

ADJUSTMENTS
ACAP changes ease
Soldiers' transition



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Misfits take down
Double Tap, 11-6



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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

AUGUST 9, 2012



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Crutchfield's farewell

Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, gets hosed down by his wife, Kim, after he lands from his last flight at Howze Field Friday. See Page A3 for Crutchfield's Q&A and farewell to the Fort Rucker community.

Food drive helps Soldiers, Families

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Feds Feed Families Food Drive is a nation-wide campaign to help Soldiers and their Families through tough times, and Fort Rucker is doing its part to help.

"The campaign gives people the opportunity to help others," said Mike Burden, Army Community Service financial readiness program manager. "When you give things like food, that's a direct impact on people.

"People go to the food locker and get stuff they need like baked beans, diapers or [baby] formula," he said. "It has an immediate impact on those people."

Drop-off points are set up all over the installation at the commissary, the post exchange, Bldg. 5700, Picerne neighborhood centers and the Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Aviation Brigade Food Bank, where all the goods are stored.

Any non-perishable items are allowed to be donated for the food drive, but the most needed items are diapers, baby lotion, multigrain cereals, canned fruits, rice, oatmeal, pasta and other canned goods, according to Burden.

Last years campaign theme was Feeding Families One Fed at a Time and Fort Rucker donated more than an estimated 400 pounds of non-perishable items, according to

Burden, adding that the campaign was successful enough to keep it the same this year.

"We're basically doing the same thing we did last year," he said. "We saw no reason to reinvent the microwave."

Burden said that the commissary is a big player during the campaign and offers a lot of help during the food drive.

The items that are donated help Soldiers in need, their Families or any veterans in the Fort Rucker area, said 1st Sgt. Argelio Rodriguez, HHC 1st Avn. Bde. first sergeant.

"There are a lot of Soldiers here that need this kind of program, including a lot of the lower-enlisted Soldiers," he said. "Sometimes they have trouble making ends meet, but even for those that can make ends meet, there is always something that can pop up."

The food bank is there to help people in times of financial emergencies to not have to worry about where their next meal might be coming from, Rodriguez said, and gave an example of how the food bank has helped and even inspired Soldiers.

"I had a [Soldier] come in here last month who had his identity stolen online," he said. "His bank account had been drained and he needed help for the weekend until he



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

First Sgt. Argelio Rodriguez, HHC 1st Avn. Bde. first sergeant, catalogs non-perishable canned goods at the HHC 1st Avn. Bde. Food Locker Monday. The Feds Feed Families Food Drive campaign is aiming to fill the food locker for Soldiers and their Families in need on Fort Rucker.

SEE FOOD, PAGE A5

Fort Rucker NAF positions available year round

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

Though the ninth annual Fort Rucker Job Fair is Aug. 22, jobs are available throughout the year in the form of Non Appropriated Fund jobs on post.

NAF positions are jobs that have to do with the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation that provide specific services to Fort Rucker. Income from the service is used to pay employees, according to the NAF management website.

NAF positions range from NF-1 through NF-6, and pay is determined by the employee's performance and skill level, not how long they have remained with the company.

Pam SanMiguel, a NAF human resource officer, said that the difference between appro-



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Phylicia Thomas, a waitress at The Landing Zone, serves her guests, 2nd Lt. Michael Karolchik, 2nd Lt. Thomas Chandler and WO1 Christopher Scott B. Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Rgt., at lunchtime.

riated fund jobs like GS jobs and NAF jobs is that, "GS monies are set by Congress whereas NAF is run like a business." She added that she is prepared to help those who are looking

for a NAF position on post but are confused on how to secure a position.

"We no longer take paper applications. To apply for a NAF job you have to go to www.

USAjobs.gov. Select Fort Rucker as your location and NAF as what you are looking for," she said.

Most of the NAF positions are for the MWR activities on post, and SanMiguel said that NAF provides civilian jobs that are not government contracted, but applicants still must go through a formal investigation.

"It provides jobs to those seeking one, but a background check must be passed, though most of the jobs do not need a security clearance like a GS position would," she said.

The Employment Readiness Program keeps up with what positions are open in NAF, but the departments don't directly work together, according to SanMiguel.

"We send applicants such as military spouses up to the ERP

if they need help with résumé construction... and [the ERP] keeps an eye on what we have open that may work for their applicants," she said.

Most positions are flexible and often accommodate college students and parents working around a child's school and sport's schedule. Though positions do come open for minors occasionally, SanMiguel said that the jobs generally do not open often for those under 18.

"Anyone can apply, even an active duty enlisted Soldier can. There is generally an age limit of 18 or 21, but there are no guaranteed hours and there are no benefits or leave time; however they are flexible. We have seasonal jobs as well, like the lifeguards during the summer,"

SEE NAF, PAGE A5

PERSPECTIVE



HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY AVIATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

August 10, 2012

To the Soldiers, Family Members and Civilian Workforce of Fort Rucker:

First of all, I would like to thank you for all you do every day for the Army Aviation Center of Excellence, the United States Army and your nation.

