

**MEMORIAL**  
Family, friends  
honor pioneer in  
Aviation  
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**ON STAGE**  
Fort Rucker children  
perform ‘Jack and the  
Beanstalk’  
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Fitness facilities  
offer workouts to  
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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

JULY 5, 2012

## New commander takes control of 1-11th Avn.

By Nathan Pfau  
*Army Flier Staff Writer*

Fort Rucker welcomed the new commander of the 1st Battalion, 11th Aviation Regiment, during a ceremony at Howze Field June 28.

The change of command became official as the unit colors were passed from the outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Michael Flowers, to Col. Kevin Christensen, commander of the 110th Aviation Brigade, on to the incoming commander, Lt. Col. Robert R. Keeter.

Keeter comes to Fort Rucker with his wife, Denise, and their three children from Naples, Italy, where he served as the director of Logistics and Assistant J35 in Joint Forces Command Naples during Operation Unified Protector.

“Rob and his lovely wife, Denise, bring a tremendous talent for leading and taking care of Soldiers to this command,” said Christensen. “I know that Mike takes comfort in knowing that the unit that he loves so much will continue to excel under the leadership of Rob Keeter.”

The incoming commander’s military career began in 1993 when he graduated from the U.S. Military Academy, received a regular Army commission and was assigned to Fort Bragg, N.C.

He has an experienced leadership career ranging from platoon leader, assistant S-2 and rear detachment commander for the 2-82nd Assault Helicopter Battalion (Airborne), to commander of B Company, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Aviation Brigade of the 2-501st Aviation Battalion, 1st Armored Division in Hanau, Germany, which makes Keeter more than qualified to take the 1-11th into the future, said Flowers.

“Rob and Denise, you are a welcome sight [and are] the right team at the right time to lead this battalion into the next chapter,” said the outgoing commander. “The task is under way at full speed, and today we give you the keys to a finely oiled machine.”

A machine that, under Flowers’ command, has made over 5 million aircraft movements without accidents or incidents due to air traffic controller mistakes, according to Christensen.

“[The unit did this] while simultaneously executing air traffic

SEE 1-11TH, PAGE A5



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Incoming 1-11th Avn. Regt. commander, Lt. Col. Robert R. Keeter, accepts the unit colors from Col. Kevin Christensen, 110th Aviation Brigade commander, signifying the transfer of command from outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Michael Flowers, at a change of commander ceremony at Howze Field June 28.

## Selders assumes command of dental clinic

By Angela Williams  
*Army Flier Staff Writer*

Fort Rucker welcomed the new commander of the U.S. Army Dental Clinic Command during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum June 25.

The change of command became official with the traditional passing of the colors from outgoing commander Col. Edward Cathright Jr. to Col. Stephen J. Awe, commander of U.S. Army Dental Activity at Fort Benning, Ga., then incoming commander Maj. Robert J. Selders Jr.

After the passing of the colors, Selders said he saw the assignment as a “wonderful opportunity” and he looked forward to building relationships with the people of Fort Rucker in the future.

Selders is a native of Omaha, Neb. He held dental positions in Arkansas and Georgia, and a teaching position with the University of Tennessee’s Department of Periodontology, before accepting a commission with the U.S. Army Dental Corps.

His previous assignments include Fort Wainwright, Alaska, and serving as officer-in-charge of the Fairbank Dental Clinic at Fort Hood, Texas. He has received the Meritorious Service Medal, the

Army Commendation Medal and the Army Achievement Medal, as well as several other awards and decorations.

“Major Selders, we’re expecting great things from you,” Awe said during the ceremony. “You’re the right person at the right time for this job.”

Cathright said his departure from Fort Rucker to go to Fort Meade, Md., was bittersweet because he is an Alabama native and has been able to spend time with Family during this assignment.

He praised the Brown Dental Clinic staff for its work to exceed MEDCOM standards of customer satisfaction and wait times, as well as the staff’s support of a near-complete building renovation project.

“Nothing but the best for our Soldiers here at Fort Rucker,” he said of the upgraded dental clinic, scheduled to open later this month.

The building has been under construction for about a year and when finished will feature state-of-the-art technology and five additional chairs.

Awe said customer service defined Cathright’s time at Fort Rucker.

“Taking care of Soldiers is what it’s all about,” he said. “We hate to see him go, but that’s the culture of the Army. We keep moving on.”



PHOTO BY ANGELA WILLIAMS

Col. Stephen J. Awe, commander of U.S. Army Dental Activity at Fort Benning, Ga., passes the unit colors to incoming dental clinic commander Maj. Robert J. Selders Jr.

## Gary Sinise visits Soldiers, Families at Fort Rucker

By Angela Williams  
*Army Flier Staff Writer*

Before his scheduled appearance at FreedomFest actor Gary Sinise made a few unexpected visits to Soldiers and Family members Monday.

The actor, best known for his portrayal of Lt. Dan in the movie “Forest Gump,” visited the Soldier Service Center, flew simulators at Warrior Hall, watched Helicopter Overwater Survival Training exercises, spoke with air traffic controllers and flight students at Allen Stagefield near Wicksburg and toured the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

“We’ve got a good show for you and we’re just here to say thank you,” he said to a group of students. “I’ve been wanting to come out and see some of the training, visit the folks on base and make sure you know how much we appreciate what you’re doing. It’s very important and we

don’t take it for granted.”

Sinise has worked with various veterans groups since the 1980s, but in the past 10 years, his involvement has greatly increased as he and the Lt. Dan Band travel around the world to perform at various military bases, encourage deployed Soldiers and visit wounded warriors in the hospital. Tuesday the band played a free concert at FreedomFest.

The actor said his involvement with the military has allowed him to do a number of things most people never have a chance to experience, such as flying in an F-16 and U-2 spyplane and landing on an aircraft carrier.

He said he hopes his experiences help the American people, especially those who have no personal connection to the military, understand why they should be grateful for those who serve

SEE VISIT, PAGE A4



PHOTO BY ANGELA WILLIAMS

Gary Sinise and Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, pose for a quick photo from inside a Blackhawk helicopter just before flying to Allen Stagefield.



# PERSPECTIVE

## Marketing yourself important, beneficial

**Bryan Tharpe**  
*Fort Rucker Army Career and Alumni Program*

Have you bought a new car lately? If so, you may have fond memories of being bombarded by salespeople wanting to help you select a vehicle. There’s even a good possibility that you just went to look, but still ended up driving a new vehicle home.

What changed your mind? Chances are good that a well-trained salesperson was a key factor in your change of heart. There’s a message here for you if you’re in the job market; it’s very important for you to be a well-equipped salesperson in marketing yourself for a job.

The better you’re trained as a salesperson for yourself, the more effective you’ll be in marketing yourself to employers — even those who might be just browsing. If you think about it, you’ll probably agree that you’re the most important product you will ever market. Therefore, it’s critical that you devise a good marketing strategy that will help guarantee success.

The following tips should help you devise this strategy.

1. Know your strengths and weaknesses. Learn what your strong points are and be ready to expound on them. Ask several co-workers to tell you which of your traits stood out the first few times they had contact with you. Make notes. Write down the good as well as the bad things — they are equally important in the world of marketing.

If your co-workers’ perceptions are similar to your perception of yourself, then you probably know yourself pretty well. If some negative areas were highlighted, you’ll want to improve those areas before you put your product on the market. After all, no one wants to buy a faulty product. The marketing strategy you employ should include finding ways to turn your weaknesses into strengths and then enthusiastically marketing all of your strengths.

2. Know your skills. Every job requires a core set of

skills. Trying to start a career in a new field when you have few of the required skills can be frustrating at best.

Before focusing in on a particular job, research to find out what skills are required for the job: talk to people in that line of work, research the company, review definitions of similar jobs and read job announcements.

Once you’ve determined the skills required for the job, do some self-evaluation. Do you at least possess most of the critical skills for the job? If so, you will probably be able to effectively market yourself for a career in that field. If not, perhaps you can gain some of the critical skills through formal training or by working for a time in an entry-level position.

Also, computer skills are especially important in the private sector. If you’re weak in this area, you might want to take advantage of the self-paced computer education programs offered by the Fort Rucker Army Continuing Education System Learning Center. To find out about what it offers, call 255-2925.

3. Develop and maintain a positive attitude. Having a positive attitude, especially when those interviews are not happening at the rate you’d like, is critical to your marketing campaign. It’s easy to want to give up and tell yourself that there’s no use trying anymore when all you’re getting is negative feedback, or, even worse, no feedback.

Realizing the job search may well take several months and that it’s perfectly normal to not be selected for some jobs will help you maintain that positive attitude. Convince yourself that getting overly discouraged and giving up is not an option when you’re looking for a job. Expect setbacks, but keep searching and work especially hard to keep a positive attitude. It’ll eventually pay off.

4. Become more flexible. Being flexible about where you’re willing to live and work, as well as the work itself, will normally decrease the time it takes to get a job. If you’re not tied down to a particular location or locked into one particular job, more options will be available for you to consider. After all, there are many more jobs

nation-wide than in a particular area.

Furthermore, the pay for similar jobs is different in various areas of the country, so being flexible can increase your chances of getting the salary you’re shooting for. Of course, there are situations that will lock some people into a particular area. If this is the case for you, just be aware that finding the job you want at the salary you want will be more of a challenge. But, even in this situation, flexibility will help you achieve your goals.

5. Develop a personal marketing strategy and implement it. Every new product requires a different marketing strategy that is based on the attributes of that product. Marketing yourself is no different.

