21, and H-37, as well as fixed wing aircraft including the Mohawk, Beaver and Otter.

Howell completed his career in Aviation as a flight instructor and test pilot at Fort Rucker, teaching students of both fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft.

"Many of his students went on to serve in the Vietnam War and owe their professional Aviation skills to his exceptional Aviation skills and teaching abilities," said Christensen.

"Not bad for a farm boy from Missouri who dropped out of high school, found his home and his niche in the Army, and made everyone in his family extremely proud," the colonel added.

It was during his tenure at Fort Benning that Howell would make a contribution that would help shape Army Aviation for future generations.

"[Howell] was part of the original Howze Board maneuvers at Fort Benning



PHOTO BY CONNOR WOLANSKI

Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, presented the Order of St. Michael Bronze Award to retired Maj. Roy Howell and his family Monday at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

and a part of the 10th Aviation Brigade," said Sgt. Maj. John Chandler, referring to the Tactical Mobility Requirements Board commissioned by then-Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara which popularized the idea of Army air mobility in 1962. "Today, the 110th Aviation

Brigade lineage is drawn from [the 10th Avn. Brigade]."

Howell retired from the Army as a major in 1966 and currently resides in Ozark. After his retirement in 1966, he worked as a flight instructor with Ross Aviation of Ozark.

News Briefs

Change of command

C Company of the 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment hosts a change of command ceremony July 2 at 10 a.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Capt. Laura Naigle will assume command of the company from Capt. Gerritt Schellin.

People planning to attend should RSVP by Monday by calling 255-6355.

Help wanted

The Army Community Service Employment Readiness staff stands ready to help members of the Fort Rucker community find jobs. The staff maintains a list of job opportunities in the area, and can also give out tips and inform about resources to help people find the right job for them.

Some current opportunities on employment readiness' "hard to fill" list include: retail sales in children's and ladies' clothing stores, emergency medical technician, dental assistant, paralegal and legal secretary, dance teacher, warehouse supervisor, esthetician and massage therapist.

For more on employment readiness' services, call 255-3949.

Knowledge Magazine survey

This month, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety

Center is conducting an online readership survey to help improve Knowledge Magazine and ensure it is meeting the needs of its audience.

People are welcomed to take a few minutes to participate. The survey is available at <https://tools.safety.army.mil/Survey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=n6KI468>.

Closed for inventory

The Directorate of Logistics Supply Support Activity in Bldg. 1212 will conduct its wall-to-wall inventory July 23-27. Normal operations will discontinue at 4:15 p.m. July 20 and officials expect normal business hours to resume July 30. Customers will be notified by the accountable officer. During this period the SSA will only accept emergency requisitions.

For more, call 255-9504.

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.

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.

ID card section

People who need a common access card or military ID card who are in a hurry can make an appointment by calling 255-2437 or 255-2182. When people call for an appointment, they will be screened and advised of any documentation they need to bring. Walk-ins will continue to be served on a first-come, first-served basis. As a reminder, people may experience delays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thrift shop

The Fort Rucker Thrift Shop is 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.

DOD leaders strongly urge Congress members to preserve budget request

By Karen Parrish
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta cautioned Congress June 13 against dismantling the strategic framework that supports the 2013 defense budget request.

Testifying along with Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, before the Senate Appropriations Committee's defense subcommittee, the secretary said some changes to the request could undermine the careful balance department leaders built into military spending projections.

"Some of the [congressional] committees have made changes with regard to our recommendations that we're concerned about," Panetta said.

He listed three areas DOD leaders have targeted for cuts, and which some members of Congress have challenged during defense budget consideration.

"Some of the bills seek to reverse the decisions to eliminate aging and lower-priority ships and aircraft," the Secretary noted. "My concern is that if these decisions are totally reversed, then I've got to find money somewhere to maintain this old stuff."

Keeping outdated equipment in service would rob needed funds from other areas, he said. That, he added, would lead to what he has long called a "hollow force" — a military that is not trained, manned or equipped to meet current and future threats.

"We've got to be able to retire what is aged and what we can achieve some savings on," Panetta said.

Some in Congress have also objected to "the measured and gradual reductions in end strength that we've proposed for the Army and the Marine Corps," he added. Panetta noted that under current plans, DOD will reduce the active Army from roughly 560,000 to 490,000, while the Marine Corps will downsize from 202,000 to 182,000 over five years.

"Again, if I have a large force and I don't have the money to maintain that large force, I'm going to end up hollowing it out, because I can't provide the training [and] I can't provide the equipment," the secretary said. "So that's why, if we're going to reduce the force, then I've got to be able to do it in a responsible way."

The third spending area he discussed involves military compensation and health care. The budget request includes some additional fees for retiree health care and limits active-duty pay raises after 2013. Panetta and Dempsey both emphasized that the department does not plan to cut pay, but that compensation cost growth must be controlled to meet budget constraints.

"If I suddenly wind up with no reductions in that area, I've got to reach someplace to find the money to maintain those programs — every low-priority program or overhead cost that is retained will have to be offset by cuts in higher-priority investments in order to comply with the Budget Control Act," he said.

Panetta noted that act, which mandated the defense spending cuts reflected in the fiscal year 2013 request, also holds a more dire threat to military spending: sequestration. That provision will trigger another \$500 billion across-the-board cut in defense spending over the next decade if Congress doesn't identify an equivalent level of spending cuts by January.

"Obviously, this is a great concern," he said, calling sequestration a "meat-ax approach."

"It would guarantee that we hollow out our force and inflict severe damage on our national defense," the secretary asserted.

Dempsey also spoke about the damage changes to defense spending plans could cause.

The strategy-based budget request, the chairman said, "ensures we retain our conventional overmatch while divesting capabilities not required in the active force — or at all."

The spending plan reflects choices that maintain a needed balance among force structure, modernization, readiness, pay and benefits, he added.

"Different choices will produce a different balance," the chairman cautioned. "So before giving us weapons we don't need or giving up on reforms that we do need, I'd only ask you to make sure it's the right choice, not for our armed forces but for our nation."

"Sequestration is absolutely certain to upend this balance," he continued. "It would lead to further end-strength reductions, the potential cancellation of major weapons systems and the disruption of global operations."

Dempsey said slashing another half-trillion dollars from defense funding over the next 10 years under sequestration would transform U.S. forces "from being unquestionably powerful everywhere to being less visible globally and presenting less of an overmatch to our adversaries. That transformation would, in turn, change the nation's deterrent stance and potentially increase the likelihood of conflict, the chairman said.

The general noted that because the law allows defense leaders to cut spending in only certain areas, only three broad areas would be available to service chiefs faced with sequestration: training, maintenance and modernization.

"That's it. There's no magic in the budget at that point," Dempsey said. "And those three accounts will be subjected to all of the cuts mandated by sequestration."

Panetta appealed to the senators to take action to avert a "potential disaster" by preserving the strategy-based defense spending plan submitted in February.

"I know the members of this committee are committed to working together to stop sequester, and I want you to know that we are prepared to work with you to try to do what is necessary to avoid that crisis," he said.



PHOTO BY GLENN FAWCETT

Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testifies before the Senate Appropriations Committee's defense subcommittee on the fiscal year 2013 budget in Washington, D.C., June 13.

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Army birthday ball — a celebration of Soldiers, history

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The immense ballroom at the Washington Hilton here had a kind of moody haze hanging in it Saturday evening. Beams of light cut through the air and crisscrossed the room, lighting up tables and Soldiers dressed in their military finest.

All the tables were decked out with formal place settings, stemware, neatly folded linen napkins, and a military coin in a folded card that commemorated the Army’s 237th birthday and 2012 Army Birthday Ball here that would cap off a week of celebration across the force.

It could have been a scene from an old movie: the bride of at least one Soldier wore a formal ball gown that was easily four-feet across at the bottom. Most Soldiers were in mess dress or service dress, with mini-medals hanging from the breast — some had the full-sized medals hanging around their necks. Some were in wheelchairs, or walked with canes — these were the Soldiers who had been injured in combat or during training.

On a platform in the reception area, a Soldier sat above the crowd and played piano. Junior Soldiers, with their spouses at their sides, shared stories with each other, and even with the senior-most officers and enlisted in attendance.

Spectacular evening

This was the start of a spectacular evening in the nation’s capital, the 2012 Army Birthday Ball, the likes of which come only once a year. It’s an event where the Army celebrates both the Army and the Soldiers who are its most important assets.

“When they do stuff like this, they tend to do it big,” said Sgt. Patrick M. Wise, a National Guard Soldier who attended the ball with his wife, Kristinn.

Wise works as a human resources specialist at Fort Belvoir, Va. He said it’s the first time he’s attended the Army Ball, and he has always wanted to experience it at least once.

“We’ve never had the opportunity to go to a ball like this where I was stationed previously,” he said. “Also, to preserve tradition. We come together to honor the Army, to honor how long it’s been standing, and where we’ve come from.”

Wise said the number of Soldiers in attendance seemed surprising at first. But he also said there are so many veterans and Soldiers in the Washington area that it makes sense so many would be there.

Kristinn had a different take. With a new daughter in the Family, she said she was glad to get some time away, to be alone with her Soldier husband.

“I love him and I support him,” she said. “I’m excited because it gets us away from our 1-year-old.”

A toast

Most formal military events involve a series of toasts. This year, at the Army’s 237th Birthday Ball, the Army brought in several special guests to render the traditional military toasts.

Included among those were retired Col. Angelo Perri, Korean War and Vietnam War veteran, and recipient of two Combat Infantryman Badges. Perri toasted the nation.

Sgt. 1st Class Ronald E. Rosser, a retired Korean War veteran and a Medal of Honor recipient for conspicuous gallantry, toasted the commander-in-chief.

Master Sgt. Ed O’Neil, a wounded warrior and member of the World Class Athlete Program, rendered a toast to the Army.

The toast to Soldiers and their Families was rendered by Sgt. Justin Olsen, who has earned an Olympic gold medal for bobsledding, and is also a member of the Army’s WCAP.

Spc. Dennis Bowsher, also of the WCAP, will compete and represent the Army and the United States at the 2012 Olympic Games in London. He will compete in the modern pentathlon. Bowsher rendered a toast to guests of the ball.

Finally, with a toast to fallen comrades — a toast always rendered with water, to recognize the suffering of service members who have been held in captivity — was Col. Gregory D. Gadson. Gadson is director of the U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program, and has served in every major



PHOTO BY C. TODD LOPEZ

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Ray Odierno, Secretary of the Army John McHugh and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III cut the Army birthday cake at the 2012 Army Birthday Ball Saturday in Washington, D.C.

conflict of the last two decades. A wounded warrior himself, Gadson rendered the toast from his wheelchair.

10 active divisions, 237 years

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III greeted those at the ball and thanked them for their service.

“Thank you for being here tonight and thanks again for your service and sacrifice for the nation,” Chandler said. “Each of you is a vital part of our Army team, whether you are a Soldier, a Department of the Army civilian, or a Family member. You know what it means to be a Soldier in the U.S. Army.”

Chandler spoke for a few moments about the Army’s history, and presented a challenge to those in the audience. He said he’d worked into his speech the mottos or nicknames of the Army’s 10 active-duty divisions, and challenged Soldiers to cheer when they heard the motto or nickname of their own division.

“Two hundred-thirty seven years ago, our nation’s leaders established the Continental Army. Ever since that day, our Soldiers have been Second to None,” the sergeant major said, emphasizing the last three words — the motto of the 2nd Infantry Division. From one section of the crowd came hoots, cheers and the Army’s “Hooah!”

“All right, so far, so good,” the sergeant major said, confident the crowd was now paying attention.

Chandler managed to raise cheers from Soldiers, each time, and on cue, as he dropped the nicknames and mottos from each of the remaining divisions into his speech.

Those who couldn’t make the ball

There were a lot of Soldiers at the ball, a lot of food, a lot of drink and a lot of dancing. The jazz ensemble “Afro Blue,” from Howard University sang and the “World Class Rockers,” which includes former band members from Journey, Boston, Santana, Steppenwolf and Lynyrd Skynyrd, also performed songs like “Born to be Wild” and “Sweet Home Alabama.”

But the evening wasn’t just about the party. It was about the Army — including those not there.

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Ray Odierno took the podium at the front of the ballroom, and asked the crowd to go silent — forks and knives dropped, conversation quieted. During the previous week, the general said, he’s traveled throughout the United States.