Fort Rucker is a wonderful place to work and live and our garrison is outstanding. During my tenure as the commander, I have witnessed firsthand some of the most caring, thoughtful, patriotic citizens that live and work on Fort Rucker.

We are facing uncertain times, but I know that the leaders of our country and our Army will make the right decisions to lead us through it. Trust in your leaders and do the best you can do every day. Please continue to take care of our Soldiers and Families and keep those in harm's way in your thoughts and prayers.

Kim and I feel deeply fortunate to have led this team during an exciting, yet challenging time in our history. On a personal level, I truly appreciate the compassion and caring you have shown Kim and me. We will truly miss all of you and I want you to know that I will always do everything in my power to support Army Aviation, even from the Pacific.

Thank you for your support, professionalism, and friendship. You have made this tour the most memorable of my career.

We will miss you!
ABOVE THE BEST!

Sincerely,

Anthony G. Crutchfield
Major General, US Army
Commanding

Rotor Wash

Back to school

“What is your favorite thing about school?”



Tom Morder

“I like going to the park so I can play with all my new friends.”



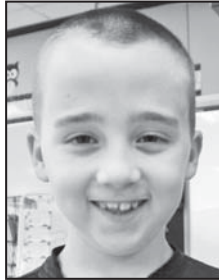
Berkleigh Williams

“Learning how to read. I like to read the pigeon books. I want to learn how to read out loud.”



Giovanni Gomez

“I love to write! It's so much fun to learn how to write. I like letters.”



Ethan Momeny

“I like getting a new teacher and going to science class.”



Kylie Momeny

“My favorite thing about school is music and math; reading too, because it's fun.”

COMMAND

Maj. Gen. Anthony G.

Crutchfield

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

Crutchfield reflects on time as USAACE CG

By Lisa Eichhorn
Public Affairs Officer

(Editor's note: Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield will hand over the reins as commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker to Maj. Gen. Kevin W. Mangum during a change of command ceremony Friday at 9 a.m. at Howze Field. Crutchfield sat down Monday with Lisa Eichhorn, Fort Rucker Public Affairs Officer, to reflect on his time as USAACE and Fort Rucker CG.)

Q: Talk a bit about the things you saw as you came in to the job here and as the new commander what you saw as the Branch's biggest challenges?

A: Biggest challenge? For me it was making sure we had a long-term strategy for the Branch. So almost from the first days of my command we began setting a direction and have worked to have that clarified in an Aviation Campaign Plan. This is not just for Fort Rucker, but for the entire Aviation Enterprise. This campaign plan is a living, breathing document that's done collaboratively. I know in the long run, that's going to pay dividends for our Branch and our Army.

Q: One of your imperatives when taking over was eliminating the training backlog. Why did you know you could get rid of it after it had been an issue for so long?

A: Bottom line, I knew that it had to be done, period. It wasn't easy — it took gathering my team here. I have to say at first I think folks were feeling me out to see if I was serious. After about three months of being here, I gathered my command team and I told them that I wasn't joking. This was going to happen and to get me the plan. Well, within a week they presented the plan and it was the plan we used and it worked. The beautiful thing is the commanders told me they thought we could do it in seven months and we did it in five months. But here's why it was so important for our Army. By getting pilots trained and out to their "go to war" units it meant that maybe some other training pilot didn't have to deploy a third time, a fifth time. It meant that guy or gal got to take a breath and stay with their Family. That's what I was focused on. We needed to get pilots out to the generating force.



Then-Brig. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, USAACE commanding general, gives his opening remarks in January 2011 at a memorial service for 1st Lt. Robert Franklin Dees, a 430th Fighter-Bomber Squadron, 474th Fighter Bomber Group F-84E Thunderjet fighter pilot whose aircraft was shot down over North Korea in 1952 on a combat mission.



Then-Brig. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield pushes Nicholas Karels through the serving line of the dining facility during the youth's Make-a-Wish visit to Fort Rucker in late November 2010.

Q: Talk a little about the AimPoint 2030 and what the folks here can do to keep that a priority?

A: Again, the AimPoint is about the next future vertical lift helicopter. Whatever that may be, whatever that may look like. We have to start now to be able to even think about fielding something by 2030. So with that said, the most important thing is that the Branch can't take its eye off it. Don't give up even with setbacks. Those are going to happen, that's part of life in the Army. We must be willing to compromise. It's not all or nothing. My goal was to get something fielded and then we'll product improve it like we do now. I know the great folks here will make that happen.

Q: Let's change gears, talk to me about the Soldiers, Families and civilians here and

what you feel they do for the Army, and maybe something you think they can improve on?

A: First, this is a wonderful place to work and live, and our garrison is outstanding. I have witnessed firsthand some of the most caring, thoughtful, patriotic citizens that live and work on Fort Rucker. I've seen it when they didn't know I was watching. The support they give is phenomenal. But I also think they should never forget why they are here. I want them to understand their job here is the Soldier and the Family and that's why they are here. Treat everyone like they treated me, even the most junior Soldier should be treated like I had walked into the room. I'm the last person you need to treat that way. I'm a general officer; I can take care of myself. So, that's my message to them. Keep up the good work and remember why you are here.