Do your homework. Know the market place — what’s available and what’s needed. Don’t try to flood the market with another copy of the same product. Find your niche and slant your strategy toward it. After all, you’re different from anyone else on the market.

Try not to be too modest when you’re marketing yourself, but don’t over exaggerate either — sooner or later you’ll have to demonstrate the qualities and skills you marketed. After you’ve developed your marketing strategy, develop an implementation plan and schedule. Start early and set aside enough time, every day, to make the needed calls, network, do the research, write the letters and resumes, follow up on job leads and write the lessons learned. As with any other new task, you’ll soon find that the more you do it, the more effective you become at the task.

The job search process can be exasperating, but it can also be rewarding. The possibilities are limitless. It takes putting forth the honest effort needed to get the results you want to achieve. A big part of that effort is marketing yourself most effectively.

Your ACAP Center staff offers workshops and one-on-one counseling on various subjects related to job search, to include guidance on how to best market yourself. For more on ACAP and how it can help you, call 255-2558.

## Rotor Wash

“Waterways are a popular retreat during the summer. What safety tips would you offer to someone planning a trip on the water?”



**Spc. Caleb Sargent,**  
**1-38th Cavalry out of**  
**Fort Bragg, N.C.**  
“Don’t drink and drive when boating.”



**Nicholas Vito,**  
**civilian employee**  
“Don’t swim too far out.”



**Shawn Roberts,**  
**civilian employee**  
“Don’t eat before you go swimming and don’t swim with gators.”



**Josh McCall,**  
**civilian employee**  
“Check the rip currents.”



**Arlene Morales,**  
**military Family member**  
“Don’t drink.”

### COMMAND

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FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

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FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

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## ACE SUICIDE INTERVENTION

### Ask your buddy

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

### Care for your buddy

- Remove any means that could be used for self-

injury.

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

### Escort your buddy

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



# Family, friends honor pioneer in Aviation

By Nathan Pfau  
*Army Flier Staff Writer*

It's not often that people have the opportunity to know someone who paved the way for others to follow, but those who knew retired CW5 Mary C. Smalley had the chance to know a pioneer for women in Aviation.

Soldiers, friends and Family members gathered at Searcy Funeral Home in Enterprise to remember and pay respects to Smalley June 22.

Smalley passed away June 14 after a battle with brain cancer, but her legacy lives on with her many achievements throughout her career in the Army. She is most recognized as the first female Aviator to achieve the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4 in 1989, and the first female regular Army warrant officer and Aviator to achieve the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 5 in 1995, according to her husband, Col. Brian W. Smalley, dean of the U.S. Army School of Aviation Medicine.

The colonel spoke of his wife as very humble and never one to boast about her accomplishments — he himself not having known about them until he found a file containing her many achievements.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

**Retired CW5 Mary C. Smalley was inducted into the Aviation Hall of Fame in 2007. She was the first female Aviator to achieve the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4 and the first regular Army warrant officer and Aviator to achieve the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 5.**

"Mary was never one to brag about herself," he said. "I was looking for passports for a cruise that we were going to take when I stumbled upon a file that she had kept. I had no idea she had accomplished so much."

His discovery prompted him to put Smalley up for the Avia-

tion Hall of Fame, which she was inducted into in 2007.

"She had no idea that I was talking to the hall of fame folks and they agreed to keep it under wraps because I wanted to be the one to tell her," said the colonel. "I will never forget the look on her face. She was proud, yet em-

barrassed at the same time that she was being recognized."

Smalley's Army career began after her graduation from high school in 1973 when she decided to enlist so that she would be able to put herself through college, said the colonel. During her enlistment, there was an initiative to get female Soldiers into the warrant officer flight training program.

"Mary scored extremely high on the Aviation flight aptitude test and was accepted into the program," he said. "She went on to become the 13th female to graduate from flight school in 1976, and then became the first female Aviator in the 6th Air Cavalry Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas," where she served under then Col. Robert Molinelli, flying UH-1 and OH-58 helicopters.

It was Molinelli, who later attained the rank of major general, that positioned her to become the first female rated in operating the AH-1 Cobra helicopter, said the colonel. At the time, however, females were not authorized to be attack helicopter pilots, despite completing the full transition.

She went on to serve in assignments in Korea where she served with the 377th MEDEVAC and

flew missions out of Taegu before returning to Fort Rucker in 1980 where she completed her bachelor's degree in aeronautical science while serving as a training, advising and counseling officer for the Warrant Officer Candidate School, he said.

"That was one of her favorite assignments," said the colonel. "She was then assigned as a night vision goggle instructor pilot and she completed her Master's degree in Aviation management while working full time."

She went on to serve in different assignments throughout Alaska before returning to Fort Rucker in 1991 when she was selected to serve as the adjutant for the U.S. Army Precision Helicopter Team, he said. She eventually returned to the flight line as an instructor pilot for initial entry rotary wing students, which served her well as one of her passions was teaching.

Smalley retired in 1999 after 24 years of service and more than 3,000 flight hours as a master Aviator, 1,000 of which were as an instructor pilot, according to the colonel.

"She never wanted to be the center of attention, but I'm pretty sure she was happy [for the recognition]," he said.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

## Instructors of the quarter

Fort Rucker named its 2012 Instructors of the Third Quarter during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum June 26. The instructors that were honored are (from left): Civilian Academic Instructor of the Quarter, Ryan M. Kalipi, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment, 110th Aviation Brigade; Civilian Instructor Pilot of the Quarter, Fred Polidore, Delta Troop, 1st Bn., 14th Avn. Regt., 110th Avn. Brig.; NCO Flight Instructor of the Quarter, Staff Sgt. Michael C. Enman, Fox Co., 1st Bn., 212th Avn. Regt., 110th Avn. Brig.; NCO Academic Instructor of the Quarter, Staff Sgt. Jeremy R. Patterson, C Co., 1st Bn., 13th Avn. Regt., 1st Avn. Brig.; Warrant Officer Academic Instructor of the Quarter, CW3 Stuart E. Bennett, Combined Arms Division, 1st Bn., 1st Avn. Brig.; and Officer Instructor Pilot of the Quarter, CW4 Douglas R. Sanders, D Co., 1st Bn., 14th Avn. Regt., 110th Avn. Brig. Each instructor was nominated by their supervisors to compete and evaluated on quality of instruction, quality of materials developed and used, and quality of their presentation.

## MEDPROS an important part of Soldiers' readiness

By Angela Williams  
*Army Flier Staff Writer*

Soldiers can simplify the steps of outprocessing by keeping an eye on their individual medical readiness status through the Army's Medical Protection System, according to Fort Rucker's MEDPROS coordinator.

"This is the way we look at our Soldiers to make sure they are ready to deploy at any given time," said Marie W. McCollough, the coordinator. "Before they deploy, we make sure everything is up to date."

The system checks everything from immunizations to Periodic Health Assessments, and even dental and vision screenings, she said. Army Knowledge Online gives Soldiers access to personal information so they can make sure their information is current.

McCollough recommends Soldiers check MEDPROS at least once a week.

"They can check and see what date they had their last flight physical or physical assessment, and they can call and book their appointments before the next one is overdue," she explained.

MEDPROS monitors a Soldier's "profile" in six different categories — physical functional capacity, upper extremities, lower extremities, hearing and ears, eyes and vision, and psychiatric. Together, the six categories are often referred to as "PULHES."

In each category, a Soldier is rated between one and four. A one rating indicates a Soldier meets all the requirements of that category. A two

rating means any deficiency, such as a needed immunization, that can be corrected within 72 hours. A three means deficiencies can be corrected in more than 30 days and a four means the Soldier's status is unknown.

"The bottom line is we are trying to make sure our Soldiers are ready for anything," she said. "If they're not, we need to know why and the profiles tell us why."

Temporary profiles, recent hospitalizations, down slips, abnormal test results and certain prescriptions can all cause outprocessing to be slowed or stopped, McCollough said. It is important for Soldiers to make sure everything is "in the green" before outprocessing.

"If they wait until the last minute and something has to be addressed, they could be cancelling a plane ticket," she said, adding that a few Soldiers have had to reschedule travel plans in order to complete the MEDPROS portion of outprocessing.

A number of health administration elements, such as the PHA and the Post Deployment Health Reassessment can be partially completed online, according to McCollough. She advises Soldiers to complete everything they can before going to an appointment or asking a health care provider to sign off on the form.

A Soldier can't outprocess without the PDHRA and it is hard to get a same-day appointment, she said.

McCollough also encourages Soldiers to consider what they will be doing at their next assignment and take

care of medical needs early — especially if the next assignment is short-term.

For example, if a Soldier arrives at Fort Rucker with an expired flight physical, the start of flight school could be delayed until that Soldier can get a doctor's appointment, she said. Lyster Army Health Clinic doesn't hold appointments for people who need flight physicals or PHAs, so it can sometimes take a few days to see a doctor.

The system is intended to make sure Soldiers are healthy, she said, but MEDPROS can also help Soldiers stay healthy.

She remembers one Soldier who had a specific "deficiency" level noted on his information. The Soldier did not know the significance of it, but McCollough was able to explain how that "deficiency" meant he shouldn't take certain kinds of medication.

"If there's something that says deficiency on it, find out what it is," she said.

McCollough places a lot of responsibility for maintaining individual readiness on individual Soldiers, but that responsibility is also shared by commanders, she said. Commanders maintain responsibility for unit readiness and should ensure MEDPROS status rosters are accurate. They should also monitor Soldiers to ensure completion of required deployment-related health assessments.