“What I’ve learned of as I’ve traveled across the country is the deep respect that the men and women in this country have for the United States Army,” Odierno said. “That respect has been earned. As we stand here tonight and as

we celebrate this great birthday we have, it’s really about celebrating the millions of Soldiers, men and women, who have come before us. That’s what our Army is about. It’s about those who come before us, it’s about those who stand here today with us, and it’s about those who will come behind us in the future.”

Odierno told the audience that while they were eating dinner, and enjoying time with their Families and friends, 94,000 Soldiers are deployed around the world. Of those, about 68,000 are in Afghanistan, with thousands more deployed to Bosnia, Kosovo, the Sinai and other nations in the Middle East.

Additionally, Odierno said, there are 90,000 Soldiers forward stationed to 150 countries around the globe.

“They represent us,” Odierno said. “They represent our country — the moral and ethical values that they bring forward, they represent America, the greatest country in the world. That’s who we are and that’s what we do.”

The general also directed the attention of Soldiers to the far side of the ballroom, where Army Honor Guard Soldiers had earlier placed the American and Army flags. Adorning the Army colors are 183 campaign streamers.

“That’s 183 campaigns that this Army has sweated for, has sacrificed and bled for,” Odierno said. “That’s who you are. That’s who we are. And that’s who we will continue to be as we move forward.”


Another chapter in Army history


“All of you in this room tonight are part of yet another chapter of what is the most glorious book of history this world has ever seen,” said Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh. “Another chapter in the long proud history, the storied history of this great United States Army.”

The secretary told Soldiers that for 237 years, the Army has been called upon to do more than just protect America’s borders.

The history of the Army is “237 years of making a difference, 237 years of keeping not just America safe, but keeping this planet safe,” McHugh said. “We are so blessed to be a part of that history, that tradition. You epitomize not only our nation’s ideals, but also our military values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. And tonight, as always, it’s a pleasure to be — no, it’s an honor, to be with all of you here, so many members of that Army Family.”

McHugh, Odierno and Chandler together cut an Army birthday cake, brought into the ball by the Army’s honor guard. Soldiers at the ball spent the rest of the evening dining and dancing, and celebrating the 237 years of Army history that they have all contributed to.

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1-13th: New commander salutes Soldiers

Continued from Page A1

agencies to coordinate the 2011 Wounded Warrior Fall Hunt, which raised more than \$60,000 for Fort Rucker and Wiregrass wounded warriors, said Bennett.

“Darren Cox has served his battalion, our brigade and Fort Rucker admirably,” he said. “His leadership has fostered inspirational commanders and [Noncommis-

sioned officers] that I’ve had the privilege of being a part of.”

Cox said that serving as the commander of the 1st Bn., 13th Avn. Regt. was an honor and privilege, and thanked his leaders for their confidence in him and his Family for their support, adding that he could not have accomplished anything without his Family behind him.

He also expressed his confidence in

Pierce as the new battalion commander.

“I’m grateful that I can hand over the battalion to an officer who not only deserves to lead these great men and women, but who this battalion deserves to be led by,” said Cox. “Lieutenant Colonel Steve Pierce is the right officer for the job, and I know that he and Ingrid will take care of these Soldiers.”

As the ceremony came to a close, Pierce

addressed the Soldiers of the unit and the outgoing commander, and commended him for his leadership and commitment to the Soldiers of the 1-13th.

“I will strive to lead the battalion with distinction, just as you have over the last two years,” he said. “To the Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment, I salute you and I look forward to our time together.”

Army: Post celebrates birthday with 2 ceremonies

Continued from Page A1

of the Warrant Officer Career College. “Today we celebrate the continued honor, bravery and loyalty of our Soldiers in this noble calling. Our Army remains strong, and our Soldiers are strong with a deep commitment to our core values and beliefs.”

Billy Blackwell, mayor of Ozark, was in attendance to show his support and appreciation to Fort Rucker and the Soldiers.

“I want to say to you young

men and women here that [the surrounding communities] really appreciate your commitment to the nation,” he said. “We appreciate what you do ... and we are totally committed to the Soldiers and Families here at Fort Rucker.”

Tradition calls for the oldest Soldier of the U.S Army WOCC, Range, to cut the cake with the youngest Soldier of the WOCC, Staff Sgt. Sean Huling, 1st Warrant Officer Company.

“It’s like the passing of the torch from one to the other,” said

Range. “This is an honor that goes beyond anything that I’m wearing on this uniform right now — it means a lot. But more importantly, it’s a few minutes to put aside everything in our lives and remember ... the sacrifices a lot of Soldiers and Families have made over the years.”

The cake cutting ceremony also served as a learning experience for some Soldiers on the history of the Army and where the Army came from, said CW4 Eugene Murphy, HHC WOCC.

“I think [the ceremony] is

something that we all should experience and see,” he said. “I think the cake cutting ceremony enlightens a lot of these younger Soldiers and makes sure they know exactly what we stand for.”

“The Army’s birthday gives you a realistic view of where we come from, what we stand for and where we’re going,” Murphy continued. “We can’t go where we want to go until we know where we came from and we’re appreciative for the opportunity to be serving, so, I think it’s only right that we share

that with everybody.”

Fort Rucker will continue to share that heritage and celebrate the Army’s birthday during the Music Under the Alabama Stars concert at Howze Field Friday at 6:30 p.m. that includes a streamer ceremony, according to Muskopf.

“This is going to be a special [concert] to help us honor the Army birthday,” he said. “It will be a wonderful night for people to come out, bring the Family, the kids and the dog to come enjoy the ceremony.”

Effort: Redesign increases battlefield capabilities, saves lives

Continued from Page A1

teammate to the brigade, said CW3 Joshua Wanaka, 2-17th AH-64D Instructor Pilot.

“It’s like another air team going out. Scouts use the UAS as another scout. Instead of having to hope a UAV is going to be there, or try to research where they will be, I can call and ask them to come to my location and help me right then. Before, that was out of our reach,” Wanaka said.

Apache and Kiowa pilots have the ability to receive feed from the UAS, send their feed to a ground unit, to a wing man and to each other, so that the ground commander and

the pilots have a clearer picture of the battlefield.

“In the past, ground commanders had to put a lot of trust in what’s being said. It had to be a picture built with words, whereas now they can actually see what we’re telling them, as we’re telling them. They can know that we’re looking at the same thing they’re looking at. In the past you never would have had that ability,” Wanaka said.

“The ground commander can look at UAS feed or my own feed, and he can know. And I’m either wrong and he can correct me on the spot, or I’ve got what they’re looking for and there’s no questions about it,” Wanaka said.

The UAS help ground commanders and CAB com-

manders to make better decisions.

“We’re there for everyone else. It’s why we fly,” Lunday said.

At the end of the day, it’s about saving lives.

“It makes the hair on the back of your neck stand up when you’re talking to this guy and you can’t get there soon enough. Now we can look at their video, so it’s going to increase the speed in which we can do things, react on things, so hopefully when you get there you can at least stop it. You don’t want to not be able to help that guy. If I can keep the ground forces coming back to the FOBs every day, it’s a win,” Wanaka said.

Concert: Music Under the Alabama Stars aims for fun, stress relief

Continued from Page A1

Army Band, said that the Streamer Ceremony will be set to music and take people on a musical journey through the history of the Army from the Revolutionary War up to modern times to correspond to each streamer on the flag.

“We’ll be playing appropriate music for the era that is represented [by the streamer],” he said. “For

the Revolutionary War, we will play [a song] that would have been played during that time, like ‘Yankee Doodle.’”

Along with songs being played for the time of each streamer, an overview of the history of the time will also be presented.

“We have to remember what we’ve gone through to be where we’re at right now — we’ve got to remember the sacrifices that were made,” he said “The

Army birthday is tradition; it’s history and it’s why we are what we are.”

Unlike previous MUTAS performances, the Army birthday concert will feature different music performance teams from the ceremonial band to the rock band, Crossfire.

Crossfire will take the stage after the Streamer Ceremony to entertain the crowd with rock and roll music from different decades up to today’s hits,

said Kaufmann.

The 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band is made up of different music performance teams: MPT Bravo, which is the ceremonial group that plays graduations and ceremonies; MPT Charlie, better known as Crossfire, which plays rock music and is also broken down into the jazz combo; MPT Delta, which is the blackout brass band; and MPT Echo, which is the brass quintet.

There is a lot of integration between the MPTs, said Kaufmann, and some members play in more than one music performance team, not only out of necessity, but out of their shared love for music, he added.

“We love to play music and this is what we came in [the Army] for. There is no greater honor than to play for the troops. The Army band ... tells the Army story and gives everybody

a sense of patriotism,” said the first sergeant. “We want everybody to feel good and we want them to forget their troubles for a while ... just let everything go and enjoy themselves.”

For more information on MUTAS, visit the 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band Facebook page.

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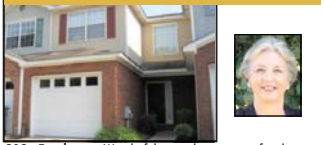
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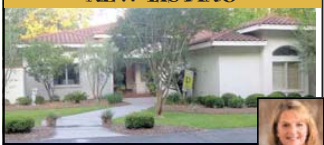
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7 DOWLING: Such a convenient location on this 3 BR/2 BA updated home. Roof, water heater, kitchen appliances, cabinets, wiring, plumbing, interior doors and tile floors all updated ten years ago.

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104 CAMBRIDGE: Great 3BR/2 BA in great location. So well maintained and so convenient to everything. You won't believe how inviting the screened porch is. It will draw you out to enjoy reading or summer evening cookouts. Kitchen updated three years ago. New a/c, new roof in 2009. This one is just neat and priced to sell.

Afghan soldiers become Pathfinders

By Sgt. Daniel Schroeder
25th CAB Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WOLVERINE, Afghanistan — Afghan soldiers from 4th Kandak, 2nd Brigade, 205th Corps graduated from the first Rado Barq Zadan “Lightning Strike” Pathfinder academy, taught by Pathfinders from F Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade at Forward Operating Base Wolverine, Afghanistan, June 14.

The eight hand-selected soldiers from 4th Kandak received their Pathfinder Lightning Strike Scrolls from Lt. Col. A.J. Hotek, 4th Kandak executive officer, and certificates of completion from Lt. Col. Kelly Hines, 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt. commander, during the graduation ceremony on FOB Wolverine.

During the training, soldiers from 4th/205th Corps were chosen to learn how to conduct Pathfinder, air assault and Lightning Strike operations with the goal of later training others throughout the Afghan National Army in Pathfinder operations.

By the end of the two-week course, the soldiers were able to plan and execute air assault operations, conduct tactical site exploitation, conduct partnered Lightning Strike operations, execute medevac operations, and rig, certify and execute sling load operations.

“These classes are designed to help the Afghan Army sustain outlying combat outposts and FOBs once coalition forces leave Afghanistan,” said Sgt. 1st Class John Jackson, the platoon sergeant for F Co., 2nd Bn., 25 Avn. Regt., 25th CAB, originally from Coolville, Ohio. “The lesson plan was very aggressive covering a broad spectrum of topics. They accomplished quite a bit with minimal assets and time for the first course.”

The combat care course of instruction illustrates the proper steps to administering life-saving care before a patient can be treated by medical personnel. The first item was the use of a tourniquet to stop bleeding on an extremity.

SEE SOLDIERS, PAGE B4



COURTESY PHOTO

Soldiers from 4th Kandak, 2nd Bde., 205th Corps, Afghan National Army, position themselves to hook up a cargo net sling load under a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter from 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB during the first Afghan Pathfinder Academy taught by Pathfinders from F Co., 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB on FOB Wolverine, Afghanistan, June 13.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

BLACK HAWK PICKUP

UH-60 Black Hawks land for the pickup of Soldiers assigned to A Battery, 2nd Bn., 377th Parachute Field, Artillery Regiment, TF 4-25, outside of Loy Murghoz, Khowst Province, Afghanistan, June 8. A Battery had been conducting a presence patrol to search for weapons and contraband.

25th CAB delivers CTF 77 to fight

By Capt. Richard Barker
25th CAB Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WOLVERINE, Afghanistan — Some missions in Afghanistan are so sensitive little can be said about them without providing unnecessary risk to those who perform the missions.

The 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, which provides air support across more than 25 forward operating bases throughout Regional Command South, supports several units from across the globe that perform some of these sensitive missions.

One such unit, known as Combined Task Force 77, is composed of highly trained Lithuanian and Latvian special operations forces. Lithuania and Latvia, two European countries each about the size of West Virginia who share the coast of the Baltic Sea, have teamed with the International Security Assistance Forces as members of NATO.