Then-Brig. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, USAACE and Fort Rucker commanding general, gets some help with his speech from Chris Foster Jr. during the Army Family and Community Covenant signings at the Festival Fields in November 2010.

Q: Talk to me about the Wiregrass and the support of the civilian community.

A: Wow! Well, like I've said many times, the Wiregrass community is like having a blanket around you. There are genuine people here that truly love the Army and our Soldiers and care deeply about our people. I ask them to welcome the Mangum's like they did Kim and I. And continue to grow the relationships that ensure Fort Rucker remains strong and vital to our nation. And, of course, we'll be back to visit. Kim and I have made some great friends here — we will miss them very much.

Q: What do you think your legacy here will be and what did you want it to be?

A: Well, I never thought about a legacy. I don't think that way. I'm probably not the

right person to ask. Ask someone in a couple years. History will tell that story. But for right now, I hope they remember me as a person who was upbeat and positive for this Branch. As someone who cared deeply for the Soldiers and the Families in this Branch. The rest only time will tell.

Q: As you move into your new position at PACOM as the first Army Flag Officer to hold that job, what do you think you'll bring to that command and what is the significance of having an Army general in a position normally held by the Navy?

A: I think first off it's important because the president has put the focus on the Pacific. To have an Army officer there is good for the Army and DOD. Most people don't know that we have 66,000 Soldiers deployed in PACOM. And

as we draw down I think it will be important for an Army officer to have that key position. I hope, coming from the Army, I will be able to provide the commander with a land power perspective when he makes his decisions. I'm looking forward to the challenge.

Q: What would your parting words be for the folks here at Rucker?

A: It's hard to say goodbye. I think I realized I was leaving when I moved out, started to believe it when I took my last flight and knew it at my farewell dinner. This week I'm coming to terms with it. Friday is the Mangum's day and my comments will be short. So, I'll leave everyone with this quote from a very wise man. "We will not cry because it's over. We are going to smile because it happened." — Dr. Seuss

News Briefs

USAACE change of command

The U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence hosts its change of command ceremony Friday at 9 a.m. on Howze Field. Maj. Gen. Kevin W. Mangum will assume command from Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield.

Additionally, because cannons are scheduled to be fired today and also Friday during the ceremony, people are asked to disable their car alarms when parking in the vicinity of Howze Field.

CAC check

People need to look at their Common Access Cards for the wording "Oberthur ID One 128 v5.5 Dual" or "Gemalto TOPDLGX4 144" in the laser engraving above the magnetic strip on the back of the card. If neither is there, the CAC must be replaced prior to Oct. 1 or people's certificates will not be recognized.

For more information or to set an appointment to have a card replaced, call 255-2437 or 255-2182.

AAFES hours change

The hours of operation at the Fort Rucker Army and Air Force Exchange Service Mini Mall and Triangle Express change starting Saturday. Gas is available at both locations 24 hours a day when people purchase with a credit card.

The new Mini Mall hours will be: Mondays-Thursdays, 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 5 a.m. to midnight; and Sundays, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The new Triangle Express hours will be: Mondays-Fridays, 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sundays 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more, call 598-9423.

Cub Scout drives

Fort Rucker's Cub Scout Pack 50 holds membership drives Monday and Aug. 27 from 5-7 p.m. at The Commons on 7th Avenue next to the youth baseball fields.

The local pack takes part in various programs throughout the year, such as camping, community service projects, a bike rodeo, Blue Angels Weekend, Pinewood Derby races, Cubmobile March and more.

For more information on the pack or a list of costs involved, send an email to pack50frucker@yahoo.com.

Retiree council meetings

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

ACAP changes ease Soldiers' transition

By Katie E. Nelson
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The president announced last month an initiative to expand programs designed to prepare service members for leaving the military.

But before those initiatives were announced, the Army was already at work making improvements to the Army Career and Alumni Program, which is designed to help Soldiers transitioning back into civilian life.

ACAP is a program designed in 1991 to reduce veteran unemployment and help troops adjust to life outside of the Army. Recently, ACAP coordinators decided to make some changes to help more Soldiers be successful after leaving the military by tailoring the program to meet each Soldier's unique needs.

"The ACAP program is flexible so we can better prepare Soldiers for their transition back into the civil society," said Walter Herd, director of the Army Transition Office.

Some of the additions the Army has made to ACAP include individual counseling, a financial planning seminar, a veterans' benefits workshop and an expanded employment workshop.

Another important part the improved ACAP system is that Soldiers will begin the transition process 12 to 18 months prior to leaving the Army, giving them ample time to prepare for their transition to civilian life.

"We have adjusted our program so that Soldiers can begin the transition early," Herd said. "That allows Soldiers to be better prepared, to get enrolled [in college], apply for scholarships and create and distribute a better resume."

Another improvement in the program is the flexibility of transition support and aid.

Approximately 125,000 Soldiers transition out of the Army each year. Those Soldiers move into either reserve component or civilian status. Historically, about two-thirds of transitioning Soldiers enter the workforce and the remaining third enroll in a college or trade school. Although support for military personnel entering these fields existed in the old ACAP program, the updated program exposes Soldiers to more resources, especially those in the reserves.