"If a commander doesn't show interest in MEDPROS, the people under him won't either," she said.

## News Briefs

### Garrison change of command

The Fort Rucker Garrison hosts its change of command and change of responsibility ceremony July 13 at 10 a.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Col. Stuart J. McRae will assume command of the garrison from Col. James A. Muskopf, and Command Sgt. Maj. Buford E. Noland will accept responsibility as command sergeant major of the garrison from Command Sgt. Maj. Dwaine E. Walters.

### Lyster construction

Construction to install a revolving door at the main entrance to Lyster Army Health Clinic is scheduled to begin Saturday. Due to this construction, the main entrance to the facility will not be accessible. Lyster officials will open several alternate entrances to allow the best possible access for patients during this time. Several entrances on the east side of the building — near the primary care clinic and behavior medicine — will be accessible, including the handicap ramp access. Patrons will also be able to access the facility through the entrance located near the MRI area.

Lyster officials said they are working to make the clinic a more patient-friendly environment and apologize for the inconvenience during the construction period.

### 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.

### 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.



# Visit: Sinise tours post, visits with Soldiers, Families

Continued from Page A1

in the armed forces. “We should be very proud and we should do everything we can to show our appreciation when we can,” he said.

One of the many ways Sinise does this is frequently visiting military hospitals.

“I’m always thinking it’s going to slow down and I’m not going to be visiting as many wounded warriors, yet over this 10 year period, it’s always constant,” he said. “It reminds you how dangerous it is and how many we have out there who are sacrificing each and every day and getting hurt.”

He said he wants to continue to remind people about the thousands of Soldiers who are still in harm’s way.

“If I can do something to help keep them strong, it’s a good feeling,” he said.

During his visit to Allen Stagefield on Monday, Sinise watched students practice different maneuvers from the tower, then visited with a group of students and asked questions about some of the training he had witnessed.

“What was it like the first time you got in a helicopter?” he asked.

“It was exciting not to actually kill yourself,” one student quickly replied.

Another student explained that there was more to flying a helicopter than she imagined before she started training.

“There’s so much go-



PHOTOS BY ANGELA WILLIAMS

Gary Sinise visits with flight students at Allen Stagefield.

ing on at once,” she said. “It’s really hard, but it’s a rewarding experience for me.”

After Sinise spoke with the students, Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, praised the actor’s work, calling him “a great American.”

“He does this out of the goodness of his heart,” he said, adding that Sinise had personally done a lot of work to make the return

trip to Fort Rucker a reality.

“I think that says a lot about him as an American, as a man, as a friend and about you as our community,” Crutchfield said. “I don’t think he would come back if he didn’t want to.”

The general said Fort Rucker was lucky to have Sinise and he was thankful for what the actor did for the Soldiers.

“I’m just grateful to have a friend like Gary Sinise come down here,” he said.



Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, talks with Gary Sinise while leaving Allen Stagefield.



Gary Sinise greets people at Allen Stagefield.



A Family gets a picture made with Gary Sinise at the Soldier Service Center.



A Soldier and his daughter get a picture with Gary Sinise after waiting for the actor to finish touring an office.

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# Take 5

## Safe Fireworks

- Public displays put on by professionals are the safest way to enjoy fireworks
- Never light fireworks indoors or near dry grass
- Always have a bucket of water and a fire extinguisher nearby
- Never wear loose clothing when using fireworks
- Douse dud devices with water and dispose of properly
- Always read directions and warning labels
- Supervise children around fireworks at all times

# 1-11th: Keeter thanks former commander, CG

Continued from Page A1

services operations across 25 facilities every training day without fail,” said the colonel. “[Under Flowers’ command], over 1 million Traffic Management Program miles were driven by his Soldiers without any incident or injury, while he flawlessly supported the training of nearly 4,000 flight-school students and combat Aviators that flew [more than] 500,000 hours,” adding that Flowers left the unit well trained and ready for Keeter to take on as the new commander.

An opportunity that the incoming commander said he was thankful to be afforded.

“Thank you General Crutchfield and Colonel Christensen for the opportunity to command this great unit,” he said. “I’d also like to thank Mike Flowers for his invaluable advice and counsel during our transition, and to all the leaders and Soldiers with whom I’ve served with and are about to serve — thank you for making this the best job in the world. I am truly honored to join your ranks.”

A

♥

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U.S. ARMY PHOTO

The 3,200-pound Gray Eagle Unmanned Aircraft System waits for its mission at sunset during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. The Army's MQ-1C Gray Eagle program is under its estimated budget, and is also meeting expected availability rates in theater.

# Gray Eagle exceeds expectations, comes in under projected budget

By C. Todd Lopez  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army's MQ-1C Gray Eagle program is under its estimated budget, and is also meeting expected availability rates in theater.

While the reliability rate of the unmanned aircraft system is not where it could be, Army leaders have said for now the service is OK with that because the UAS is doing more in terms of capability than what it was originally designed

to do.

"We focused on what is more important. And what is more important is getting capability into hands of warfighters down range," said Maj. Gen. William Crosby, program executive officer, Army Aviation. "The feedback we've gotten from our warfighter down range is this system is a game-changer."

The Gray Eagle UAS is part of a system that includes ground control stations and ground equipment. The system provides reconnaissance, surveillance, targeting and acquisition capabilities for commanders. The aircraft can carry multiple sensors and is also weaponized with the Hellfire missile.

"It's done so well, we keep adding stuff to it," Crosby said. "We're adding sensors, we're updating the engine."

With the Gray Eagle, the Army has made a conscious decision to focus on capability for now, Crosby said, and will focus later on reliability.

SEE RELIABILITY, PAGE B4

# Army expanding, upgrading MQ-1C UAS fleet



PHOTO BY SPC. ROLAND HALE

An MQ-1C Gray Eagle unmanned aircraft makes its way down an airfield on Camp Taji, Iraq, before a surveillance mission in the Baghdad area, in this undated file photo. The Army plans upgrade and buy 29 more of the game-changers.

By Kris Osborn  
Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology

WASHINGTON — The Army is upgrading its fleet of MQ-1C Gray Eagle Unmanned Aircraft Systems while also advancing plans to equip each 10-15,000 Soldier division with its reconnaissance, surveillance, targeting and acquisition capabilities, officials said.

"The feedback we've gotten from our warfighters down range is that this system is a game changer. It is really enhancing our ability," said Maj. Gen. Tim Crosby, with Program Executive Officer - Aviation. "Soldiers have been able to take this great technology and put it into the war quickly with great results."

At a recent Defense Acquisition Board, Pentagon officials approved an Army plan to acquire 29 more aircraft as part of a longer term plan to equip each division with a Gray Eagle company consisting of a full-spectrum

Combat Aviation Brigade of 12 aircraft, Crosby explained.

"The world will continue to be a dangerous place. Having that organic reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition, or RSTA, capability at the division level will be a real asset," said Rich Kretzschmar, Unmanned Aircraft Systems deputy project manager.

The Gray Eagle is a Hellfire missile-equipped, 3,600-pound UAS with a 56-foot wingspan and the ability to fly and send back images and sensor data for nearly 24 hours at altitudes up to 25,000 feet. Two Quick Reaction Capabilities units, each consisting of four aircraft, ground control stations and supporting equipment, are currently deployed in Afghanistan.

Additionally, a Gray Eagle company of 12 aircraft is serving in Afghanistan. Overall, the Gray Eagle has flown more than 24,000 combat hours and maintained an operational

SEE FLEET, PAGE B4

# NIE, Agile Process bring about fundamental change

By Maj. Nichole Propes  
U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — Experts from U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command discussed the Network Integration Evaluations and the Agile Process during the Virginia Peninsula General Douglas MacArthur Chapter of the Association of the United States Army professional development forum in Williamsburg June 21.

NIEs are semiannual evaluations by the Brigade Modernization Command at Fort Bliss, Texas, and are a part of the Agile Process, the Army's new quick-reaction acquisition method to address distinct capability gaps and insert new technologies into the overall network at a lower cost.

"We are trying to do things differently to meet the needs of the force by developing capabilities as quickly as possible," said Steve West, the deputy of Accelerated Capabilities Division, Army Capa-

bilities Integration Center.

West led the panel, which also included Les Ware and Jim Bray, also from the Accelerated Capabilities Division, as well as Mike Bradley, an industry representative.

During the briefing, panel members explained that the Army currently has an informal and formal process to field equipment. The informal process, known as rapid equipping, enables the Army to do things quickly to meet immediate operational needs. The more formal process includes a complete approach that maximizes efficiency and effectiveness. West said balancing time and risk determines which process they will use.

"The Army tests and gets feedback on mature technology from industry by putting it in the hands of Soldiers in realistic operational environments," Bradley said.

TRADOC's role in the NIE and Agile Process is to step in and look at the capability gaps and requirements

SEE NIE, PAGE B4



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

A Soldier from A Co., 1/35th Armored Battalion, 2nd BCT, 1st Armored Division, demonstrates an application he designed to Gen. Robert W. Cone, commander of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, during Network Integration Evaluation 11.2 in June 2011.



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# Reliability: More units to be fielded in 2013

Continued from Page B1

So far, reliability problems have been attributed mostly to software issues that arise with the addition of new sensors to the Gray Eagle, Crosby said. Those problems change as new sensors are added. However, Crosby said, when those software problems are fixed, they don't reappear.

"That gives the team confidence we will be able to resolve this when we quit adding new capability," Crosby said.