While specific missions and locations cannot be divulged, CTF 77 provides military assistance to Afghan special police forces, while also conducting direct action and special reconnaissance missions.

Within the 25th CAB, the 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment provides air support and



PHOTO BY CAPT. RICHARD BARKER

Lithuanian and Latvian soldiers with CTF77 and Afghan special police forces board a UH-60 Black Hawk with TF Diamond Head, 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB, after completing an operation recently.

air mobility to CTF 77 allowing them to react and move quickly across Zabul province.

“We work in close operation with 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt. on hasty and deliberate operations,” said deputy commander of CTF 77 Maj. T., who asked not to be further identified due to the sensitivity of his mission. “We understand and know each other which make operations

smooth.”

Much like Afghanistan, Lithuania and Latvia have a history of Soviet occupation. This is a history that Lithuanians maintain pride in due to its resistance to Soviet control and its triumph in being the first Soviet Republic to successfully declare independence. Latvia declared its independence shortly after Lithuania in 1991,

the same year.

“We have a very professional relationship,” said Chief Warrant Officer Benjamin Ingraham, deliberate operations planner, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB, a native of Manitou Springs, Colo. “They understand our capabilities and

SEE FIGHT, PAGE B4

Armament Dawgs: An inside look

By Sgt. Daniel Schroeder
25th CAB Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — There are hundreds of missions in the Army that require the support of aircraft. In order for those aircraft to provide that support, electrical, avionics, engine and weapon systems must be in proper working order.

For the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter, mechanics with the military occupational specialty of 15J, also known as “Armament Dawgs,” maintain the avionics, electrical and weapon systems of the aircraft.

When the nickname “Armament Dawgs” was given to the 15Js, they were working on the weapons of the AH-1 Cobra with the MOS 68J. With the change from 68 to 15 series, soldiers are trained in more areas than just aircraft armament and missile systems.

“Daily tasks of a J include gun services, filling radios, cleaning rocket pods, checking the coolant level on the mast turret assembly, and performing Aviation intermediate maintenance and Aviation unit maintenance tasks,” said Sgt. Cam Richardson, an OH-58D systems repairer with Troop D, 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, and a native of Kaimuki, Hawaii. “AVUM tasks are maintenance procedures we can complete at the lowest level, ours. We can perform certain AVIM tasks, maintenance procedures at the level above us, which arise. Examples of those are troubleshooting more complex issues in the avionics, electrical and mission systems that keep the aircraft flying.”

During the troubleshooting phase, the 15Js must be able to understand the system as a whole to locate the source of the fault. Technical manuals are present during the troubleshooting, removal, and installation of any part in the aircraft. Along with the manuals, wiring diagrams are referenced to help track down faults ranging from a faulty part to a frayed wire. Upon completion of each possible solution, a maintenance operational check is performed.

Another aspect of maintenance 15Js take part in is Periodic Phase Maintenance. PPMs are conducted at a set number of flight hours so as to

SEE INSIDE, PAGE B4

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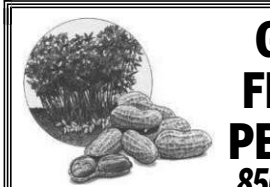
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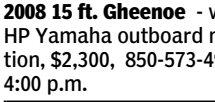
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Soldiers: Afghan Army welcomes Pathfinders

Continued from Page B1

“Our soldiers need to know these things so they can teach it to others,” said 1st Lt. Abdul Satar, Engineering Company commander, 4th Kandak, 2nd Bde., 205th Corps, Afghan National Army. “It was important for the soldiers to learn this. They did not know how to apply a tourniquet properly until this class. By the end of the medical portion of class, they were able to apply a tourniquet properly and administer the proper care to save their fellow soldier’s life.”

One of the other major aspects of Path-

finder operations is sling load operations. During the sling load operations block of instruction, the soldiers were taught how to load, rig the load for movement, certify the rigging, and properly signal the aircraft to hook up the load.

The Afghan soldiers rigged and certified a 20-foot container full of supplies that needed to be transported to another outpost. During the hook up portion of the sling load, they assisted the Pathfinders on top of the container while one soldier conducted the proper hand and arm signals to move the CH-47 Chinook helicopter into position.

“The Afghans were very professional during the whole training,” said Jackson. “I have worked with many other foreign armies; these soldiers are as capable as any other soldier. With this training, they can become self-sustaining in the movement of supplies and equipment by utilizing their assets.”

For the final field training exercise, the soldiers loaded up a cargo net with supplies, rigged it for proper sling load, certified it, and hooked it up to a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter. During this exercise, the Pathfinders observed to ensure the safety of personnel involved while the Afghan soldiers

completed the task independently.

“All the personnel in the 4th Kandak need this type of training since we are the support battalion for the other Kandak units,” said Satar. “We had a good counterpart to work with. I like working with the pathfinders and sharing our experiences together. There is an old military proverb, Getting sweaty during training will save your life during combat.”

Upon the completion of this academy, the Afghan National Army welcomes its first Pathfinders to their ranks who will conduct Pathfinder operations and teach other soldiers to do the same.

Inside: 15Js aid mission readiness, aircraft safety

Continued from Page B1

have minimal downtime for the aircraft. Instead of days or weeks, the Kiowas are down for just hours. 15Js perform tasks on only two of the 15 PPMs for the Kiowa. During these two maintenance sessions, the 15Js perform operational checks on chip detectors, weapon systems, circuit breakers, and remove, disassemble and reassemble the Alkan racks.

“I can’t get enough of my job,” said Pfc. Connor Morganstein, also an OH-58D systems repairer assigned to Troop D, 2nd Sqn. 6th Cav. Regt., 25th CAB, and a native of Seymour, Tenn. “I get the feeling of accomplishment from working on something, finding and fixing the fault and watching the aircraft fly away and return safely.”

Like working on the electrical and missions, troubleshooting the weapons systems incorporates the same principles; however, working on the M3P .50 caliber machine gun sometimes presents



PHOTO BY SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER

Sgt. Cam Richardson, an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter systems repairer with Troop D, 2nd Sqn., 6th Cav. Regt., 25th CAB, and a native of Kaimuki, Hawaii, cycles through the communication pages during an operational check for a radio issue on Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, June 1.

faults not on the aircraft. During these issues, the “Armament Dawg” takes over. Troubleshoot-

ing gun issues are not limited to when the aircraft shutdown. When these problems arise, the

aircraft lands at the forward arming and refueling point where the 15Js are waiting ready to fix it.

When a pilot returns from an engagement with a gun jam, the Js must think fast and make on-the-spot corrections to repair the gun.

“I enjoy working at the FARP loading weapons,” said Morganstein. “I know what we are loading is helping the guys on the ground, even though we don’t see it. Because of that, we do our best to fix any issue or load them as fast as we can to get them back in the air to provide that aerial support.”

Regular taskings on the FARP for 15Js are to make sure the aircraft is safe by grounding it and checking the weapon systems, receive pilot instruction on what they need, and relay those requests to the other personnel on the pad. After relaying the pilot’s requests, they begin loading up the aircraft with the desired ammunition load.

“I love being a J and working on helicopters,” Richardson said. “In my past deployments, I have seen them fly overhead and pull security for me. I feel like I am making a difference because I know their role is critical for ground forces.”

Fight: Both forces share the will to fight, drive for success

Continued from Page B1

know what assets to request from us.”

CTF 77 has been working with Aviation brigades in RC-South since 2010;

they have been working with 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt. since February.

In regard to working with U.S. forces, Maj. T. said, “We both want to have successes. This is the effect that we share

that brings us together.”

With emphasis he added, “We both have a will to fight.”

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JUNE 21, 2012

Precious GEMS

Program makes science 'fun'

By Angela Williams
 Army Flier Staff Writer

A group of children surrounded every table, each one leaning in to help their mentor connect wires, batteries and other electronics to transform a plastic cup into a stereo speaker.

"We've had tons of fun!" exclaimed one of the students, Alexander Harbaugh, as he briefly turned away from the group to demonstrate Monday morning's lessons on magnets and "water orbs."

"The water orbs grow in hot water," he explained. "And the magnets can work through a table."

The group of 25 children was participating in the Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science Program offered through Fort Rucker's U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory. The GEMS program, offered four times throughout the summer, aims to help children develop a stronger interest in math and science through hands-on activities and interaction, said Sarah Thiel, GEMS lead resource teacher.

"It's a great program for kids to further their science knowledge," she explained. "It's all done in a fun way. They don't have to sit in front of a textbook and listen to a lecture all day."

"I just love doing this," she added.

Students had to fill out an application and write an essay to be accepted into the program. June 18-22 and June 25-29, fifth- and sixth-grade participants will learn about the five senses. Then, July 9-13 and July 16-20, seventh- and eighth-grade students will focus on chemistry, biology and biochemistry experiments, accord-



PHOTOS BY ANGELA WILLIAMS

Students and mentors work together to make speakers out of plastic cups during the GEMS program Monday.

ing to Catherine Davis, USAARL GEMS public affairs specialist.

During the week of June 18-22, the students completed a taste test to identify different flavors and see how the senses of taste and smell are related. They dissected a cow eye and then made a model of a human eye with a fish bowl and flashlight. And they learned about touch by identifying various objects in a "mystery box" that prevented them from seeing what they were touching, Thiel said.

On Friday, the students will learn about the brain and how all the senses work together, she said. They will also tour USAARL to see how the experiments they did during the week apply to "science in the real world."

Thiel said she tries to manage the curriculum so the students learn, but they don't realize they are learning because they are having so much fun.

"Some of the students had an interest in math and science, so that's why they were interested in coming," she explained. "But others, basically, their parents made them come because they either aren't doing well in science or don't have an interest in it."

"This is to let them know that science is cool. It's not just for nerds," she said. "It's also about making friends and having fun for the week."

To learn more about the GEMS program, visit www.usaep.com/programs/gems/usaarl.htm.



David McKeon, right, a GEMS mentor, helps William Hall put the finishing touches on a plastic cup speaker.

Lyster offers new healthy cooking class

By Angela Williams
 Army Flier Staff Writer

Patients walking the halls of Lyster Army Health Clinic June 14 may have noticed something out of the ordinary — the smell of toasting pita bread and limeade chicken.

The fragrances were a product of the first healthy cooking class offered at LAHC by registered dietician Theresa Osteen and dietetic technician Hannah O'Steen. The small group of people who attended the class walked away with four recipes and numerous tips on preparing healthier food with what products available at the commissary and other local grocery stores.

"Food is part of our culture. It's part of our society. It's part of doing things together," Osteen said. "When people develop diseases and learn they have to make changes to their food, they tend to think that it's going to be horrible."

But during the class, she tried to show people that healthy food can still taste good and be easy to prepare, she said. "It doesn't have to be boring either."

In the hour-long class, held in the new LAHC kitchen, Osteen demonstrated preparing hummus with warm pita bread, limeade



PHOTO BY ANGELA WILLIAMS

Theresa Osteen prepares samples of a summer salad to serve class participants.

chicken, a sweet summer salad and a berry-banana split. She offered possible variations on many of the recipes and explained ways to prepare some items in advance.

The participants tasted each

dish, asked questions and offered suggestions to one another as the samples were passed around.

Nosha Pittmon, an Army spouse, said she probably would not have tried to make the summer salad at

home because it included cabbage, but she tried it and enjoyed it.

"It was different, but it was good," she said, adding that she came to the class hoping it would help her meet weight and health goals.

Others, such as Terri Joyner, spouse of a retired Sailor, attended the class for the recipes.

"I always love new recipes," she said. "Anything that's quick and simple and still has flavor, I'm all about it."

Joyner said the little things in the class, like learning why some kinds of oil are considered healthier than other kinds, were interesting.

Osteen said she was familiar with the goals of all the people in the class so she tried to address some individual concerns such as heart disease, high blood pressure, weight loss and diabetes. As she prepared each recipe, she explained how to reduce salt, fat and sugar levels.

"What are we modifying?" she asked. "What can we cut back on and still have flavor?"

During the class Osteen emphasized the recipes she used were healthier than some alternatives, but were still dishes an entire family could eat.

"You don't have to make special

foods just because of one situation," she said.

She also reminded the class that all foods could fit into a person's diet if eaten in moderation. She encouraged people to make little changes and take healthier eating one step at a time.

"For a long time in our profession, it was don't do this and don't do that," she said. "But what can they do? Show people what they can do and they are more likely to stick with it."

The class, in many ways, was a practice run for when regular sessions start up later this year, but Osteen said everything went well — even with a number of last-minute substitutions because equipment had not arrived.