"In the past, in order to get transition assistance, you really needed to go to an Army installation," Herd said. "Now you can get that same assistance through [both] and Army installation and a virtual mechanism on our web-page. We're in the process of developing [programs] now that can actually go out away from installations for the reserve-component communities and help Soldiers transition."

Some military installations have already begun implementing the new ACAP changes. The first of these installations is Fort Sill, Okla., followed closely by Fort Hood,



PHOTO BY DAVID VERGUN

A Soldier prepares to don a civilian business suit. The president announced last month an initiative to expand programs designed to prepare service members for leaving the military. But before those initiatives were announced, the Army was already at work making improvements to the Army Career and Alumni Program, which is designed to help Soldiers move back into civilian life.

Texas. However, there are many more that are beginning to assume the changes to the program, including some Reserve centers.

The Army is currently piloting transition assistance and transition counseling for eligible Army personnel. The objective of the pilot is to assess the ability to implement the Veterans Opportunity to Work Act transition requirements. The VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 mandates the Transition Assistance Program for all Soldiers separating from a Title 10 Active Duty Tour of 180 days or greater, effective Nov. 21.



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Food: Locker open to active duty, reserves

Continued from Page A1

got his money back.

“The last thing he asked before he left was, ‘Who can donate?’ We told him that anybody can whenever they want,” said

Rodriguez. “He said he never thought about [donating] before, but since it helped him out so much, as soon as he got his money back he was going to come back and give back everything that he used and then some to help out the next guy.”

Rodriguez said it’s important to donate to help out not only the Soldiers, but their Families as well because people never know when they might need the help.

The food locker is available to active-duty Soldiers, Reserve, National Guard,

retirees and their Families.

“As long as they have an ID card, we won’t turn them away,” said the first sergeant. “If you have a need, we will help you out.”

For more information, call 255-9631.

NAF: Reflect online questionnaire answers in résumé

Continued from Page A1

she said.

The needs on post determine how frequently jobs became available, but jobs open and close all the time and there is always some type of open position during the year, said SanMiguel.

“Jobs are available all the time and people secure them all the time. Just make sure your answers on your online questionnaire are reflected and supported in the résumé you submit,” she said.

“People just need to know that we’re run as a business. Jobs typically stay open about a week, but we extend the time if we need to, to find viable applicants,” she said.

NAF jobs are available at the physical fitness facilities, the Silver Wings Golf Course, the post libraries, the phone center, The Landing and The Landing Zone, Starbucks, the Splash! pool, Rucker Lanes, information ticket and reservations, leisure services, Mother Rucker’s, the child development center, youth services, the auto craft

center and outdoor recreation.

Unlike ERP, NAF does not provide job search assistance and counseling, career counseling, résumé, application and

cover letter preparation assistance, a resource library, small business training, development, or counseling. It is strictly a tool to use to find new available

civilian jobs on Fort Rucker, said SanMiguel.

For more information or to look for available jobs, go to www.usajobs.com.

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FOR RENT



104 PRATT. Very nice 3BD/2BA HOME features a living room with fireplace, dining area, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, garbage disposal, utility/laundry room with washer and dryer connections, double car garage, patio, and fence.

FOR RENT



401 FAIRFIELD. This lovely single family home 3BD/2BA, includes a living room with fireplace, dining area, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, garbage disposal, utility/laundry room with washer and dryer connections in garage, single car garage, and fence. Pets allowed with non refundable pet fee!

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108 RED CLIFF CIRCLE



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110 VICTORIA: Nice brick home in established neighborhood. Very convenient to Ft. Rucker. \$122,000 **FRAN CLAYTOR 334-790-5973**

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62 MAREE: All on one level, open airy floor plan. Separate formal dining area, breakfast room, stainless appliances, laundry room, living area with fireplace, split bedrooms, MBR with large walk in closet & bath with separate shower and Jacuzzi tub, covered patio and wood privacy fence. \$185,000 **JUDY DUNN 334-301-5656**

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108 OLIVER: Like new home - Open Floor Plan - Big Kitchen Area - Has a large back yard with a custom built work shop that is finished inside, has electricity and a wall A/C unit, also has a storage area in the attic. (MAN CAVE ???) - Very convenient to Ft. Rucker. \$170,000 **BOB KUYKENDALL 334-369-8534**

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Face of Defense: Wounded Aviator gets airborne again

By Sgt. Daniel Schroeder
25th Combat Aviation Brigade
Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — CW2 Justin Callahan is airborne again, flying a C-12 Huron twin-engine airplane in support of the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade.

Less than two years ago, Callahan, who's originally from Bloomsdale, Mo., was told he couldn't fly aircraft again, could never run again and would walk with a noticeable limp for the rest of his life.

On Sept. 3, 2010, while flying on a daily reconnaissance mission, Callahan encountered small-arms fire in an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter flying near Sanjaray village in Afghanistan.

"From out of nowhere, it felt like a baseball bat smashed against my leg," Callahan recalled.

During the engagement, one bullet went through Callahan's lower left leg. He quickly applied a tourniquet to stop the bleeding and notified the other aircraft and his co-pilot that he was wounded.