When the Gray Eagle first was introduced into theater, it was equipped with an electro-

optical/infrared sensor. Now the system carries weapons, and the Army has also added the Synthetic Aperture Radar/Ground Moving Target Indicator as well as air-data relay capability.

In Afghanistan now, the Army has two "quick reaction capability," or QRCs, platoon-sized Aviation elements that are each equipped with four Gray Eagles. The first of those QRCs was initially in Iraq, in August 2009, before it moved in December 2012 to Afghanistan. The second of the QRCs moved into Afghanistan in September 2010.

Also in Afghanistan now is the first full-sized Gray Eagle unit, F-227, which is a company-sized unit with three platoons of four aircraft each. Fox 227 entered Afghanistan in April and has done well there.

The F-227 unit has been flying now for about two months and "the unit has matured over the last 45 days or so," said Col. Timothy Baxter, project manager, unmanned aircraft systems. Baxter said the unit flies three to four "strings" per day, gaining about 70-90 flying hours for the systems during each day of flying.

The Gray Eagles in theater now have

flown, together, about 24,000 combat hours. Baxter said availability for the Gray Eagle is at about 80 percent now, which is what was expected, though the Army's objective for the aircraft is 90 percent.

In January 2013, the Army expects to field another unit, F-1, with 12 aircraft, a unit similar to F-227. Before deploying to Afghanistan, the unit will participate in an initial operational testing and evaluation this summer.

The Army hopes to eventually field a company-sized Gray Eagle unit to every division, officials said.

## Fleet: Gray Eagles fly 70-90 hours per day

Continued from Page B1

availability at about 85 percent, said Col. Tim Baxter, UAS project manager.

The Gray Eagle "quick reaction capability" represents an effort to send emerging technology to theater as a way to refine requirements for an acquisition program, upgrade the sensors and software and provide Soldiers the battlefield advantage of utilizing its technology, all while simultaneously preserving the Milestones, checks, balances and procedures central to a formal Program of Record procurement effort, officials explained.

"This is a contingency-based program," said Baxter. "We've been putting kits in the field while simultaneously in the background developing the system as part of a Program of Record. This has been an iterative process. We added additional avionics and we added a [communications] relay capability. We have a laundry list of 15 to 25 things that we have added over the last three or four years. Right now in theater, Gray Eagles are flying 70 to 90 hours a day."

Part of the rationale for the QRC is to harness key input and

feedback from Soldiers using the system as a way to improve the aircraft, and in some instances, help add new capability. Gray Eagles QRCs have been operating in theater since 2009, according to Crosby and Baxter.

## NIE: Advance fielding cuts overall cost

Continued from Page B1

that are based on the objectives and focus areas identified by the Army. The command then works them from the strategic level down to the tactical level. TRADOC is also involved with how the technologies are chosen and integrated based on the findings and recommendations from

the BMC.

The Agile Process and NIE are processes that help change how the Army delivers capabilities to its Soldiers.

"Getting the equipment in the hands of the Soldiers prior to fielding may cost a lot of money, but it's cheaper than fielding equipment then finding out there is a problem," Bray said.

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PHOTOS BY ANGELA WILLIAMS

The entire cast sings a song together at the end of the show.

## Fort Rucker children perform 'Jack and the Beanstalk'

By Angela Williams  
Army Flier Staff Writer

Eighteen Fort Rucker children tiptoed around backstage applying last minute makeup and finding their places before their first production of "Jack and the Beanstalk" Friday at the post theatre.

"This is going to be one great show," said Gabrielle Franklin, 10, the show's "fire eater," as she danced around in a red leotard and flame-themed skirt.

The children auditioned for roles Monday and performed a full-length play Friday and Saturday, with the help of Ashley Boyd, Mia Sage Lowry and the Missoula Children's Theatre – an organization that sends teams of actor-directors to all 50 states and several countries to teach children about theatre one week at a time.

"The kids were great," Boyd said. "They worked really hard rehearsing. They did all of this in just four days."

Part of the mission of Missoula Children's Theatre is teaching life skills through the performing arts, Lowry explained.

"We expect a lot of these kids," she said. "We hope when they leave they know they have value, their voice is worth hearing and anything they have to say is important."

From the time we start auditions, we believe in them and that never stops throughout the entire week, she added.

Boyd said she hoped the children learned about teamwork, confidence, a sense of accomplishment and the importance of hard work.

"The children did a great job. They were very enthusiastic," said Denise Honeycutt, Directorate

of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation partnership specialist.

During the week, she said she noticed some shy children start "breaking out of that shell" and interacting with the other children.

"The ability to speak to different individuals and different age levels, to care for them and help them along, is a great life skill," she said.

"This is a good experience for them to have," added Emily Pierce, child-youth program assistant.

Before the performance on Friday, Courtney Denton, 13, who played a farmer, merchant and harp, sat backstage and waited on the play to begin.

She said the week of rehearsals had taught her about speaking loudly and clearly, enunciating, using motions and remembering lines.

"It's really fun," she said. "You get to meet new people and catch up with old friends."

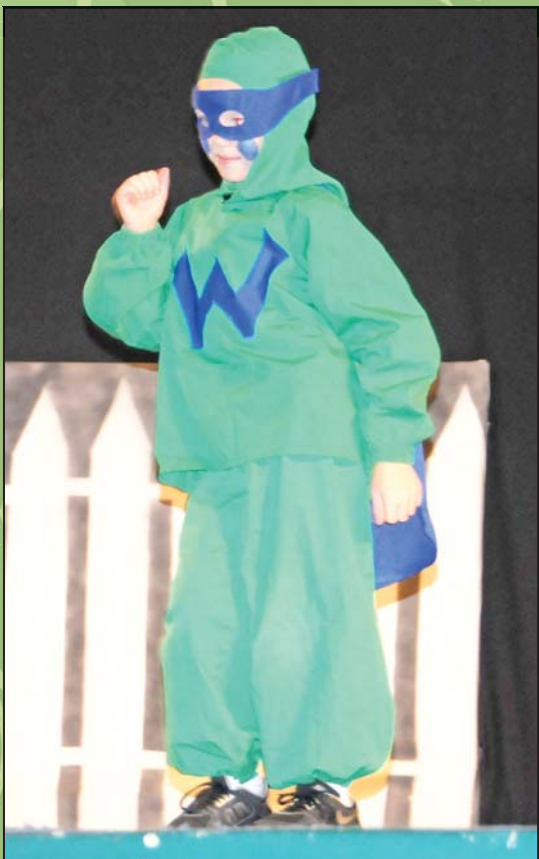
On the other side of the stage, Courtney's twin sister, Aleecia, prepared to play the part of the giant.

"It's ironic because I'm the shortest big kid," she said. "You have to use your imagination and be creative."

The play told the traditional story of "Jack and the Beanstalk" with one small twist. Instead of being violent and angry, the giant in the play was lonely and in need of a friend. Because Jack and another character, Jill, were kind to the giant, he gave Jack a "small" coin to take home with him.

Throughout the performance, the characters emphasized the importance of friends and Family.

"Even though we have no money, we have more because we have each other," explained Jack, played by Trevor Christensen, 14.



Gavyn Denton performs the part of Jack's magic bean during this weekend's performance of Jack and the Beanstalk.

## ACS ready to help PCSing Soldiers, Families

By Connor Wolanski  
Army Flier Contributing Writer

Army Community Service stands at the ready to help Soldiers and Families as the peak PCS season gets into full swing over the summer.

ACS is involved in a wide range of services for Soldiers, from emergency relief to financial planning to the volunteer corps, according to the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation website.

One of the most heavily used branches is the relocation readiness office, which assists Soldiers both in and out-processing from Fort Rucker.

"I am very inquisitive of any service members who come by here to see what information I can provide them," said Ruth Gonzales, relocation readiness program manager. "We have welcome packets and calendars of events, and provide contact information to a gambit of services such as the vet clinic, school liaison officers, or Lyster Army Health Clinic."

As one of the offices that in-processing Soldiers are required to visit, Gonzales acknowledged that relocation readiness bears the important responsibility of providing Soldiers with the tools they need to get the most out of their time at Fort Rucker.

"We try to provide a little bit of knowl-



PHOTO BY CONNOR WOLANSKI

Curtis L. Williams, mobilization and deployment program manager, and Ruth Gonzales, relocation readiness program manager, assist a military Family over the phone.

edge about everything so that if somebody has a question we can at least direct them where to go," said Gonzales.

Gonzales was also quick to recommend the information referral office as another good source of information for Fort Rucker Soldiers and Families, saying that the two departments work "hand-in-hand."

In addition to information on the various services located on post as well as in the surrounding area, ACS also provides the lending hangar, a federally funded program that loans out appliances and household goods to Families in need.

"[Incoming Soldiers] may arrive here before their household goods, so [at the

lending hangar] they can borrow items, normally for 30 days, although those coming from overseas are allowed 60 days," said Gonzales, adding that the office is willing to extend loan times on a "case-by-case basis."

The relocation readiness office also plays a significant role in preparing out-processing Soldiers for their next station, providing everything from contact information for schools to an overview of the job market in the area. Helping to reassure and prepare military spouses and military Families should always be a priority, said Gonzales.

"If it's your first move, we do one-on-one and go down a checklist: 'Have you called your rent-a-company, have you turned off the utilities, are you budgeting because this will be a costly move' – and it's free," she said.