"We've been working on this for a long time now. We had a lot of challenges that we were able to overcome," she said. "Army-wide there are a lot of [kitchens] going into facilities like this, but we are the first ones who have broken through."

"Everybody is paying attention to us and what's happening here," she said.

Osteen said she hopes regular weekly class will begin in September, but more information will be posted on the clinic website when the class schedule is finalized.

ON POST

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

Missoula Children's Theater

Child, youth and school services and the Missoula Children's Theater offer Fort Rucker youth the chance to act on the big stage with auditions for the production of "Jack and the Beanstalk" Monday from 9-11 a.m. at the Spiritual Life Center. The theater's visit also includes workshops Tuesday from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Spiritual Life Center for third-fifth graders, Wednesday from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the center for sixth-eighth graders and June 28 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the post theater for ninth-12th graders.

The auditions and workshops are available for children of military contractors and government employees in first-12th grades. All youth must be registered with CYSS.

Performances of the play starring Fort Rucker youth will be June 29 from 4-5:30 p.m. and June 30 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. in the post theater. Admission is free and open to the public.

For more, call 255-0666.

Craft making

The Center Library hosts a Summer Reading Program craft making activity Tuesday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Space is limited to the first 65 children present. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information or to register, stop by or call the library at 255-3885.

AFTB Level II

Army Community Service hosts its Army Family Team Building Level II training Monday-Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, in Rm. 371F. Topics include communication, stress management, time management, acknowledging change and more. Advance registration is required.

For registration and childcare information, call 255-2382.

Friday Steak and Lobster

Every Friday in June The Landing Zone offers its Steak & Lobster Special to the first 100 customers who visit 5-9 p.m. Patrons can enjoy an eight-ounce flat iron steak and lobster tail with fries for \$12 with the purchase of a beverage. Other side items are available, including a side salad for \$1. The offer is for dine-in customers only and cannot be combined with other offers or discounts.

For more, call 598-8025.

Story Time

The Center Library holds Story Time Fridays from 10:15-11 a.m., except for holidays and days of no scheduled activity. The free program introduces "the joy of reading" to children ages 2-5 years old and enhances parent-child interaction, according to library officials. A typical event includes a story, music, and coloring or craft time.

For more, call 255-0891.

Youth Skate Night

The youth center hosts



FILE PHOTO

Freedom Fest

Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band return to Fort Rucker for Freedom Fest July 3 from 3:30-10 p.m. at Fort Rucker's Festival Fields. The event features music, food, activities, exhibits and fireworks. The 98th Army "Silver Wings" Band will kick off the evening's musical festivities followed by country music star Natalie Stovall and then the Lt. Dan Band. Admission is free and the event is open to the public. No glass, coolers, backpacks or pets are allowed at the event. For more, call 255-1749 or visit www.ftruckerarmy.com.

two sessions of Skate Night every first and third Friday of the month. The first session, from 6:15-7:15 p.m., is for skaters 12 years and younger, and the second session, from 7:30-10:15 p.m., is for all ages. Participants must be child, youth and school service members. Cost is \$2 for the first session and \$5 for the second session.

For more, call 255-9108.

June EDGE! Programs

People can sign up their children now for June EDGE! Programs. EDGE! is open to youth ages 6-18 from 2-4 p.m. during the week. Activities include tubing, bowling, a book club, water basketball, and framing. Cost for ages 6-10 is \$5 per hour and the programs are free for ages 11-18. A valid child, youth and school services registration is required to participate. Enrollment for all EDGE! activities is at parent central services in Bldg. 5700, the Soldier Service Center, Rm. 193 or online at webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/ruckercyms.html.

For more, call 255-0666 or 379-1363.

2012 Army Arts and Crafts Contest

The 2012 Army Arts and Crafts Contest runs now through June 30. The annual, juried competition for Soldiers, Family members and Army civilians features categories like: ceramics, digital art, drawing, fibers and textiles, glass, metals and jewelry, mixed media, paintings and wood.

For complete contest rules, visit www.armymwr.com. People can complete entry forms and submit digital images of work online at <https://apps.imcom.army.mil/APPTRAC>. For more, call 255-9020.

Financial Readiness Training

Army Community Service offers Financial Read-

iness Training July 13 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Soldier Service Center in Rm. 284. The free training session 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). Spouses are also encouraged to attend.

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

Credit Repair Workshop

Army Community Service offers a Credit Repair Workshop July 16 at 4 p.m. at the Soldier Service Center in Rm. 371A. The free workshop teaches people ways to improve their credit scores and negotiate successfully with creditors. Discussions will include credit reports and scores, what information is used to determine credit scores, how to contact and negotiate with creditors, and other credit- and debt-related information.

For more, call 255-9631.

Divorce/Separation Co-Parenting Workshop

Army Community Service hosts a Divorce/Separation Co-Parenting Workshop July 18 from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Early Childhood Activity Center in Bldg. 3705 on Dean Street. The workshop focuses on the commitment of parents to stay focused on their children, and effective communication and negotiation skills. The workshop helps people reduce parental conflict, and to understand children's needs during and following a divorce. It is free and open to active duty military, retirees, Department of Defense civilians and Family members. People need to register by July 13.

For more, call 255-9641.

DFMWR Spotlight



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For details call 598-8025.
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The Landing Zone

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Lyster’s Behavioral Health offers progressive treatments

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Behavioral issues affect not only Soldiers returning from combat, but also the Families of those that have served overseas.

That’s why Behavioral Health at Lyster Army Health Clinic is there to provide treatment and care to Soldiers and Families that may suffer from such issues, according to Barry Funkhouser, chief of Behavioral Health and clinical psychologist for Lyster.

“We provide evaluation and treatment services for Soldiers and their beneficiaries that may have psychological or behavioral adjustment difficulties or needs,” he said. “We see mostly Soldiers, but we try to support the spouses and Family members of those that are deployed as well.”

Behavioral Health offers progressive treatments, such as yoga or biofeedback, to help combat the effects of post-traumatic stress and other behavioral issues, according to Funkhouser.

The organization also uses prolonged exposure treatment, which is used to get the Soldier to a point where he or she can talk about some of the difficult experiences that might have resulted in behavioral issues.

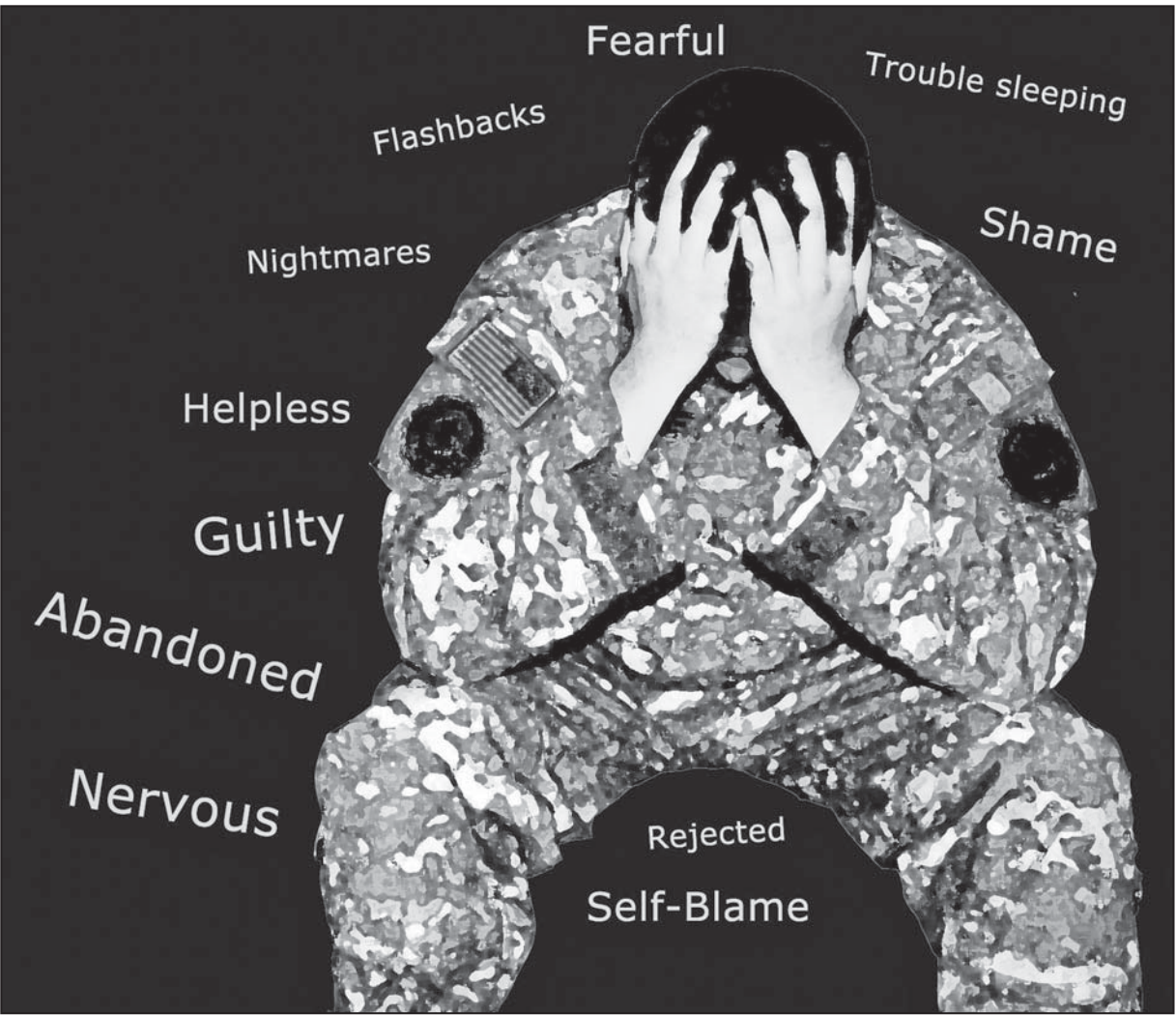
“We get them to try and talk about their experiences over and over until it doesn’t cause them to have the same reaction that might have caused problems,” he said. “We also do quite a bit of Family work ... and we try to get them on the same page.”

He said the majority of problems arise from post-deployment difficulties, like PTS, that Soldiers can develop from combat and the difference in mindset that they experience in their daily lives when returning home.

“Soldiers come back and they are still in the combat frame of mind that they had during deployment,” he said. “They come [back home] and they may have different interpretations of an event [the occurred] that can create some tension in their lives.”

Lt. Col. Sean Hollonbeck, deputy commander for clinical services at Lyster, described the frame of mind that Soldiers have as “battle minded.”

“If you’re in the military, you should have the battle mind that you’re a warrior and you should have a warrior ethos regardless of your job,” he said, adding that the issues come up when Soldiers that return home are unable to turn off



GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION BY MINDY CAMPBELL AND DOUGLAS DEMAIO

For more information about PTSD, log onto www.ptsd.va.gov.

that battle-minded frame of mind.

“When [a Soldier] returns from war, it’s hard to turn that off,” said Hollonbeck. “Spouses don’t always [understand] it.”

When a spouse doesn’t understand why the Soldier is acting differently or isn’t acting as social, Funkhouser said they might take it personally, which can create problems.

“[The returning Soldier] can be very withdrawn or they could be hesitant to go out into social situations because they feel uncomfortable or threatened,” he said. “There can be a miscommunication or misinterpretation by spouses or

Family members, and they might take it personally thinking that the Soldier doesn’t want to spend time with them.

“Simply pointing out the fact that it’s not personal can be helpful so that [the spouses or Family members] don’t personalize that behavior,” said the clinical psychologist. “One of the first things we do with Soldiers is to try to help them understand the difficulties they are having.”

Educating Soldiers and Family members to help them understand the issues that they are having and where they stem from is important to the treatment process, he said, adding that


letting Soldiers know that they are not alone and that PTS is a real issue is also important.

“We need young Soldiers to know that PTS is real,” said Hollonbeck. “Senior leaders have it and I’ll argue that most people that have deployed and seen combat, whether they know it or not, have PTS.”

Hollonbeck admitted that he also suffers from PTS having experienced losses in combat, and said that the treatment he receives is on a personal level, which is the type of treatment that behavioral health can provide to others that suffer from behavioral issues.

“My therapist knows me well enough and one of

the things recommended for me, on top of what I already do, is reading,” he said. “We want to empower our service members and have them understand that it’s normal. I think the way we do that is by getting a lot of the senior leaders on this post to step forward, so, I put that challenge out there.”