Callahan immediately flew to Forward Operating Base Wilson for care before being transported back to Kandahar Airfield where he was treated for a compound fracture in his lower leg.

After more surgery at Bagram, he was awarded the Purple Heart from Army Brig. Gen. Stephen Townsend, the 101st Airborne Division's deputy commander. Callahan's final stop was Fort Lewis, Wash., where he underwent the



COURTESY PHOTO

CW2 Justin Callahan is presented with Purple Heart medal by Brig. Gen. Stephen Townsend, 101st Airborne Division deputy commander, for wounds received in Afghanistan Sept. 3, 2010.

last of his surgeries and began his long road to recovery.

"During the recovery, the nerve conduction test had me worried," Callahan recalled. "I was told that I would never run again. I thought, I still have my legs, I can walk, I can still be glad for that."

Callahan said he received sup-

port from his Family and friends during his recovery.

One close friend was CW3 Mariko Kraft, a pilot with the WRFC, originally from Clarksville, Tenn., who was also an OH-58D pilot at the same time as Callahan.

"A lot of people would have seen

it as a setback, start doubting themselves and feel sorry," Kraft said of his friend's desire to return to duty. "He saw that he was still fortunate to have his legs, to walk and knew he could still do a lot. He saw his injury as a small bump in the road to get back to the fight."

Callahan said he had personal

reasons for wanting to be a pilot, noting he previously served as a forward observer with the 1st Ranger Battalion.

"I remember at the end of one particularly long mission in Afghanistan, a couple of

SEE AIRBORNE, PAGE B4

Hawaii Army National Guard test pilot ensures safe flights

By Sgt. Adam Fischman
139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

BOTSWANA — "Mahalo," or thank you, the pilot said, after being handed a bottle of water from the rear of the aircraft. The kind nature of Hawaiian culture reinforced the unique mix of service members present at Southern Accord 12 in the Republic of Botswana Aug. 1-17.

During a 16-day, U.S. Army Africa-led combined joint exercise, which has brought the Marines, Navy, Air Force and Army together to train with the Botswana Defense Force, one unit brought four CH-47F Chinook Helicopters into Botswana for the first time ever. The 1st Battalion, 171st Aviation Regiment out of Wheeler Army Airfield in Wahiawa, Hawaii, brought the CH-47s and will provide personnel and equipment movement for the duration of the exercise.

SA12 is a key element in a series of military-to-military exercises to demonstrate the strong partnership between the two countries. SA12 will enhance Botswana's ability to support its African standby-forces and will foster security cooperation while conducting combined, joint humanitarian assistance/peacekeeping operations, as well as aeromedical evacuation exercises.

CW2 Craig Takenaka, 28, of Mililani, Hawaii, is the maintenance test pilot for B Company, 1st Bn., 171st Avn. Regt. His key responsibility is to check and test each CH-47 Chinook prior to it being deemed operational, which can be a considerably risky job with a great deal of responsibility.

"He loves what he does and I've never seen anyone as dedicated to his position," said CW2 Michael Misunas, a pilot with B Co. "His level of concern and the way he conducts his efforts towards the maintenance of these aircraft, displays the lengths a dedicated maintenance test pilot will go to ensure the safety of his crew."

Maintenance test pilots are greatly respected among the Aviation community for putting their lives on the line to test aircraft for other pilots prior to operational flights, said Misunas. They must ensure the safety of every passenger who will later occupy the aircraft, by certifying it safe to fly through a meticulous series of checks and a final test flight.

"Mr. Takenaka has a certain love for this aircraft and for his job," said Misunas. "Just knowing that a test pilot has that much passion for the aircraft that he flies gives me a sincere feeling of reassurance this aircraft is safe to be flown and air worthy."

SEE SAFE, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY SGT. ADAM FISCHMAN

Hawaii Army National Guard Aviator CW2 Craig Takenaka is the maintenance test pilot for B Co., 1-171 Avn. Regt., from Wheeler Army Airfield, Wahiawa, Hawaii. His mission Aug. 1-17, 2012 will be to test the four CH-47 Chinook helicopters that have been flown in from Hawaii in support of Southern Accord 2012, an U.S. Army Africa mission that has brought U.S. forces together to enhance security, training, and international military partnerships.

Virtual reality used to train Soldiers in new training simulator



PHOTO BY MAJ. LOREN BYMER

Paratroopers of 1st Bn., 505th Parachute Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, 82nd Abe. Div., conduct simulated missions July 26 at Fort Bragg, N.C., using the Dismounted Soldier Training System, a virtual reality environment with unlimited mission possibilities.

By Maj. Loren Bymer
Army News Service

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — The Army is responsible for providing realistic training for individual Soldiers while mitigating risk. With emerging technology of the virtual world, this is becoming a reality.

The first-ever, fully immersive virtual simulation training system for Soldiers is being fielded at Fort Bragg. The Dismounted Soldier Training System will be available for leaders to enhance their Soldiers' training in a fully immersive, virtual reality environment.

This virtual system allows leaders at the squad level to maintain their squad's proficiency of their assigned tasks in a timely and safe manner, even in the event new Soldiers arrive to the unit.