"[The most rewarding thing is] helping Families – giving Families a tool or some information they didn't know before. I make sure they know I'm not here to enable them, but to empower them," she said.

For more information on the relocation readiness office, call (334) 255-2887 or visit the office in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 177. The office is open Mondays through Fridays, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.



# ON POST

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

### Youth Skate Night

The youth center hosts 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.

### 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.

### Financial Readiness Training

Army Community Service offers Financial Readiness 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.

### Newcomer's Welcome

Army Community Service hosts a Newcomers Welcome the third Friday of each month from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at The Landing. Active duty military, spouses, foreign students, Department of the Army civilians and Family members are all encouraged to attend. A free light breakfast and coffee is served. For free childcare, parents should register children at the child development center by calling 255-3564. Reservations must be made 24 hours prior to the Newcomer's Welcome.

For more, call 255-3161 or 255-2887.

### Divorce/Separation Co-Parenting Workshop

Army Community Ser-



FILE PHOTO

## Fall youth sports registration

Fall youth sports registration takes place now through July 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.

vice 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.

### ACS Family Bowling Night

Army Community Service offers a Family Bowling Night for all active duty military Families with special needs, Family Readiness Groups and Hearts Apart Families July 19 from 5-7:30 p.m. at Rucker Lanes. Cost is \$1 per game and \$1.50 for shoe rental. Registration is required no later than two days prior to the event. For more information and to register, call 255-9277 or 255-3735.

### AFTB Level III

Army Community Service offers its Army Family Team Building Level III training July 24-25 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Soldier Service Center, Rm. 371F. Classes include: communication skills for leaders, leadership styles, building cohesive teams, managing group conflict and more. Advance registration is required.

For registration and childcare information, call 255-2382.

### Children's craft making

The Center Library hosts a craft making activ-

ity for children ages 3-11 July 24 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Space is limited to the first 65 children to register. Light refreshments will be served.

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

### Get R.E.A.L.

Army Community Service hosts its Army Family Team Building training, Rucker Experience, Army Learning, July 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Soldier Service Center in Rm. 371F. Get REAL helps those new to the Army learn about the lifestyle, make sense of the terms and acronyms, and learn about the resources available at the post. The free, interactive day of learning and meeting new people includes topics such as: acronyms, Army customs and courtesies, military rank, community resources and more. Advance registration is required.

For registration and childcare information, call 255-2382.

### 'Mind Candy'

Illusionist and hypnotist Wayne Hoffman performs “Mind Candy” July 27 at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at The Landing. According to Hoffman, the audience doesn't just watch the show, it becomes part of it. People may find themselves selected to take part in mind-blowing experiments and demonstrations. With a presentation that combines mind-reading and visual illusions, people may leave the show questioning their senses. Tickets for the evening performances will be available at The Landing Zone for \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Special VIP tables are available for \$150, which include 10 tickets and reserved seating. The event is open to the public and for ages 18 and older.

For more, call 255-9810 or 598-8025.

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 **THE LANDING**

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FRIDAY, JULY 6

SATURDAY, JULY 7

SUNDAY, JULY 8

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PHOTO BY ANGELA WILLIAMS

# Pick-of-the-litter

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## 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 Wor-

ship Protestant Service.

### SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER, BUILDING 8939

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

### BIBLE STUDIES

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

# Church Directory

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**Center Point Community Church**  
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† 3351 Lynn Road – Enterprise (right off Rucker Blvd)  
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⌘ Sunday Evenings – 5 PM  
⌘ Wednesday Evenings – 7 PM  
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**The Gathering - Youth**  
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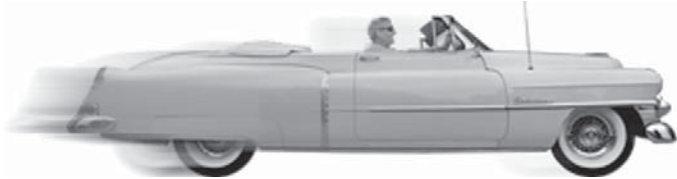
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By Alabama Department of Travel  
Press Release

Abbeville is the county seat of Henry County. It is located in southeastern Alabama in the Wiregrass region and, according to local history, was known as Yatta Abba by the Creek inhabitants.

Abbie Creek runs through the town and future Alabama governor William Calvin Oates established a law practice in the town in 1859. During the Civil War, he raised a company of Abbeville men that fought at Little Round Top in the Battle of Gettysburg.

Today, Abbeville is called “the City of Dogwoods” because they still bloom along Abbie Creek and are abundant in many other parts of the city.

Tucked away in the southeastern corner of Alabama since 1823, Abbeville was shrinking into obscurity. Thanks in part to the commitment and passion of a man you have seen on television many times, it is being revitalized.

Jimmy Rane, the big guy wearing the bright yellow hat and cowboy boots in TV commercials, known as the “Yella Fella,” headed up a posse of business leaders dedicated to saving their hometown. The changes they’ve made are quite striking.

As other merchants and citizens worked to restore Abbeville’s small-town charm, Rane focused his attention on turning an old Standard Oil Filling Station into office space for his company, Great Southern Wood Preserving, Inc. He also made a 1950s-style restaurant named Huggin’ Molly’s a local mainstay and gave many downtown buildings a facelift.

Each April, and at various other times during the year, you can follow the antics of the Yella Fella. You can also meet a “hugging ghost,” see the former home

of a civil rights pioneer, and discover the history and heritage of the place Native Americans called “Yatta Abba,” meaning “a grove of dogwood trees.”

Probably one of the first sites you’ll reach is the Old Standard Oil Filling Station on Washington Street. You can’t get gas there and you can’t tour the interior of the building as it houses some of the Yella Fella’s company offices. You can, however, pull in and view the exterior, filling up on a slice of Americana when you do. Be sure to carry a buddy along and have a camera in hand as this still very retro-looking building makes for good conversation and a great photo opportunity.

Downtown Abbeville is where you will see much of the handiwork of Rane. He has restored many of the storefronts and office buildings, including the facade of the Archie Theater where he used to watch western movies on Saturday afternoons.

As the founder and CEO of the world’s leading producer of pressure-treated lumber products, Rane never minds slipping into his whimsical Yella Fella cowboy character to promote the history of Abbeville and bring vivid memories to life for a new generation of residents and visitors.

At the Pioneer Cemetery located behind First Baptist Church at 100 Columbia Road, the stories from the grave are endless. A burial plot at the cemetery bears the name of one Cinderella Phoebe Hutto Epsy. Of course, it’s not a memorial to the Cinderella from the fairytale, but the mere thought of having perhaps the only burial site dedicated to a Cinderella gives Abbeville boasting rights. One marker bears the names of seven children all in one grave. Another tells of a local citizen who lived to be 110 years old, and yet another remembers Abbeville’s real Huggin’ Molly.

On your journey, you’ll discover retail establishments offering great discounts and diverse shopping opportunities, such as Town Square Shoppes and Dogwood Abbey’s. You’ll also get to meet wonderful people who value friendships and Family traditions and are always willing to give you a glimpse of life in their hometown.

Before leaving Abbeville, be sure to pull to the side of the road to read and photograph the historic marker (1 mile west of U.S. Hwy. 431 on AL Hwy. 10) near the farmstead where Rosa Parks lived as child. While many people tend to connect Montgomery with the 42-year-old seamstress who made history as the “Mother of the Civil Rights Movement in America,” few realize that the little girl born Rosa Louise McCauley in Tuskegee spent a short part of her childhood in Henry County.

Parks moved with her Family to her grandparents’ 260-acre farm on the outskirts of Abbeville shortly after she was born on Feb. 4, 1913. In 1915, she and her mother moved to Pine Level. She married Raymond Parks in 1932. In 1943, she joined her husband as a member of the NAACP. Parks championed her first cause for civil rights when she returned to Abbeville and Henry County in 1944 to investigate the alleged rape and abduction at gunpoint of a young African-American woman by seven white men.

Today, a small, run down, wooden house with a battered tin roof in the middle of Abbeville farmland is all that remains of the place that cradled Parks as a baby. The roadside marker, however, serves as a testament to the genteel woman who was not afraid to fight the giants of racism and prejudice in the South. In taking on the case of injustice in Abbeville, Parks was already in the process of launching a movement that would ultimately change the world.

# WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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**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](http://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](http://wiregrassmuseum.com) or call 794-3871.

### ENTERPRISE

**ONGOING** — Visit Enterprise is

proud to announce a summer internship with the Enterprise Tourism Office. This opportunity allows interns to explore and work with new marketing techniques used to promote Enterprise as a tourism destination, such as event marketing and social media marketing. The internship runs mid-May through August. The internship is unpaid, but the student gains valuable experience that will assist them when they are ready to start their career. If interested, please send a resume to [director@visiterenterprise.com](mailto:director@visiterenterprise.com).

**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

**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” runs until Aug. 4. For more information, call 774-7145 or visit [www.ruddartcenter.org](http://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 ad-

ditional 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](http://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](http://www.wiregrasstennisassociation.com/CommunityRelations.html).

### 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.

### Slimy Saturday

McWane Science Center hosts the slimiest day of the year. Visitors can run across the oobleck pool, take a plunge down the slip n’ slide and even make their own slime at the center in Birmingham July 14. For more information, visit [www.mcwane.org](http://www.mcwane.org).

### Capital City Shape Notes Concert

Traditional singers perform from shape note hymn books published in Alabama, including “The Sacred

Harp” and “Christian Harmony.” The free, daylong concert is July 19 in the Old Alabama Town Reception Center. For more information, call (888) 240-1850.