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For more information about animal adoptions, call the Veterinary Clinic at 255-9061. The Stray Facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels.

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Church Directory

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



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Pastor: Ed Corley
3351 Lynn Road – Enterprise
(right off Rucker Blvd)
Service times
Sunday Worship – 10 AM
Sunday Evenings – 5 PM
Wednesday Evenings – 7 PM
Nursery – Children – Youth
Office: 334 347 5044
www.centerpointag.org
centerpoint3351@yahoo.com



First United Methodist Church

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

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334-774-2311
www.GraceBaptistChurch-ozark.com

Call 347-9533 to advertise your church on this page.



PHOTO BY ANGELA WILLIAMS

Soldiers register for door prizes June 14 as they arrive at the Men's Health Fair and Fitness Expo.

Expo showcases local fitness, health offerings

By Angela Williams
Army Flier Staff Writer

Recent visitors to the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility may have noticed several new automobiles outside, along with a number of display tables and a martial arts demonstration inside. The three additions to the facility's usual offerings were a part of the second annual Men's Health and Fitness Expo held June 14.

The expo included a Ride and Drive event that allowed visitors to test drive vehicles from local Mercedes-Benz, Hyundai and Honda dealerships, men's health information from providers across the Wiregrass and a mixed-martial arts demonstration featuring Dothan's Wolfpack MMA.

"Our goal at the [Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation,] is to bring fun, creative and worthwhile programs to our Soldiers and Families," said Brian Jackson, MWR program manager. "This event showed the importance of one's health and numerous resolutions to live a healthier lifestyle."

"We feel great about having this program improve our Fort Rucker community," he added.

Jackson said the PFF was a great venue for the event because it helped to make patrons more aware of some of the ser-

vices offered at the facility and provided an atmosphere that encouraged exercise.

"We're just excited to be able to help anyone that attended the event," he said.

At the expo, David Ethridge, Mercedes-Benz of Dothan certified sales consultant, stood out in the sun to answer questions about the cars on display and help Soldiers test drive the available vehicles.

"It's been educational for the military Family here, but it has also been educational for us to be able to interact with the people whose very lives allow us the freedom to come and do this," he said.

Back inside, Kim Atwell and Mark Stewart were two of several people staffing five different tables for Southeast Alabama Medical Center.

The displays offered information on the hospital itself, the Enterprise Cancer Center, the heart and vascular center, the Enterprise Sleep Clinic and the neurospine center, said Atwell, SAMC marketing specialist.

"Fort Rucker is so important to this area and we are proud to be associated with it and provide services," said Stewart, SAMC director of community relations.

Many Soldiers walked through the expo in small groups, often stopping to watch the jiu-jitsu demonstration in the center of the table displays.

"You can never go wrong having too

much information about your health," said Sgt. 1st Class Victor Pedraza, Senior Leader Course, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, as he waited to get information about Wolfpack MMA's martial arts classes. "It's a concern and it becomes a greater concern as I get up in age."

"It's also great to support community organizations, too," added Staff Sgt. Eric Hauser, SLC NCO Academy.

Across the room, Staff Sgt. Ronney Copes, SLC NCO Academy, picked up brochures about area healthcare facilities.

"I decided to come out to see what kind of information I could get on men's health," he said. "I can walk around and see what's new and what's changing."

"All of it is beneficial," he said. "It's a great event."

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SPACE IS LIMITED

Origin of word ‘chaplain’ helps define mission

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Milton Johnson
Garrison Chaplain's Office

Years ago I thought I wanted to be an electrician, but I decided to follow a different path after spending about 12 months trying to figure out if I would study electronics or ministry.

Now that I am a chaplain, life couldn't be better or more fulfilling.

At first I couldn't put the pieces together, but in time the picture got clearer and I knew without a doubt that ministry would be my calling, and preaching and counseling would be the love of my life. Today, I am thankful to be a chaplain and I am happy that God led me in a different direction than I initially took.

It is really my mother who gets credit for helping me make the final decision to pursue ministry because she said that she felt strongly God called me to be a pastor and that she prayed I would accept it.

There is no doubt in my mind that being an electrician would be a great profession, but the more I thought about the future in

those days – the more I saw myself helping people in a different way and serving humanity in the helping profession.

Now that I am a minister/chaplain it is more exciting than it looks – chaplains get to be a minister and a Soldier at the same time. As such, there is never a dull moment during the day and hardly a week that goes by without helping someone with a significant issue in their life or planning a major religious or spiritual project for Soldiers and their Family members.

Chaplains have served with armies for a very long time. The American Army has had chaplains since 1775. They are the clergy – pastors, rabbis, priests, ministers, etc., who wear the uniform so they can serve God's people within the military community. But do you know the origin of the word, chaplain?

Chaplain is derived from the Latin word capella, which means cape or cloak.

There is also a beautiful story of a young Martin of Tours in France that points to the heart of what chaplains do. He was a Christian saint from the 4th century who

became Bishop of Tours in France.

The story goes that as a young Christian, Martin was traveling by horse one winter day when he came upon a sparsely clad, impoverished soldier and gave him his cloak. Sometime later, Martin had a vision. He saw the Lord wearing the cloak. This was a sign to him that bore witness to the Gospel truth that caring for those in need is blessed by God.

Much later, Martin's cloak, so the story goes, came into the possession of the kings of France. They put the relic in a small church, which in time was called a chapelle, or chapel, after the capella, or cloak, of St. Martin's. The clergy assigned to the chapel were chaplains, again because of the capella they guarded. The relic was carried with the army during

campaigns, watched over by the chaplains, who also ministered to the soldiers.

So you might say that a chaplain is one who lends a coat to a soldier in need. As Martin was a capella lender, so military chaplains lend, give, whatever they have, which is usually not coats, but more likely personal time, advice, assistance and prayers. The meaning of the word chaplain is clear: chaplains are those clergy in uniform who care for Soldiers and their Families because they know God cares for Soldiers, too.

And the tradition lives on in the person of chaplains assigned to units of battalion size and larger. If you don't already know your local chaplains, I hope you will get to know them soon. Their doors are always open.

Religious Services

WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday.

HEADQUARTERS CHAPEL, BUILDING 109

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

MAIN POST CHAPEL, BUILDING 8940

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

WINGS CHAPEL, BUILDING 6036

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

SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER, BUILDING 8939

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

BIBLE STUDIES

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

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)

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

Protestant Women of the Chapel

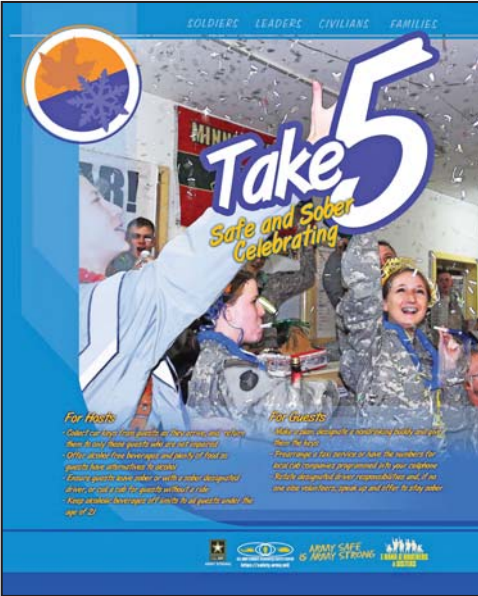
PWOC meets every Tuesday
at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. at Wings
Chapel, Bldg 6036. Childcare
provided. For more information,
call 255-9894.

Military Council of Catholic Women

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

Catholic Adult Fellowship

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



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PHOTO BY ANGELA WILLIAMS

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Meet Ariel, a 7-week-old female mix. She is sweet and friendly. Ariel is \$81 to adopt, which includes spaying, a microchip and heartworm testing. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels. Donations can be dropped off at the veterinary clinic or the commissary. Visit the Fort Rucker stray facility's **Facebook** page at [http:// www.facebook.com/fortruckerstrayfacility/](http://www.facebook.com/fortruckerstrayfacility/) for constant updates on the newest animals available for adoption.

Vote for the Most Patriotic Business in Enterprise and Win!

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Show you Enter-Pride for Enterprise, and watch for the
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2012 “Show Your Spirit” Official Newspaper Entry Form

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Way to Contact You If Selected a Winner:

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One entry per person, no age limit. Winner of a dinner for two will be selected at
random from eligible entries. An eligible entry consists of name, way to reach you
(phone, email, or address), and vote for Most Patriotic Enterprise Business. Odds
based upon number of entries received. Entries must be postmarked or received
by July 5th, 2012 at 9:00 AM CST. Electronic votes may be cast at
www.visitenterprise.com, email info@enterprisealabama.com or on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/EnterPrideForEnterprise

Alabama Road Trip: Huntsville — to the moon, back by dinner

By Alabama Department of Travel
Press Release

The U.S. Space & Rocket Center (One Tranquility Base, (800) 63-SPACE) in Huntsville is the largest and most comprehensive space flight museum in the world.

Located just off I-565, the center is easy to spot from miles away by the 38-story replica of the Saturn V rocket standing in front of it. The space center’s side parking lot is located alongside the futuristic dormitories used for Space Camp and an 89-ton mock-up of the Pathfinder space shuttle.

Walking up the sidewalk to the center, you will see the grave of Miss Baker, a spider monkey launched into space and successfully recovered, and an SR-71 Blackbird spy plane on display. The SR-71 Blackbird planes were used by the U.S. Air Force from 1964 to 1998 as a strategic reconnaissance aircraft. They cruised at Mach 3 (three times the speed of sound) and set a jet speed record by traveling from New York to London in one hour and 54 minutes.

Once inside the space center, you can purchase a ticket and visit a gift shop full of NASA and science souvenirs, including flights suits, space craft models, and Apollo and shuttle program collectibles. There is also a six-story Spacedome IMAX Theater featuring a large domed screen for full-length movies and space-related IMAX presentations. Tickets for movies are additional or may be purchased as part of a combination admission ticket.

Explore exhibits, collections

The U.S. Space & Rocket Center, created by the state of Alabama in 1970, has an extensive collection of original space exploration hardware, including Mercury and Gemini capsule trainers, the Apollo 16 capsule and one of the few V-2 rockets in the nation. You can also see the actual desk where Dr. Wernher von Braun worked as director of the Marshall Space Flight Center and his 1969 calendar where written by his hand in pencil on July 20 are the words: “lunar surface achieved.”

In addition to simulators and other attractions, the center offers hands-on exhibits: Discovery Theater Shows are offered three times daily and allow visitors to see how sci-



COURTESY PHOTO

The U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville.

ence has continually propelled NASA’s space exploration. The shows include audience interaction and live demonstrations.

Kids Cosmos Energy Depletion Zone offers children under the age of 8 (accompanied by an adult) the opportunity to enjoy interactive fun in the Space Station.

Rocket Park, located behind the rocket center, is home to an amazing collection of U.S. Army missiles and NASA rockets, plus the accurately depicted re-creation of Tranquility Base, where Apollo 11 landed on the moon.

Discover wonders of the Davidson Center

A short walk through Rocket Park will lead you to the Davidson Center for Space Exploration, which was specially designed to house the original engineering model, the first Saturn V rocket. It was never launched into space. The rocket is suspended 10 feet above the floor, allowing visitors to walk underneath it. The Saturn V is a National Register of Historic Landmark and was named one of the Seven Wonders of America by “Good Morning America.”

Once in the main area of the Davidson Center, you will be overwhelmed by the awesome size of the Saturn V rocket as you walk directly underneath this engineering marvel. The Saturn V on display is one of only three remaining in the world. The rest of the 68,000 square-foot Davidson Center is filled with artifacts from the Apollo

era, including an actual moon rock from the Apollo 12 mission, a lunar excursion module, lunar rover vehicle, a mobile quarantine facility, the Apollo 16 capsule and actual spacesuits worn by the astronauts. You can walk across the same metal access arm walkway that the astronauts used to enter their space capsules.

Other space fun in Huntsville

Kids will love Sci-Quest (102-D Wynn Dr., Huntsville, (256) 837-0606) located across I-565 from the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Sci-Quest is a hands-on science center with more than 100 permanent, interactive exhibits in seven different subject areas.

Unlike a typical museum, Sci-Quest’s exhibits are designed to engage, educate and entertain in a fascinating way. For example, the PlayMotion exhibit, lets people interact with projectors to play games meant to stimulate the imagination.