"This system gives the power of simulation to the squad in order to close the gap of individual Soldier training and collective training," said John Matthews, project director, assistant project man-

ager for Close Combat Tactical Trainers. "This system enhances training; it does not replace it."

The ability to train with this system allows the "reset" time to be cut down, which allows the ability to get more repetitions in a shorter amount of time and the ability to review each mission on a television screen to enhance the after action review process upon completion of each mission.

"You can mold the situation, and you can do it as many times as you want and give younger guys a chance to step up and be leaders. I can see us in the future using this system to conduct rehearsals," said Sgt. Charles Haywood, team leader, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division.

With a wide variety of environments, and the ability to insert specific entities into the scenarios, the options for training

SEE TRAINING, PAGE B4

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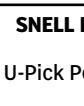
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Airborne: Support from fellow Soldiers aided in Aviator’s recovery

Continued from Page B1

helicopters came to pick us up and I thought it was time for a career change. As a Kiowa pilot, I got to see more of what was going on than just my squad on the ground. Now I am helping Soldiers in a sticky situation. There is nothing like having Soldiers come in from the field and saying thank you for the support we provided for them.”

Callahan’s motivation for flying and supporting the guys

on the ground is echoed by his co-workers.

“He was very dedicated to supporting the ground guys,” Kraft said. “He had added appreciation for what was happening on the ground. We do what we can to make sure the guys on the ground get home to their families and friends.”

While he was participating in physical therapy, Callahan was notified that if he could recover he could take part in a fixed-wing aircraft course in about eight months.

“I was motivated to get through physical therapy,” Calla-

han said. “I had to make that fixed-wing course; I had to get back to the aircraft.”

“I think he saw it as another challenge to overcome,” said Kraft.

Callahan said he received his approval for flight status a month before the class started.

“Don’t let what the doctors say be the last word for you,” Callahan said. “If you keep working on what you want, you never know what is possible.”

Safe: Guard test pilot emphasizes importance of a tightly knit team

Continued from Page B1

Takenaka said his mission in Botswana has given the four-year test pilot a fortified sense of accomplishment and satisfaction in his career field. Having started out as an enlisted Chinook mechanic, his progress in becoming a second-generation warrant officer has shaped his role as a mentor to his team. However, Takenaka’s career view and demeanor have always proven to be relentlessly selfless, said Misunas.

“During deployment was when I felt the

greatest reward in being a CH-47 Chinook pilot,” said Takenaka. “Dropping off the most needed supplies such as food, water, and toiletries to Soldiers in remote areas and seeing how appreciative they were for receiving such basic things; for us to be the ones to provide that support is one of the most rewarding feelings.”

Takenaka said he emphasizes the importance of a tightly knit team. Some may consider his views unconventional in traditional military environments, but Takenaka believes a stronger and more effective team can be

managed through respect rather than rank.

“The bond between officers and NCOAs within the CH-47 Chinook community is very close,” he said. “When it comes down to the critical moments, it’s all about coming together as a crew to complete the mission safely and successfully.”

Thebephatshwa Air Base in the Republic of Botswana has been the area of operation for the large-scale, joint military training exercise that will be mutually beneficial to both forces. Takenaka said his scope has broadened to encompass a larger purpose, which

rewards him with the same sense of accomplishment.

“To travel halfway around the world from Hawaii to Botswana, Africa, to train with the Botswana Defense Force is a very exciting opportunity,” said Takenaka. “After meeting the people and working alongside the BDF, I believe this is going to be a good mission. Seeing how open they are to learn from us and how willing they are to help us along the way is going to be mutually beneficial for both forces and will strengthen our relationship.”

Training: Virtual reality sharpens combat skills before battlefield

Continued from Page B1

opportunities are virtually limitless; rehearsals for missions or live-fire exercises are just a couple of examples. Currently, the programmed training environments include mountainous, wooded, and desert. These are intended to simulate places like Afghanistan and Iraq, but are not limited to only these specific scenarios.

“I think everybody accomplished the missions, minus some casualties. But that’s part of [the training]; retrain and try again. [The DSTS] would make part of a well-rounded training cycle, a little bit of this on top of field time can get you different views and situations,” said Haywood.

The system itself is divided into five distinct work areas. The Soldier Simulated Training area is a 10-foot by 10-foot area with a manned module pad, which provides feedback for the Soldier to safely move in his or her space.

The Exercise Control Workstation is the brains behind the system and allows the trainer to create, modify, and execute training exercises. This workstation controls each person participating in the training.

Virtual Soldier Multi-function Workstations allow additional virtual Soldiers, vehicles, neutral or opposing forces to “participate” in the training and is controlled by a keyboard and mouse by an additional individual.

The Semi-Automated Forces Works station gives the trainer the option to create additional static items like furniture and buildings or items that are animated such as dogs and birds, inside the virtual world. There can also be modifications made during the scenario like adding an improvised explosive device or more vehicles and combatants.

“You can do things on this system that you can’t [train on] as often here as in the field like air assault missions and capturing [high value targets], whether it be the weather, or having to get ranges,” said Haywood.