### Dark Knight Rises Premiere

*The Dark Knight Rises* opens at 12:01 a.m., July 19, in the IMAX Dome Theater at the McWane Science Center in Birmingham. For more information, visit [www.mcwane.org](http://www.mcwane.org).

### 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. Food and coolers are allowed. Scheduled bands include the Runnin’ Partners Tuesday, The Lee Boys on July 19 and Boukou Groove on July 26. All concerts start at 7 p.m. For more information, visit [pbeach.org](http://pbeach.org).

## 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 July 19 from noon-1 p.m. and is entitled “Alabama and the War of 1812: After the Horseshoe.” For more information, call 353-4726 or visit [www.archives.alabama.gov](http://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 Friday in Heritage Park in Foley, Ala. Music starts at 5:30 p.m. with local bands and a movie at dusk.



# DOD releases political do's, don'ts for military, civilians

By Katie E. Nelson  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — With election season fast approaching, the Department of Defense published a set of guidelines June 19, for military personnel detailing what's allowed and what's restricted when participating in political activities.

The four-page DOD memorandum, signed by Deputy Secretary of Defense Ashton B. Carter, opens with an urging to service members to vote and exercise their civic ability. However, the document also cautions military personnel about how their public behavior could reflect positively or negatively on the military.

"Generally, all service members are prohibited from acting in any manner that gives rise to the inference of approval or endorsement of candidates for political office by DOD or the U.S. military," the memo stated.

The document cites wearing a military uniform while taking part in political activism as an example of violating the rules because it implies military endorsement. Also included in the list of prohibited activities is holding a leadership position in a political club; running for civil office; posting large signs on a privately owned vehicle; or officially representing the armed forces at a political event.

"All military personnel shall avoid any activity that may be



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

Soldiers are encouraged to register to vote, and to also vote, during an election. However, there are rules that spell out what Soldiers can do in the way of campaigning, or participation in other kinds of political activity.

contrary to the spirit or intent of the directive," the memo stated.

In addition to specifying which actions are considered unfavorable, there are also a number of guidelines explaining allowable behavior for military personnel. These include:

- voting;
- giving personal political opinions unaffiliated with the military;
- becoming a member of a political club;
- posting a political bumper sticker on a privately owned vehicle; and
- donating money to a political

party.

The memo further explains that these are not all-inclusive rules, but are more of a broad

SEE VOTERS, PAGE C6

## Address updates essential for absentee voting

By J.D. Leipold  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON—With just more than a hundred days remaining until the national elections, overseas Soldiers, civilians, contractors and Family members need to let their home states know of any change in address so they can receive their absentee ballots in time.

Nearly 151,000 Soldiers serve abroad and the secretary of defense wants to get the word out to them that time is running short for overseas voters to submit a Federal Postcard Application, or FPA, with updated address information.

"You can go on line or fill out the hard copy application and then all they do is send that to their local voting official," said Lt. Col. Paul Amrhein, chief, Soldier Programs Branch. "The most important part that we try to emphasize to Soldiers is even if you've changed your address, you still have to send in another FPA with the update."

"Once you're registered to vote, you stay registered unless your information changes, so for military and Family members, they

should double-check to ensure they're registered if they've moved since the previous election," Amrhein added.

In September, a new initiative kicks off that will

allow U.S. citizens overseas to place express mailing labels on their ballots that can be tracked from the military post office to the local

voting official in the U.S., said Amrhein.

"Voting assistance officers and unit leaders are putting emphasis on trying to instill in their Sol-

diers and civilians the importance of taking part in these elections and how voting is a right and part of their civic duty," he said. "I just want to emphasize

the importance of updating the address and letting the local voting election official know that address to ensure their ballot counts on election day."

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# Voters: Document provides basic guidelines

Continued from Page C1

set of parameters meant to illustrate acceptable and unacceptable actions. Exceptions and more in-depth regulations can be found in the hyperlinks attached to the document.

“The [record] does not constitute a complete listing of permissible or impermissible activities,” according to the memo. “Reference to the specific language of DOD Directive 1344.10 [Guidance for Military Personnel] is appropriate in all instances.”

The document also addresses more complicated matters regarding political activity, such as social media. According to Public Affairs Guidance for Political Campaigns and Elections, a document linked to the memo, service members may express their personal opinions via social media, as long as they do not tie those views to the DOD.

In addition, the memorandum outlines guidelines for federal employees concerning what the Hatch Act allows and doesn’t when it comes to political activities.

The release of the document was intended to clarify the boundaries regarding political activity among military personnel, officials said. While it is not a comprehensive list, they said service members and employees are expected to abide by the standards and exercise judgment in making decisions.



Motorists are reminded to obey all traffic signs and to never text while driving.

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JULY 5, 2012



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFau

People participate in the Strong Bodies class at the Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Facility Friday, using free weights to enhance their workout. The Strong Bodies class is one way that people can get out of the heat while maintaining their workouts.



## Fitness facilities offer workouts to beat the heat

By Nathan Pfau  
Army Flier Staff Writer

Working out can be hard enough to keep on track, but add in summer heat and it can become downright unbearable, not to mention unsafe.

That's one of the reasons the fitness facilities on Fort Rucker offer ways for authorized patrons to stay out of the heat while staying on track with workouts, according to Amy McDonough, fitness specialist at Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Facility.

"We have everything ... from an indoor track at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility ... to basketball courts in either gym that people can use to play," she said. "Either you're going to have to exercise early in the morning [to avoid the heat], or you can come

into our facilities and work out."

The fitness facilities offer a full range of classes from strength training classes like Cardio Strength Intervals and Functional Athletic Strength Training, to aerobic classes like Zumba and spinning, according to the fitness specialist. For a full list of classes, see sidebar.

The cost for the classes are \$3.50 per class individually, \$15 for two weeks of unlimited classes, or \$30 for one month of unlimited classes, said McDonough, adding that people can come into the fitness facilities and try out any of the aerobic classes for free on their first visit.

Both facilities also offer a full range of top-of-the-line fitness and cardiovascular equipment, strength-training equipment and free weights for people to use as well as a 28-foot climbing wall

at Fortenberry-Colton PFF, according to the fitness specialist.

Whether people are working out indoors or outdoors, the most important thing for people to do while exercising is to stay hydrated, she said.

"Drinking water is always best," said the fitness specialist. "You can drink some sports drinks, but water is always No. 1 [when it comes to staying hydrated]."

McDonough, who also teaches spin and Strong Body classes at Fortenberry-Colton PFF, recommends that people hydrate themselves at least one hour before working out, whether outside or in one of the fitness facilities.

"If you know you're going to exercise during the day, drink a glass of water when you wake up," she said. "It's also important to make sure you are hydrated before, during and after you exercise. [Staying hydrated] goes for any time of the year," but more hydration is needed when exercising in hotter environments, she added.

Swimming is a popular exercise in the summer, said the fitness specialist, and although it takes place in water, hydration is just as important.

"People tend to think that since they are swimming, they don't need to stay hydrated as much, which is not true," she said. "You need to hydrate just as much if you're swimming as you would if you were running around."

The first sign that a person may be dehydrated is thirst, said McDonough. People need to know the signs of dehydration, it can lead to heat exhaustion or other heat-related illness, she added.

"The number one test is [for dehydration] is urine color," said the fitness specialist. "If you go to the bathroom and there is color [in your urine], you need to make sure you hydrate yourself."

Other symptoms of impending heat related illness are cramping, dizziness and excessive breathing, she said, adding that prevention is the best medicine.

For more information on classes, call 255-3794.

### Additional Workouts

**Ab Lab** – designed to define waistlines and increase core stability with a 20-minute abdominal and back workout.

**Cardio Strength Intervals (CSI)** – alternates between intervals of athletic cardio and strength training to increase speed, power, agility and balance.

**Functional Athletic Strength Training (F.A.S.T.)** – uses a combination of strength, agility, balance and core training to build lean muscle, improve athletic performance and train for a healthy heart.

**Kickboxing** – designed to develop cardiovascular endurance, speed and agility while building lean muscle mass and learning proper punch, kick and blocking techniques.

**Plyo/Strength** – a total body workout that uses body resistance and may include agility ladders, weighted balls and plyometric boxes.

**Spinning** – low-impact workout designed for all levels of fitness with the ability to go at your own pace. Training sessions can include interval, endurance, strength and all-terrain rides.

**Spin and Core** – a regular spinning class with an optional 15-minute core workout at the end.

**Step and Sculpt** – a low-impact cardio workout that incorporates dumbbells, elastic tubing, BodyBars and Resist-a-Balls to engage all major muscle groups and promote muscular strength and endurance.

**Strong Bodies** – a total-body workout designed to improve muscular strength and endurance that is appropriate for all fitness levels.

**Water Aerobics** – a workout that builds and strengthens muscles while reducing body fat and increasing flexibility in a non-impact environment.

**Yoga** – a complete body workout designed to strengthen both the body and mind while increasing flexibility and muscle tone.

**Zumba** – an aerobic workout designed with a fusion of Latin and international music and dance themes taught in easy-to-follow combinations to tone and sculpt the body.

For more information on classes, call 255-3794.



2nd Lt. Eric Anderson, B Co. 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt., climbs the 28-foot climbing wall at Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Facility Friday. The climbing wall is just one way that members of Fort Rucker can get out of the heat and maintain their workouts.