From catching falling planets to building trees and playing beach volleyball, the possibilities are seemingly endless and all educational. There’s even a section dedicated to younger children learning about science through age-appropriate activities such as a giant keyboard pad that introduces them to musical tones. Other exhibit areas include Grossology (elements of the human body), Earth sciences and electricity.

Drive to the top of Huntsville’s Monte Sano to see the Von Braun Astronomical Society’s Planetarium and Observatory (5105 Nolen Ave., (256) 539-0316) located inside Monte Sano State Park, just past the park office. Dr. Wernher von Braun and his colleagues used the observatory’s telescope to search for possible landing sites for the Apollo program. The planetarium offers programs to the public every Saturday night starting at 7:30.

Where to stay

Whether you’re looking for a hotel, an RV camping spot or a cozy and quiet bed and breakfast, Huntsville offers nearly 6,200 rooms to choose from. You can share a view of the Saturn V rocket or be close to the hottest shopping and dining spots. For a list of lodging and dining options in the area, visit www.huntsville.org.

WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ANDALUSIA

ONGOING — Andalusia Public Library offers free practice tests.

Patrons can choose from more than 300 online tests based on official exams such as the ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, firefighter, police officer, paramedic, U.S. citizenship and many more. Patrons may select to take a test and receive immediate scoring. Call 222-6612 for more information.

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.andalusialegiopost80.org.

DALEVILLE

ONGOING — Daleville Chamber of Commerce meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce office in the Daleville Cultural and Convention Center.

For more information, call 598-6331.

DOTHAN

ONGOING — The Wiregrass Museum of Art hosts First Saturday Family Day the first Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m. Children and parents will learn about color, shape, texture and different types of art such as painting, drawing and collage. The event is recommended for elementary aged children. For more information, visit wiregrassmuseum.com or call 794-3871.

ENTERPRISE

JUNE 28 — Disabled American Veterans Chapter 99 will conduct an Installation of New Officers luncheon at Po Folks Res-

taurant at 6 p.m. During this luncheon, Po Folks will offer Chapter 99 a special meal at a special price. Members and guests will dine Dutch treat. People should RSVP no later than June 25 by calling 718-5707.

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

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

GENEVA

ONGOING — The Geneva County Relay for Life meets the last Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Citizens Bank.

For more information, call 248-4495.

MIDLAND CITY

ONGOING — Residents are invited to Town Hall meetings the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall, 1385 Hinton Waters Ave.

For more information, call 983-3511.

NEW BROCKTON

ONGOING — Every Tuesday and Wednesday, Disabled American Veterans Chapter No. 99 maintains a service office in the New Brockton police station. The officers can help veterans and their spouses with disability compensation claims, VA pension, death benefits, VA medical care, Social

Security disability benefits, veterans’ job programs and other veteran services. All veteran services provided are free of charge. For more information, please call Chuck Lobdell at 718-5707.

OZARK

MONDAY — Mark your calendar for Ozark’s Business Expo from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For those few hours, the Ozark Civic Center will transform into a veritable buffet of city retailers and services. So come discover what Ozark has to offer. It’s free, open to the public and you might even win a prize. For more information, call the Ozark Chamber at 774-0321.

NOW THROUGH AUG. 4 — The Ann Rudd Art Center/Dowling Museum is sponsoring an exhibit of nature-related art, the 2012 Nature Show. Artists 18 years or older are eligible to enter up to three pieces, in any combination of painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking and photography with a theme that relates to nature. Works must be original (not from a kit) and all works must remain in the gallery for the duration of the show. Previous contest-winning pieces may not be entered. Entry fee is \$35 for non-members and \$30 for members of DCCAH for the first entry and \$5 for each additional entry, up to three total entries. Entry fees are not refundable. The “Nature Show” will open on June 30 and will close Aug. 4. An opening reception will be held June 30, from 6-8 pm. For more information, call 774-7145 or visit www.ruddartcenter.org.

AUG. 18 THROUGH SEPT. 28 — The Dale County Council of Arts and Humanities is pleased to announce the 12th annual Regional Juried Art Exhibition that will be held at the Ann Rudd Art Center/Dowling Museum. Entry fee for non-members is \$35 and \$30 for DCCAH members for the first

entry. One or two additional entries are \$5 each (three is the maximum that can be entered). Offered awards will be \$250 for first place, \$150 second place, \$100 third place, and four \$50 merit awards. Due date of entry fees and art work is Aug. 4, 1-4 p.m. Opening reception and award presentation is Aug. 18, 7-9 p.m. For more information, visit www.ruddartcenter.org.

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 Tuesdays 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.

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

NOW THROUGH JULY 27 — The Wiregrass Tennis Association will be offering eight weeks of free tennis lessons in Enterprise, Eufaula, Ozark and Troy on different days throughout the week. For more information or to register for the free lessons, call 439-1128 or visit www.wiregrasstennisassociation.com/CommunityRelations.html.

Beyond Briefs

ArchiTreats Lecture

The Alabama Department of Archives and History in Montgomery hosts ArchiTreats lectures on the third Thursday each month. The next lecture is today from noon-1 p.m. and is entitled “History of Automobile License Plates in Alabama.” For more information, call 353-4726 or visit www.archives.alabama.gov.

Chicago Street Farmers Market

Fresh vegetables, plants and flowers, baked goods, honey, grass fed beef and shrimp are just a few of the features at the Chicago Street Farmers Market in Heritage Park in Foley, Ala. Music starts at 5:30 p.m. with local bands and a movie at dusk. The market will be held on Fridays on these dates: Friday, June 29, and July 6.

Alabama Sports Festival

Alabama’s largest multi-sport Olympic-style event features 25 different sports Friday through Sunday. The Birmingham event is open to all residents of Alabama. The event also presents an official opening ceremony that includes a parade of athletes, oath to the athletes, lighting the cauldron, and musical entertainment. For more information, visit www.alagames.com.

Pier Park Summer Concert Series

People can relax and enjoy free music on the lawn at Panama City Beach’s Aaron Bessant Amphitheater. The concerts are open to the public and free of charge. Bring your own lawn chairs or blankets for more comfort. Food and coolers are allowed. Scheduled bands include Telluride today, Heritage on July 5, George Porter Jr. and the Runnin’ Pardners on July 12, The Lee Boys on July 19 and Boukou Groove on July 26. All concerts start at 7 p.m. For more information, visit pcbeach.org.

Triumph Superbike Classic

The 2012 Triumph Superbike Classic is Friday through Sunday at Barber Motorsports Park. Marking the series’ 10th visit to the Birmingham park, the weekend will feature the AMA Pro National Guard SuperBike Race, AMA Pro Daytona SportBike Race, AMA Pro Motorcycle-Superstore.com SuperSport Race and AMA Pro Vance and Hines XR1200 Race series. In addition, the weekend will include fan walks on pit lane, autograph sessions, demo rides and more.

For ticket prices or more information, visit www.barbermotorsports.com.

Performance on the Green

People can enjoy a relaxing summer evening at Blount Cultural Park and watch the Montgomery Ballet’s captivating and magical “Performance on the Green,” July 15 and 16 from 8-10 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information, call 409-0522.

Wounded working dogs receive skilled care

By Col. Bob Vogelsang
Program Manager for Clinical
Veterinary Medicine

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — By now, most everyone knows that the warriors in Afghanistan consist of both the human and canine kind.

Military working dogs have been with service members since day one of the current contingency operations and will likely be there until the last. And just as the human warriors are regularly exposed to the many potential hazards posed by the enemy, so too are the dogs. Indeed, some MWDs have suffered serious wounds that require timely and skilled medical care.

While some units not under the U.S. Army Public Health Command umbrella provide the initial resuscitative treatment and stabilization of wounded dogs, definitive care is performed by USAPHC elements. Dogs wounded in theater will generally first be evacuated to Dog Center Europe in Vogelweh, Germany. DCE assesses the dog's condition and provides the appropriate treatment, surgery or other procedure for the particular injury.

Last year, four dogs wounded by either small arms fire or improvised explosive devices were treated in USAPHC veterinary hospitals. One canine was a Marine Corps dog named Drak, two were Australian (Kujo and Kuga), and one was from the United Kingdom (Tommie). Having the most extensive and sophisticated military veterinary care, the U.S. provides services to other nations' MWDs as well as its own.

Drak

Drak and his handler were wounded in a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device explosion. Drak received extensive injuries to the area near his right hip. Pieces of shrapnel destroyed part of the pelvis forward of his hip joint and also caused soft tissue damage. He also suffered shrapnel wounds and burns to his rear legs.

Drak was initially treated by Lt. Col. Jim Giles, an Army veterinary surgeon in Afghanistan with the 463rd Medical Detachment Veterinary Services. Giles stabilized the dog's vital signs and cleaned his wounds. During that initial surgery two large, jagged metal fragments were removed from the wound near his hip. Shortly afterward, Drak was medically evacuated by the Air Force to Germany where the DCE took over his care.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

Tommie, a military working dog from the United Kingdom, was hit in the side by a bullet that went under the base of the tail and came out the other side. He was medically evacuated to the Dog Center-Europe.

Veterinary surgeons Maj. Jacque Parker and Maj. Kent Vince along with staff members at DCE operated to close the wounds. After that surgery, Drak remained in Germany to convalesce prior to his next trip to the DOD Military Working Dog Veterinary Service at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Drak had a remarkable recovery, and he didn't need a course of physical therapy and rehabilitation. However, it was thought that his ability to return to duty as an MWD and stay in top condition was questionable.

Drak is currently in San Antonio awaiting the outcome of a disposition board. His Marine Corps handler is also in San Antonio at the Warrior Transition Unit at Brooke Army Medical Center so they still get to see each other.

Kujo and Kuga

Kujo and Kuga are Australian military dogs who received gunshot wounds — Kuga to the carpus (wrist on a human) and

Kujo to the upper part of his front limb. As with Drak, each dog initially was seen by Giles in Afghanistan for stabilization and wound cleaning before being medically evacuated by the Air Force to Germany and DCE.

Kujo's wound was particularly problematic as it destroyed most of the small bones that work together to allow movement. In Germany, a complex metal external fixator was placed to keep the area immobilized to try to allow the area to heal. The bullet that hit Kuga shattered the bone of his upper front leg. After arrival at DCE, plates, pins and screws were used to realign the bone fragments.

After a recovery period, both dogs were flown back to Australia for additional treatment.

Tommie

Tommie is a dog from the United Kingdom. Tommie was the luckiest of the bunch.

He was hit in the side by a bullet that went under the base of the tail and came out the other side. Though he had some big holes in him, the bullet amazingly missed any important structures. Large blood vessels to the rear limbs, colon, pelvis and nerves were all nearby, but none of them was injured. Other than needing the wounds closed after being cleaned out and probably being sore for a little while from the swelling and bruising, Tommie happily went off to the U.K.

Army veterinarians take care of military working dogs wherever they are. USAPHC veterinary facilities and staff are making significant contributions to the well-being of these warrior-animals.

Training and experiences like that provided by the Veterinary Corps' First Year Graduate Veterinary Education program help new Army veterinarians to be ready to respond to injured MWDs and other veterinary issues.



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Labor Department paves job path for service members, vets

By Terri Moon Cronk
American Forces Press Service

FORT MEADE, Md. — Department of Labor officials are reaching out to let transitioning service members and veterans know about the department’s many training programs to give them a successful path to employment.

From workshops to job fairs and one-on-one training, DOL is committed to connecting veterans with jobs, Junior Ortiz, DOL’s deputy assistant secretary for Veterans’ Employment, told American Forces Press Service.

“We are the employment arm of the government [and] the DOL is charged to take care of employment issues ... but specifically for our veterans,” he said. “We must make sure our veterans are employed.”

Labor Secretary Hilda L. Solis is “very committed to making sure that we take care of our veterans,” Ortiz said. “Solis has said, ‘Our veterans have taken care of us. Now it’s time for us to take care of them.’”

As many as 1.5 million service members are expected to transition out of the military during the next five years, said Ortiz, a former Marine Corps officer.

“We have a lot of young men and women coming out of the service who are having a hard time finding something,” he said, “because they don’t realize the resources are out there ... to help them find good opportunities and perhaps great careers.

“We prepare them, we provide the information and skills they need to find good jobs and we protect their rights,” he said. “DOL has so many facilities and so many pieces that help a veteran, it’s like being on a military team.”

Ortiz outlined just a few of DOL’s resources for transitioning service members and veterans:

-- The Transition Assistance Program, also known as the Employment Workshop, ensures service members have the information they need to make a successful transition back to civilian life, and helps them determine how their military skills transfer to civilian jobs — something Ortiz says people underestimate.