Finally, there is an after action review area to allow for an assessment of the scenario. Soldiers can watch as the events unfold with radio communication between squad members and shots fired. This area can be configured to a real-time station that allows visitors to witness what is taking place in the virtual world.

“We see [the DSTS] enhancing fundamental tactics and creating an envi-

ronment to refine shooting, moving, and communicating in a non-fatal manner to increase the Soldiers’ and squad’s capability and decrease fatalities in theatre,” said Clarence Pape, vice president of Department of Defense Services at Intelligent Decisions.

The initial phase of the

fielding will involve delivering three systems to the Fort Bragg Virtual Training Facility and validating them by 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division. Upon being validated, other units on the installation will

be able to use them. Additional systems will be

delivered to Army installations worldwide for Sol-

dier use in the following weeks.

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School year brings change, new faces for students

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

The new school year at Fort Rucker's Primary and Elementary Schools feature change, mixed emotions and new faces.

School began Monday with a mixture of both happy and sad parents and children. Though most parents are happy to see their children growing up, dropping them off for the first day of the new school can be somewhat difficult, said one parent, Amy Morder.

"It's bittersweet. [My son] is excited to start school and I am, too, but I will miss him" she said.

Other parents held back the emotions for the prospect of their children having a more productive day.

"It's going to be great to get back on schedule and alleviate some of the boredom that was built up during the summer," said Joey Edwards.

Sylvia Patrick, a sixth grade science teacher and the Department of Defense Education Activity 2012-13 Georgia/Alabama District Teacher of the Year, said that she always enjoys the new beginnings that each fall brings to the school.

"I love creating bigger plans every year. It's exciting to start fresh," she said.

Both the primary and elementary schools have seen change over the summer, including the online payment option for lunch.

"[The elementary school] was selected to be a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math school this year," said Dr. Vicki Gilmer, principal of the Fort Rucker Elementary School. A STEM school focuses on science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and with this year being an accreditation year for the school the funds came at the perfect time.

"We proved that we had the interest in these areas. We had the potential and displayed the motivation; we just needed the extra funding to push further. Now we receive extra funding for materials for those subjects," said Gilmer.

The school also expanded its



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Angel Hatcher's second grade class prepares for its first day of school before the beginning bell by doing a word search Monday.

engineering club that helped secure the selection of becoming a STEM school. Glimer said that the club began last year and had to be split into two groups, "Now we have the junior club, which is second and third graders, and the senior club for the fourth and fifth graders," she said.

The primary school also saw change with its 15 newly furnished classrooms that are "early childhood appropriate and designed to promote 21st century learning," said Dr. Deborah Deas, principal of Fort Rucker Primary School.

The faculties at both schools are proud of the technology provided in the classrooms that better support the learning needs of the children.

"Technology is a tool. It helps engage the students and it holds their interest," said Gilmer.

Both schools have computers and a Smartboard, an interactive

white board that is connected to the computer and through the use of software, markers or the mouse that can be used to interact with the board, in every classroom.

Sylvia Thornton, the music teacher at Fort Rucker Primary School, said that one of the hardest aspects of teaching today is keeping up with the technology that is ever evolving and expanding in the classroom.

"Children expect technology in the classroom now. They expect to have interaction with computers and they don't want to have to 'power down' when they come to school. Teachers have to find new ways to challenge children. It's about matching learning styles to teaching styles," she said.

The school principals and teachers are confident that the schools are safe and certain measures have been taken to secure the safety of all the students.

"All the doors are staffed at

the beginning and end of every day ... to keep an eye out for anything suspicious. The entire school is fenced in, the doors automatically lock, and an MP (military police) helps with the crosswalks. Only people on the release list are allowed to check out designated children. They must present an I.D to be placed on the list as well as display the I.D. when they check out the child. This prevents strangers or those not authorized to be around the child from checking out students," said Gilmer, referring to both the primary school and the elementary school.

Deas and Thornton reinforced the fact that the primary school takes seriously the fears of parents.

"We want a safe environment for children. The play areas are behind locked gates, the doors have bulletproof glass and no one can get into the school with-

out exchanging their license for a visitor pass," said Deas.

The schools have many policies in place to keep deployed parents up to date on their child's progress in school and Patrick encourages parents not be afraid to ask a question if they don't understand something that's going on in their child's life.

"We have the capability now where parents can tap into grades every day," said Gilmer. "This way parents aren't taken by surprise at the end of the nine weeks and say 'Oh my gosh, I had no idea he was struggling.'"

It's also a viable tool for deployed parents to congratulate a child on a job well done on a spelling test, she added.

The schools have grade books via the Internet and teachers email deployed parents every two weeks through a program called "Corresponding from A to Z" named by Dr. Deas.

Landing Zone celebrates 3rd birthday

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Landing Zone has hosted many events and celebrities since its conversion from the officers club and Aviators Landing in 2009 — including Wayne Hoffman, Gin Blossoms and the LoCash Cowboys — but now it's time to celebrate its birthday Aug. 24 at the Tiki Hut Bay located just outside the facility.