# DOWN TIME



## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

# T R I V I A

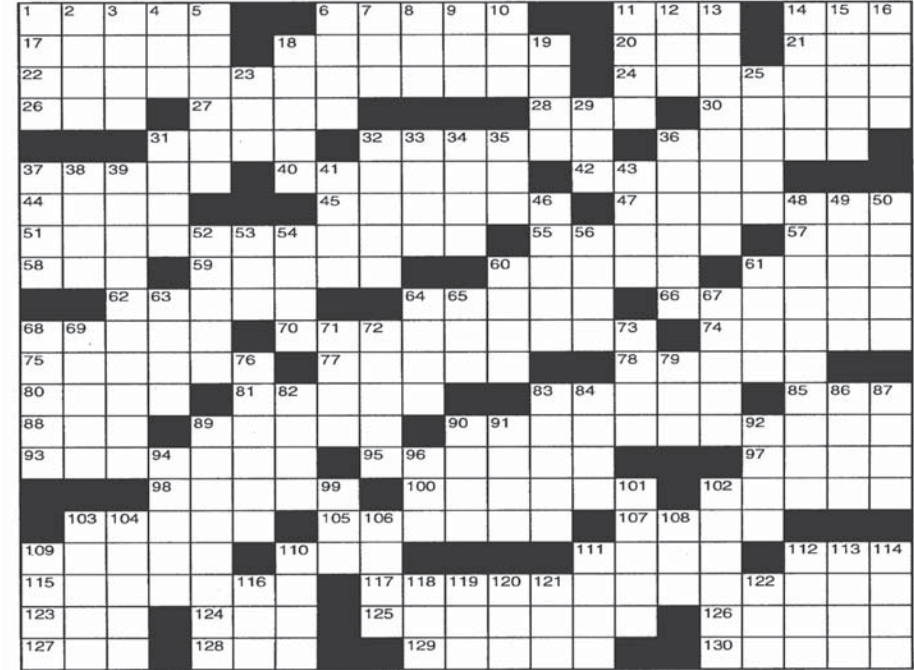
- INVENTIONS: Who invented Lincoln Logs building blocks in 1916?
- SCIENCE: What is the symbol for the chemical element tungsten?
- MOVIES: How many von Trapp children were represented in "The Sound of Music"?
- COMICS: Which comic strip features a character named Jon Arbuckle?
- MEDICAL: What is the more common name for the involuntary spasms known medically as singultus?
- U.S. STATES: A resident nicknamed a "sooner" would live in which U.S. state?
- GEOGRAPHY: What state capital is located near the Kennebec River?
- AD SLOGANS: What car company features advertisements that say "Drivers Wanted"?
- GAMES: In what country did the modern game of badminton originate?
- LITERATURE: What was the name of the caretaker's cat in the "Harry Potter" book series?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

## Super Crossword

RECREATION PROCLAMATION

- ACROSS**
- 1 Ladd or Lane
  - 6 Host a roast
  - 11 Kipling novel
  - 14 Social worker?
  - 17 Conductor Dorati
  - 18 In a perfect world
  - 20 Slangy suffix
  - 21 Norm
  - 22 Start of a remark by 117 Across
  - 24 Northwest-ern capital
  - 26 "— Day Now" ('62 hit)
  - 27 Stallion's son
  - 28 Pom's perch
  - 30 — laugh
  - 31 Hound's handle
  - 32 Torah, e.g.
  - 35 '92 US Open champ
  - 37 What you've gotta have
  - 40 Acquire
  - 42 Harden
  - 44 — Romeo
  - 45 Spring holiday
  - 47 Side by side
  - 51 Part 2 of remark
  - 55 Lamb product
  - 57 Vane dir.
  - 58 — -tzu
  - 59 Boiling
  - 60 West African port
  - 61 Like of bricks
  - 62 Austerity
  - 64 Austen hero
  - 66 German mark?
  - 68 Sierra —, CA
  - 70 All wet
  - 74 Terra firma
  - 75 Is useful
  - 77 Author
  - 78 Potok
  - 79 Column style
  - 80 Claim
  - 81 Problem for Pauline
  - 83 Fernando or Lorenzo
  - 85 Rocker Nugent
  - 88 Herriot title
  - 89 "Odyssey" enticer
  - 90 End of remark
  - 93 17 Across' title
  - 95 "The — Kid" ('84 film)
  - 97 Orthodox image
  - 98 Pants measurement
  - 100 Study
  - 102 Stick one's neck out
  - 103 Sports-caster
  - 105 Classical hunk?
  - 107 Shopper's delight
  - 109 — in (tipped off)
  - 110 Shuffle-board stick
  - 111 TV's "— Living"
  - 112 Hum bug?
  - 115 More eminent
  - 117 Speaker of remark
  - 123 Hosp. area
  - 124 Erwin or Gilliam
  - 125 She handed Theseus a line
  - 126 Break off
  - 127 Endorses
  - 128 Cast a spell
  - 129 Trepidation
  - 130 Neighbor of Oman
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Comic Carvey?
  - 2 Privy to
  - 3 Part of DA
  - 4 Uh-uh
  - 5 Draw forth
  - 6 Touch up the text
  - 7 Big boys
  - 8 Baseball's Ripken
  - 9 Ransom — Olds
  - 10 Brownie, for one
  - 11 Former surgeon general
  - 12 Unwell
  - 13 Andy's area
  - 14 Tell's target
  - 15 They get hit on their heads
  - 16 Hors d'oeuvre holder
  - 18 Northern hemisphere?
  - 19 Scream
  - 23 Start to snooze
  - 25 Free-for-all
  - 29 "The Greatest"
  - 31 Munich Mrs.
  - 32 Iowa, e.g.
  - 33 "The Man in Black"
  - 34 Formal ceremony
  - 35 Like-minded
  - 36 Forester or Outback
  - 37 Rain hard?
  - 38 Lohengrin's love
  - 39 Priced right
  - 41 Leonine
  - 43 Highflying agcy.
  - 46 Show one's feelings
  - 48 Penguins' place
  - 49 Newfound-land's nose
  - 50 Fractional amount
  - 52 Actor Bruce
  - 53 To and —
  - 54 Galley features
  - 56 — terrier
  - 60 Pharmacy measure
  - 61 Jai —
  - 63 Spring flower
  - 64 Twofold
  - 65 Paul's "Exodus" role
  - 67 The Brainy Bunch?
  - 68 Lady of the house
  - 69 Spanish city
  - 71 Farm measure
  - 72 Use one's noodle
  - 73 Tiny coin
  - 76 Elan
  - 79 LummoX
  - 82 Desire defied
  - 83 Yoga position
  - 84 Pub orders
  - 86 North Carolina campus
  - 87 Unit of force
  - 89 Plymouth leader
  - 90 Small songbird
  - 91 Mata —
  - 92 Swamp-land
  - 94 Like Sauternes
  - 96 Mil. address
  - 99 Sweater letter
  - 101 Cosmetician
  - 102 "Patriot Games" author
  - 103 Thwart a blitz
  - 104 Sewell of "A Knight's Tale"
  - 106 — vu
  - 108 "Do — say, not —"
  - 109 Commercial award
  - 110 Pivotal point
  - 111 Ain't right?
  - 112 Put on a happy face
  - 113 In addition
  - 114 Genesis setting
  - 116 When the French fry
  - 118 Significant
  - 119 — Tin Tin
  - 120 "— Doll" ('64 hit)
  - 121 Fabric aments.
  - 122 Charge



See Page D3 for this week's answers.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

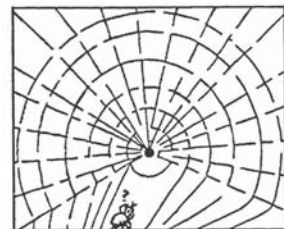
**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★**

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

# KID's CORNER

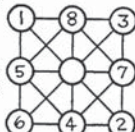


**WEBWARD HO!** Follow that bug — see if you can make your way through openings in this spider web to black dot at center.

**PITCH IN!** Find Ed, Dan, Stan, Flo, Ron, Al and Sue among consecutive letters of the following sentence: We need both concern for, and an understanding of, lots of environmental issues. Time limit: two minutes.

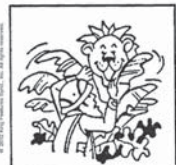
**PULL SWITCH!** Observe that numbers shown (1-8) total 12 on each of the four sides at right. It is possible to move these numbers one at a time, using empty circle to start, and in nine moves attain a total of 15 per side.

How's it done?  
P.S.: Use of numbered disks will facilitate moves.  
Or, perhaps you'd prefer to simply work out a 15-per side arrangement using numbers 1-8 without the moves.



## Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman



### HIDE AND SEEK

#### WILD LIFE

FIND a creature — animal, bird, insect, etc. — listed below to complete the name of each of the following flowers and plants (Ex.: No. 1 is a lion):

- Dandelion
- lily.
- glove.
- Balm.
- Grass.
- Bane.
- Flax.
- Spur.
- Tail.
- Berry.
- Root.
- Cabbage.

Creatures: Cat, snake, lark, fox, goose, skunk, bee, tiger, flea, crab, lion, toad.

10. Gloom. 11. Snake. 12. Skunk.

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

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

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTOFF



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.



# Pair of 1st-time Olympians ready for the spotlight

By Michael Molinaro  
U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs

(Editor's note: This is the first in a series featuring U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Soldiers headed to the Olympics.)

FORT BENNING, Ga. — They’ve pictured themselves there, in Olympic Stadium, walking through the tunnel out into the open air in front of thousands in the stands and millions watching on television. They have trained for that last shot that wins them the gold, reaching a goal they set one day when they realized they had a talent that few have.