“That’s one of the biggest problems we have,” he said of service members who aren’t sure how to market themselves for a job. “We teach them how to translate [their military experience] to a resume and their skill sets into viable aspects so they can get a job.”

-- The One-Stop-Career centers — 2,800 nationwide — help people obtain training and other support to secure a job. The center serves as a resource to explore careers, salaries and benefits, obtain education and training, do job searches, learn how to write resumes and do interviews.

Transitioning service members become part of the DOL’s Gold Card Initiative following completion of TAP. The gold card gives them six months of intensive one-on-one work with a veterans outreach program. “The gold card is a great way to get them to a One-Stop-Career center and set them up for a good job,” Ortiz said.

-- My Next Move for veterans helps transitioning service members determine their eligibility for jobs. By putting their military occupational specialty into a program to find a civilian-equivalent job, they’re coached on how to compete for a job, what it pays, and how and where those particular jobs are available across the country, Ortiz said. The program also allows service members to apply for jobs online.

-- Hiring Our Heroes is a DOL program that partners with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to conduct job fairs in cities across the country, Ortiz said. Hiring officials from the local area talk to transitioning service members and veterans about their companies, and can interview and even hire them on the spot or later, he said.

-- The Veterans Retraining Assistance Program is training in which DOL, the Veterans Affairs Department and other agencies work together to give

veterans’ employment “the full push,” Ortiz said. DOL and the VA have created a seamless transition in VRAP, he said, to help veterans find jobs. It is open only to veterans who are between the ages of 35 and 60, unemployed and have exhausted all benefits for job training.

Under VRAP, Ortiz said, DOL determines a veteran’s eligibility, then VA works with them to decide what abilities they have. The VA also arranges for training and certification in their field, and returns them to DOL to begin looking for work through the One-Stop-Career center program.

Service members have grown up in the military culture of success, and working as a team is their mindset until they look for a job on their own, Ortiz said.

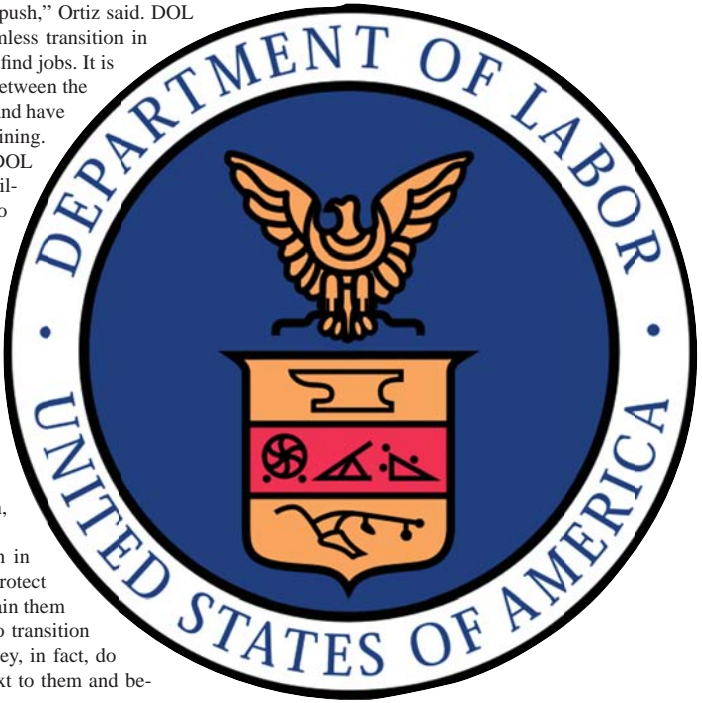
“They don’t have that person in front, beside or behind them to protect them anymore,” he said. “We train them to be successful. ... We want to transition them and let them know that they, in fact, do have a person in front, right next to them and behind them.”

Because service members sometimes struggle to translate military skills into civilian job skills, Ortiz suggests hiring officials put the resume aside in an interview and rely more on talking to the veteran applicant.

“Nine times out of 10, what the hiring official is looking for, that individual already has,” he said. “I tell [hiring managers], ‘Do you really think an 18-year-old kid who came into the service and learned how to put together and take apart a radar system of an F-18 aircraft really had all those skill sets when he first walked in? He or she had to learn those things. And if they’re able to do that, imagine what they’ll be able to do in any company.’”

There also are the “intangibles” of employing veterans, he said, such as loyalty, duty, honor, trustworthiness, a solid work ethic, and how as team members, they work under pressure.

“You have someone who will work because it’s part of their culture,” Ortiz said. “They want to be successful ... and bringing that success in will also build the company up.”

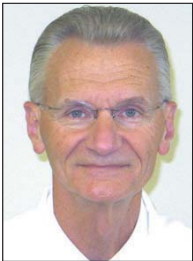


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JUNE 21, 2012



PHOTOS BY ANGELA WILLIAMS

Swimmers start off the first leg of Fort Rucker's Army Strong Triathlon.

More than 200 compete in Army Strong Triathlon

By Angela Williams
 Army Flier Staff Writer

The temperature was already rising as more than 200 participants took to the water in waves for the start of Fort Rucker's Army Strong Triathlon early Saturday morning.

The race, held at Lake Tholocco's West Beach, started with a 400-meter swim, followed by a 10.6-mile bike ride, and ended with a 5k run.

"It was a beautiful day. The water was beautiful," said Capt. Sean Cattanaach, A Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt., who crossed the finish line with a time of 59:24. "The temperature was nice and the race was really well set up."

The winners for this year's Army Strong Triathlon were Chris Neudecker, overall male winner, with a time of 58:52; Frosty Henneberger, overall male master winner, with a time of 1:02:32; Dale Nash, overall male grandmaster winner, with a time of 1:02:37; Emily King, overall female winner, with a time of 1:01:39; Monica McCullion, overall female master winner, with a time of 1:16:27; and Nina Korges, overall female grandmaster winner, with a time of 1:24:30.

The first relay team to finish the race had a time of 52:15, and included Capt. Andrew Ackles, 1st Lt. Brendan Sullivan and 1st Lt. Layne Wilson, all of the Air Force 23rd Flying Training Squadron at Fort Rucker.

"I was on a good team and these guys got me way ahead," Ackles said minutes after completing the run. "It felt good."

"We just wanted to represent our squadron well," Wilson added.

The second relay team to finish the course included 2nd Lt. Ian Misaro, 2nd Lt. Joel Woodruff and 2nd Lt. Jonathan Argyle, all of B Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt.

The three said they decided to do the triathlon as a team less than a week before the event.

"We went cycling last week and decided we had some pretty fast people," Misaro said. "I think the three of us wanted to do it but we didn't want to do the whole thing by ourselves."

Of 197 individuals and 15 teams that started the race, 149 participants and all 15 teams finished, said Kristi Fink, fitness programs manager at Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Facility.

"Triathlon appeals to a wide variety of people because there are three different parts to it," she explained. "It changes it up and makes it even more challenging because you have to be able to swim, bike and then run."

The course at Fort Rucker is more challenging than some others, she said, because of the hills on the bike portion.

"It's nice to have the Soldiers and Families at an event that promotes health and fitness and to see their faces as they cross the finish line at such a challenging event," she said. "I enjoy it."

According to Fink, many different groups, including the Warrant Officer Career College, life guards, divers, military police, ambulance staff and the outdoor recreation staff worked together to make the event a reality.

"It's everybody coming together," she said. "It takes a lot of thinking to make everything fair."

King, the overall female winner, ran in last year's Army Strong Triathlon just weeks after arriving on post for flight school.

"It's nice to be here with the community and everyone I know as opposed to last year when I had just been on post a week or so," she said.

"MWR does such a good job putting these races on," she said. "It's always really fun."



Capt. Andrew Ackles, 23rd FTS, was the first to cross the finish line as a part of the 23rd Flying Training Squadron relay team that also included 1st Lt. Layne Wilson and 1st Lt. Brendan Sullivan.

DOWN TIME



Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

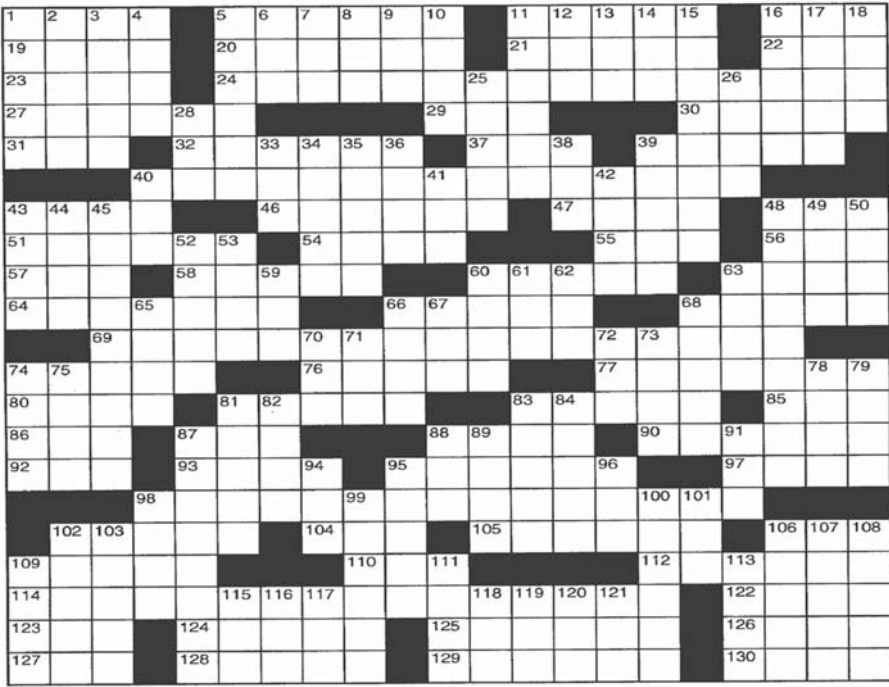
TRIVIA

1. CURRENCY: What is the image that appears opposite of Andrew Jackson on a \$20 U.S. bill?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the name of India to local residents?
3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What disease is caused by the bacteria "Yersinia pestis"?
4. COMICS: What comic-book series featured Green Goblin as a villain?
5. BOARD GAMES: If you have to go directly to jail in "Monopoly," what two things are you told NOT to do?
6. MUSIC: In what year did Elvis Presley make his first national television appearance in the U.S.?
7. LITERATURE: What was the title of Dr. Seuss's last book?
8. FOOD & DRINK: What are the main ingredients of vichyssoise?
9. MOVIES: What town was the setting for the movie "It's a Wonderful Life"?
10. ANATOMY: What is the function of the amygdala in the human body?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword FOREIGN FILMS

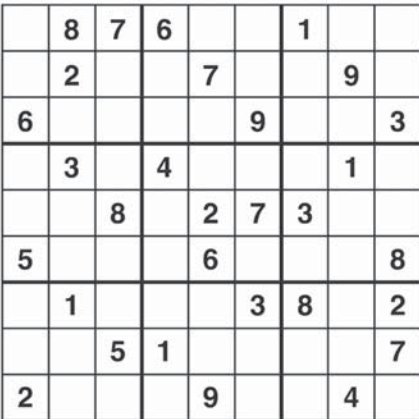
- ACROSS**
- 1 Voucher
 - 5 Plane place
 - 11 Big bargain
 - 16 "Major Barbara" monogram
 - 19 Clair or
 - 20 Swimmer
 - 21 Gertrude
 - 22 Garrulous
 - 23 School subject
 - 24 "Bus Stop" playwright
 - 25 Peter O'Toole film
 - 27 Medal material
 - 29 Pine product
 - 30 Incongruous state
 - 31 Command to Fido
 - 32 Eventually
 - 37 Where the buoys are
 - 39 Glaze
 - 40 Judy Davis film
 - 43 Jury member
 - 46 Mr. Miyagi's forte
 - 47 Emcee's site
 - 48 Spigot
 - 51 Kindred
 - 54 Aussie rockers
 - 55 Plant disease
- DOWN**
- 56 What a feller needs
 - 57 In-your-face item
 - 58 Dancer
 - 59 Jose
 - 60 Pamphlet
 - 63 Floor covering
 - 64 Hoarder
 - 66 Taxing time?
 - 68 "I Love a Parade" composer
 - 69 Gregory Peck film
 - 74 Jeweler's weight
 - 76 Exodus figure
 - 77 "Butterfly" ('66 hit)
 - 80 Ken of "Hill Street Blues"
 - 81 Conductor's concern
 - 83 Endangered herbivore
 - 85 Solidify
 - 86 In error
 - 87 Twisted
 - 88 Way over yonder
 - 90 Little laugh
 - 92 Kyser or Starr
 - 93 Rushes
 - 95 Giza god
 - 97 Raison d'—
 - 98 Bob Hope film
- DOWN**
- 102 On — (doing great)
 - 104 Down meas.
 - 105 Clone
 - 106 A Bobsey twin
 - 109 Intense
 - 110 — Claire, WI
 - 112 "Blueberry Hill" singer
 - 114 Jane Fonda film
 - 122 Leave out
 - 123 Fireworks reaction
 - 124 Gives the green light
 - 125 Pageant props
 - 126 Misplace
 - 127 Neighbor of Ger.
 - 128 Actress Davis
 - 129 Least conventional
 - 130 — in-the-wool
- DOWN**
- 1 Corn holders
 - 2 Matisse or Rousseau
 - 3 Gold brick?
 - 4 — Wolf ("85 film)
 - 5 Montana's capital
 - 6 Periodontists' org.
- DOWN**
- 7 Contemporary
 - 8 "Don't touch my bone!"
 - 9 Ginger —
 - 10 Dollars for quarters
 - 11 Audiophile's equipment
 - 12 Eastern "Way"
 - 13 Wee one
 - 14 "America's Most Wanted" abbr.
 - 15 Ira Gershwin, for one
 - 16 Libreville's land
 - 17 Escort
 - 18 Command to Fido
 - 25 Immobility class
 - 26 "La Rondine" rendition
 - 28 Energy
 - 33 "For shame!"
 - 34 Albeniz or Asimov
 - 35 Peripatetic Polo
 - 36 "Gracious me!"
 - 38 Pitch in
 - 39 Numskull
 - 40 Onassis' nickname
 - 41 Catchall abbr.
- DOWN**
- 42 DEA officer
 - 43 Theatrical Joseph
 - 44 Literary pseudonym
 - 45 Thrill
 - 48 Motorcycle feature
 - 49 Wagon part
 - 50 Hammer head
 - 52 Marsh sight
 - 53 Olive —
 - 59 Monty's milieu
 - 60 '82 Jeff Bridges film
 - 61 Volcano
 - 62 Clerical garb
 - 63 Baseball's Speaker
 - 65 Genghis —
 - 66 Curly coil
 - 67 Supportive of
 - 68 Blue hue
 - 70 Tasty tuber
 - 71 Weaken
 - 72 Agt.
 - 73 Got off
 - 74 Quiche creator
 - 75 — Romeo
 - 78 Swerve
 - 79 Gen. Robt.
- DOWN**
- 81 Experiment
 - 82 Checked out
 - 83 "Scent of a Woman" dance
- DOWN**
- 84 Chilean pianist
 - 87 Without reservation
 - 88 Bonaparte's buddy
 - 89 Ward (off)
 - 91 Shoe width
 - 94 Farm feature
 - 95 Examine
 - 96 PD alert
 - 98 Coll. brass
 - 99 Forsyth's "The — File"
 - 100 Firstborn
 - 101 Rock's —
 - 102 Blessed wagon
 - 103 Mercedes of "The Fisher King"
 - 106 Shatner co-star
 - 107 Absinthe ingredient
 - 108 Famous
 - 109 Perched on
 - 111 Proverb preposition
 - 113 Shape
 - 115 Turner or Pappas
 - 116 Rob Roy's refusal
 - 117 Writer Rand
 - 118 "— not!"
 - 119 Math abbr.
 - 120 Vein contents
 - 121 Bell and Barker



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!

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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID'S CORNER

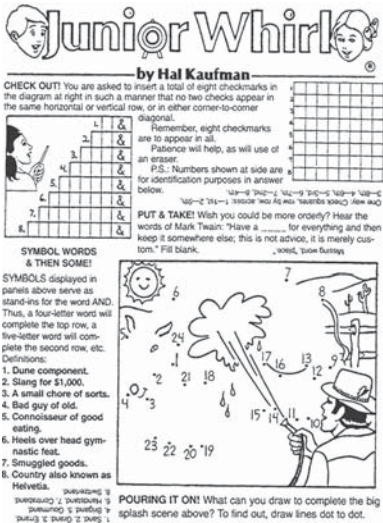




PHOTO BY SGT. LEE EZZELL

Lt. Gen. William Caldwell IV, commanding general, U.S. Army North, and senior commander, Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis, Texas, runs with Julian Castro, mayor of San Antonio, and Richard Perez, president and chief executive officer of the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, during the Alamo run as part of the 237th Army birthday celebration June 14. Over 1,500 Soldiers and civilians ran from Fort Sam Houston to the Alamo where they took part in the raising of the American Flag and a cake cutting ceremony.

‘Military City, U.S.A.,’ super-sizes Army birthday

By Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson
Army North Public Affairs

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — More than 1,500 military and civilian community members of “Military City, U.S.A.,” celebrated the 237th birthday of the United States Army with a run to the Alamo and a Texas-sized 237-foot cake.

Runners from Fort Sam Houston and the surrounding community joined Lt. Gen. William Caldwell IV, commanding general, U.S. Army North, and senior commander, Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis, in a leisurely 2.3-mile run from historic Fort Sam Houston to the Alamo, where a throng of spectators and the giant cake awaited them.

“I can’t think of an event more special than the birthday of the U.S. Army,” said Caldwell. “This year, Soldiers and Family members from Fort Sam along with some great community leaders, are celebrating the 237th birthday of the U.S. Army with this first-ever run to the Alamo.”

Celebrating the Army’s birthday in San Antonio is special.

“You know, this city is called ‘Military City, U.S.A.,’ and for good reason, too,” said Caldwell. “There’s a long, proud military tradition associated with San Antonio.”

San Antonio Mayor Julián Castro joined the Army on the run.

“I’m excited to join the Army in celebrating 237 years of service to the nation,” said Castro. “San Antonio is Military City, U.S.A., and we are very proud of the Army and Fort Sam Houston.”

More than 20 wounded warriors ran or cycled in the run. Sgt. Delvin Maston, a leg-amputee in the Warrior Transition Battalion, operated a hand-bike in the front of the mass formation.

Maston, a native of Birmingham, Ala., said he was in the run to celebrate his service in the Army, but that wasn’t the only reason.

“One, I like group physical training,” said Maston. “And secondly, I was challenged by the battalion commander.”

Maston, an automated logistics Soldier in the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky., lost his leg while he was home on leave in Birmingham June 22, 2009, when a woman who was driving and texting hit him while he was



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. KEITH ANDERSON

Wounded Warriors lean on each other as they stand for the singing of the Army Song during a celebration of the Army’s 237th birthday at the Alamo in San Antonio. More than 1,500 Soldiers and civilians ran from Fort Sam Houston to the Alamo where they took part in the raising of the American Flag and a cake-cutting ceremony.

standing near the edge of the road.

“She kept going when she hit me,” Maston said. “She dragged me for about 25 feet.”

The woman left the scene of the accident and was never caught, Maston said. Though he lost his leg, he said he isn’t angry at her.

“I’ve moved on,” Maston said. “But I do want people to stop texting while driving.”

He plans to stay in the Army, he said, and hopes to someday return to the 101st Airborne Division.

At the end of the run at the Alamo, the youngest and oldest Soldiers in the crowd, along with the mayor, Caldwell, and Richard Perez, president and C.E.O., Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, cut the Army birthday cake. Pvt. Cortez-Gonzalez, 18, who will begin basic training in

a few weeks, and Pfc. Frank Perez, 86, who served in the D-Day invasion and once drove for Gen. George S. Patton, cut the cake.

As part of birthday celebrations, the Army also held a post open house at the historic Quadrangle on Fort Sam Houston, and a formal-dress Army Birthday Ball June 15.

The U.S. Army is one year older than the United States, and exactly two years older than the nation’s flag for which it shares the June 14 birthday. Many people know June 14 for Flag Day, which commemorates the adoption of the national flag by the Second Continental Congress June 14, 1777. The Continental Army was formed two years earlier by the Continental Congress June 14, 1775, with George Washington appointed as commander, to fight in the American Revolutionary War.

Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

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

TRIVIA

Answers

1. The White House
2. Bharat
3. Plague
4. “Spider-Man”
5. Do not pass Go, and do not collect \$200
6. 1956 (“The Dorsey Brothers Stage Show”)
7. “Oh, the Places You’ll Go!”
8. Potatoes and leeks
9. Bedford Falls
10. Processes fear and emotional responses

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword Answers

CHIT	HANGAR	STEAL	GBS
RENE	EDERLE	TALKY	ART
INGE	LAWRENCE	OF	ARABIA
BRONZE	TAR	IRON	Y
SIT	INTIME	SEA	ICING
APASSAGE	TO	INDIA	
PEER	KARATE	DAIS	TAP
ALLIED	ACDC	ROT	AXE
PIE	GRECO	TRACT	TILE
PACKRAT	APRIL	ARLEN	
THEBOYS	FROM	BRAZIL	
CARAT	AARON	ELUSIVE	
OLIN	TEMPO	TAPIR	GEL
OFF	WRY	AFAR	TEEHEE
KAY	HIES	AMENRA	ETRE
ROAD	TOS	SINGAPORE	
AROLL	YDS	DOUBLE	NAN
ACUTE	EAU	DOMINO	
THECHINA	SYNDROME	OMIT	
OOH	OKAYS	TIARAS	LOSE
POL	GEENA	ODDEST	DYED

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Video Game Spotlight >>

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



COURTESY SCREENSHOT

Sequel continues fun, adds allies

By Jim Van Slyke
Contributing Writer

The first “LEGO Batman” game let gamers become both the Dynamic Duo and, in a nice turnaround, the villains Batman and Robin fight. There were also options to be some of Batman’s allies — Batgirl, etc. The game is incredibly fun, especially when played with a friend.

The sequel, “LEGO Batman 2: DC Super Heroes,” continues

the fun, only now Batman and Robin are joined by the likes of Superman, Wonder Woman, Green Lantern, Aquaman and more. The villains are back, with Lex Luthor and Joker leading the charge. This is the first LEGO video game that gives the characters a voice, mid-level saves and it also has drop-in/drop-out co-op play with dynamic split screen.

Unlike the LEGO games that are based on actual movies (Harry Potter, Indiana Jones, etc.),

both LEGO Batman games have original stories. Some of the plot got lost in the first release, but the inclusion of voice acting helps to make clear what’s going on.

The same humor and inside jokes are present, but the action seems to be ramped up this time. The game is more exciting than the first LEGO Batman, which wasn’t a slouch itself. The puzzles will slow things down from time to time, but the action and plot can get pretty intense — for

LEGOs anyway. The inclusion of Superman and his near-invulnerability adds an interesting dimension to the game as well.

It is still a LEGO game, so don’t expect it to turn you on to the series if you didn’t enjoy previous LEGO games. It’s incredibly fun to play co-op with a friend and it makes a great game for both older and younger gamers to play together.

Reviewed on Xbox 360



Publisher
Warner Home Video Games
Rated
Everyone
Systems
Multiple
Cost
\$40 - 60
Overall
3 out of 4

SPORTS BRIEFS

Enterprise baseball

Enterprise's semi-pro baseball team needs players for its Sunday game against a team from Columbus, Ga. Enterprise won last week's game against Dathan, 8-4. People interested in playing should meet in Enterprise's Peavey Park at 3 p.m. Sunday. The Enterprise team's record is 8-0. Players must be 17 or older.

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

INT Wakeboard Competition

The Fort Rucker community is invited to come out to West Beach at Lake Tholocco to watch the Alabama INT Wakeboard Competition Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

For more, call 255-4040.

Fall youth sports registration

Fall youth sports registration takes place July 1-31. Fall sports include tackle football for ages 8-12, cheerleading for ages 4-12, tennis for ages 7-18 and soccer for ages 4-17. Children must meet age requirements by Sept. 1. A current sports physical, and child, youth and schools services registration are required for participation.

For more information, call 255-9105 or 255-0950.

Racquetball tournament

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility hosts a racquetball tournament July 21. Novice, D, C, B, and A players begin at 8:30 a.m.; open players begin at 10 a.m.; and doubles players begin after open players. Players will referee games. If an overflow of participants register, some games may start July 20 at 6:30 p.m. Entry fee is \$15 per person for singles only, \$15 per person for doubles only, and \$25 per person for participants playing both singles and doubles. All pre-registered patrons will receive a T-shirt. Participants must register by July 18. Refreshments are provided and the event is open to the public.

For more, call 255-3794.

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