For two Soldiers from the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, when they walk through that tunnel July 27 in London, it will be affirmation that the sacrifices made and determination to excel were all worth it.

“When I was young I was amazed at the look people had after winning in the Olympics,” said Staff Sgt. Michael McPhail, who will compete in men’s prone rifle. “The shock, then the happiness – the whole emotion they display after they win at the Olympics – it’s very powerful. It’s a life decision that this is what I am going to do. It’s not just in shooting or track and field. If you want to be the best in the world at checkers, you have to work your butt off. It’s just the way it is.”

McPhail and Staff Sgt. Josh Richmond both come from small towns and grew up shooting guns as a hobby. Never in their wildest dreams did they think they would join the Army, let alone make the Olympics. But here they both are, serving their country every day and training to do so on a different field of battle at the Olympics.

Born and raised in tiny Darlington, Wis., where the cattle easily outnumber the people, McPhail lettered in three sports while growing up and shot rifle at a local indoor range every Tuesday and Thursday night so that he could get more accurate for hunting season.

“Shooting was something I picked up and was good at very quickly,” he said. “When I was 18 the goal was just to win the state championship and I did that, and I really thought shooting was going to continue as a hobby.”

The son of Dennis and Joyce McPhail decided to shoot on the rifle team while attending Osh Kosh University. Soon he met other shooters who mentioned in passing that the USAMU would be a good place for him to reach his potential. After talking to unit personnel and his girlfriend-turned-wife Kari, he made the decision to enlist in the Army.

“I never thought of the Army before,” said McPhail. “I was going to get my degree in business finance and work in that field. And my goal when I came here was not to go to the Olympics. I wanted to see how good at one thing I could be. I accomplished that goal. The goals had to then shift and change.”

Speaking of small towns, they don’t get much smaller than Hillsgrove, Pa. Richmond said it’s the type of town where Families live next door to one another their entire lives. The great outdoors is where Families bond and his was no different.

One day his Uncle Jason set up a pop can and bribed his five-year-old nephew to take his first-ever shot with a shotgun. He would give Richmond a five dollar bill if he hit the can. After an anxious moment, Richmond pulled the trigger. Uncle Jason handed him over the five.

“I was a pretty good shot from the very beginning,” Richmond said. “It was a fun hobby but I was getting really good at it and started shooting at 4-H clubs and then eventually in the junior national championships. I started to get serious about it.”

Richmond graduated from high school in 2004 and then made what he calls “the best decision I ever made in my life, besides marrying my wife Scharri.” He enlisted in the Army in the fall that same year to join the USAMU and further his burgeoning career with the Olympics as the goal.

“Growing up I never thought that the Army would be a route for me,” said Richmond, who will compete in



PHOTO BY MARCO DELLA DEA

Staff Sgt. Josh Richmond, U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, looks on after knocking down a pair of targets at a match in Sydney last year. The 2010 Double Trap World Champion will be making his first trip to the Olympics and is among the favorites to win a medal.

double trap Aug. 2. “My Family was initially against it because it sounded too good to be true. I come from a very small town and we are all very patriotic and the chance to shoot shotguns and represent my country is like having my cake and eating it too.”

Both Soldiers are emphatic when they talk about life in the Army and how it got them to this point. From the gunsmiths who build their guns to their teammates who push them to be at their very best every day, the camaraderie of the USAMU and goal-driven atmosphere is one of the driving forces that make them Olympians.

“If I wasn’t in this unit I wouldn’t be going to the Olympics,” said McPhail. “The support that we get is second to none. It’s unmatched. I came from ‘nowheres-ville’ Wisconsin and now I am headed to London.”

“I am a Soldier who is also an Olympian,” said Richmond. “I am where I am because I am a Soldier. The way I get to train, the lessons I learned – the Army is why I am here. I wear either the Army uniform or the Red, White and Blue every day of my life and I would have it no other way. It is extremely rewarding to represent my country in so many different ways.”

Both Soldiers are arriving at the Olympics peaking but got there in different ways. Richmond earned his berth in 2011 after crossing the point threshold established for performance at World Cup-level competi-

tions. After doing so he volunteered to deploy to Afghanistan as part of the unit’s cross-functional team of marksmanship instructors teaching Afghan Soldiers the proper way to shoot their weapons.

McPhail had to do go through a grueling Olympic Trials on his home range at Fort Benning. Expectations were high and the competition was fierce, with a former gold medalist and several USAMU teammates in the field. McPhail prevailed after three days of intense competition and will compete alongside teammate Sgt. 1st Class Eric Uptagrafft.

Both shooters said they are confident that they are prepared for what awaits them in London. Olympic veterans in the unit provide insight and give them advice about what to expect.

“I have been chasing this dream for 10 years and getting there is a feat in itself,” said Richmond. “My goals are realistic. If I go over there and shoot the way I am capable of shooting and give it my absolute best shot, then I can live with that. Some days you just get beat. If I do my best, that’s all I can do.”

And they said their Army training gives the pair an advantage over other rookie Olympians.

“It is my first Olympics so I would say the biggest challenge is the unknown,” said McPhail. “I know it’s the Olympics but the job, the mission, hasn’t changed. Go out, perform and let the chips fall where they may. This unit has gotten me ready for the moment.”

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

### Super Crossword

Answers

D	I	A	N	E		E	M	C	E	E		K	I	M		A	N	T			
A	N	T	A	L		I	D	E	A	L	L		O	L	A		P	A	R		
N	O	T	H	I	N	G	I	N	L	I	F	E		O	L	Y	M	P	I	A	
A	N	Y		C	O	L	T					L	A	P		B	E	L	L	Y	
				F	I	D	O		S	C	R	O	L	L		S	E	L	E	S	
H	E	A	R	T		O	B	T	A	I	N		I	N	U	R	E				
A	L	F	A			E	A	S	T	E	R		A	B	R	E	A	S	T		
I	S	F	U	N	F	O	R	T	H	E		E	S	S	A		N	N	E		
L	A	O		I	R	A	T	E				D	A	K	A	R		A	T	O	N
		R	I	G	O	R				D	A	R	C	Y		U	M	L	A	U	T
M	A	D	R	E		S	A	T	U	R	A	T	E	D		E	A	R	T	H	
A	V	A	I	L	S		C	H	A	I	M		I	O	N	I	C				
D	I	B	S		P	E	R	I	L		L	A	M	A	S		T	E	D		
A	L	L		S	I	R	E	N		W	H	O	L	E		F	A	M	I	L	Y
M	A	E	S	T	R	O		K	A	R	A	T	E				I	C	O	N	
				W	A	I	S	T		P	E	R	U	S	E		C	R	A	N	E
B	R	E	N	T		A	D	O	N	I	S		S	A	L	E					
C	L	U	E	D		C	U	E				I	T	S	A		B	E	E		
L	O	F	T	I	E	R		J	E	R	R	Y	S	E	I	N	F	E	L	D	
I	C	U		S	T	U		A	R	I	A	D	N	E		C	E	A	S	E	
O	K	S		H	E	X				A	N	G	S	T		Y	E	M	E	N	

### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

### TRIVIA

Answers

- John Lloyd Wright, son of architect Frank Lloyd Wright
- W
- Seven
- “Garfield,” the cat’s owner
- Hiccups
- Oklahoma
- Augusta, Maine
- Volkswagen
- India
- Mrs. Norris

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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.)

London 2012 delivers Olympic experience

By Jim Van Slyke  
Contributing Writer

Most of us will only experience the Olympics through our TVs, but at least with “London 2012 – The Official Video Game of the Olympic Games” we can at least feel like we are competing for gold.

“London 2012” has 49 events across 13 different sports — archery, diving, swimming, gymnastics, track, cycling and more - and a wide range of modes, including online and party play. Gamers can play using motion control with PlayStation Move and Kinect for Xbox 360.

Thankfully, the designers made “London 2012” a game that’s about more than mashing buttons. It recognizes that Olympic events are just as much about finesse as they are about power and speed. Timing plays a big role and gamers will likely be challenged right away by sports such as kayaking that require skill and timing — often together.

Many past Olympic-type games have

been disqualified from competition because they lacked personality. However, “London 2012” includes dynamic commentary that feels like it’s part of the match.

There have also been small adjustments made to some events that make them a bit more video game friendly. The Party Play events are much closer to an arcade experience with potential bonus points, for example.

The game also does a great job putting the gamer in the action, rather than having them participate from the stands. Most views are from the perspective of just behind the athlete so the gamer can see what it looks like when their swimmer leaves the blocks and dives into the pool.

With better-than-expected graphics and gameplay, “London 2012” is the gold medal of video games based on the Olympics. It won’t please everybody — especially that cranky Russian gymnastics judge — but most casual gamers will find it fun.

Reviewed on Xbox 360



**Publisher**  
Sega  
**Rated**  
Everyone  
**Systems**  
Xbox 360, PS3  
**Cost**  
\$50  
**Overall**  
3 out of 4



COURTESY SCREENSHOT

SPORTS BRIEFS

FALL YOUTH SPORTS REGISTRATION

Fall youth sports registration takes now through July 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.

RIDING STABLES RULES

Riding Stables staff reminds community members that letting horses out of their stalls can be dangerous to the horses and motorists. Visitors are also reminded to stay on the main roadways, do not approach any of the horses without owners' permission, stay out of the pastures and obey the speed limit of 10 mph at all times. For more information, call 598-5384.

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