The Landing Zone, which is a Family-friendly facility, celebrates its third birthday with a weeklong celebration Aug. 18-24.

Jodi Roark, promotions coordinator at The Landing, said that many specials will be offered to patrons who come to celebrate.

"Aug. 18 we will have free smoothies and games for children from noon to 6 p.m. out in the Splash! pool; Aug. 19 we will have unique games and prizes; Aug. 21 patrons will receive complimentary chips and salsa; Aug. 22 we will have an extra-special wing night and Aug. 23 children will eat for free with the purchase of an adult entrée," she said.

The Landing Zone will offer a buy-one-entrée-get-one-free special all week long after 4 p.m., she added.

The Landing Zone also hosts an adult-only celebration that is open to the pub-



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Roberto Santiago serves up food for patron Cherie Garmon, Army spouse, at The Landing Zone's Tiki Hut Bay Friday.

lic Aug. 24 at Tiki Bay. This Hawaiian-style party will be from 6-8 p.m. Tickets are available for purchase for \$15 at The Landing Zone until Aug. 23 at 4 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$18 per person the night of the event.

The Birthday Bash Hawaiian dinner includes: big island chicken, beef teriya-

ki, citrus roasted fish, fruity rice, stir-fry vegetables, sweet potato wedges, fruit, musubi, rolls and birthday cake.

Entertainment will also be provided by DJ Dave and drink specials will be available, said Roark.

Roark said that The Landing Zone wants to provide an event or opportunity

for adults to come together and enjoy good food, music and company.

"It's a chance for people to have a good time relaxing and enjoying our neat drink specials and to have fun dancing. The pool will be closed, but we hope people will show up in their Hawaiian best. It's okay to let loose," said Roark.

If weather proves to be unpleasant the party will still go on, said Roark. "We will simply move the festivities inside."

Unit salutes are often held at the Landing Zone and the restaurant also provides food for parties that are held at the Splash! pool, but the restaurant is typically open Mondays through Fridays for lunch and dinner.

Future events to be held at The Landing Zone include: Girls Night Out Sept. 7, Kid's Night Character Dining every Tuesdays in Sept., and Oktoberfest and comedy events.

The officer's club was established in 1967, but was combined with the NCO club in 2009 to create an all inclusive, all-ranks club now called The Landing Zone.

"The pool has been here as long as the original officers club, but the Splash! area and Tiki Hut Bay were introduced about three years ago," said Tim Carter, the food and beverage program manager at The Landing.

For more information, call 598-8025.

ON POST

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

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.

Fort Rucker Job Fair

The Fort Rucker Job Fair is scheduled for Aug. 22 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ozark Civic Center.

For more information, call the Ozark Chamber at 774-9321 or Army Community Service at 255-3949.

Youth Adjusting to Change bus tour

Fort Rucker's Youth Adjusting to Change program, designed to help youth between the ages of 13 and 18 who are new to the post adjust to their new home, hosts a bus tour Saturday from 1-5 p.m., beginning at the youth center in Bldg. 2806. The event serves as a welcome to the post and surrounding communities and puts youth new to the area in touch with other youth to show the different things to do in the area. All youth must be registered with child, youth and schools services prior to the tour. People can register and sign up for the tour at CYSS Parent Central Services in Bldg. 5700.

For more, call the school liaison officer at 255-9812 or the relocation readiness program manager at 255-3735.

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.

CYSS PAC meeting

Child youth and schools services' parental advisory council meeting allows parents to learn more about CYSS programs and share their ideas on improving programs for children. Additionally, parents can learn how they can earn points each time they volunteer for CYSS programs. Parents who accumulate 10 points will receive 10 percent off monthly childcare fees, not including sports activities. The next meeting is Aug. 16, but the time and location have yet to be determined.

For more, call 255-2958, 379-4350 or (913) 802-1178.

ACS Family Bowling Night

Army Community Service



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Children's craft making

Abby and Jenna Kelley, military Family members, make patriotic picture frames with their grandmother, Shirley Woodie, during a Craft Making Activity at the Center Library July 24. The Center Library hosts a craft making activity for children ages 3-11 Tuesday 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 the library or call 255-3885.

hosts a Family Bowling Night for all active duty military Families with special needs, Family Readiness Groups and Hearts Apart Families Aug. 16 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 or to register, call 255-9277 or 255-3735.

Landing Zone Birthday

The Landing Zone celebrates its third birthday with specials Aug. 18-24. All week, people can buy one entrée and get one free after 4 p.m. To kick off the festivities, Aug. 18 there will be complimentary smoothies and games by the Splash! Pool from noon to 6 p.m., as well as prizes for participating children. Aug. 21 there will be complimentary chips and salsa available with the purchase of a beverage from 5–9 p.m. Aug. 22 features beverage specials. Aug. 23, two children under 12 can eat for free off of the kid's menu with the purchase of one adult entrée from 5–8 p.m.

The Landing Zone will host a Hawaiian-style Birthday Bash Aug. 24. People are welcome to wear a bright shirt, a grass skirt or a lei in celebration of The Landing Zone's third birthday from 6–10 p.m. at the outdoor Tiki Bay. The party is for adults 18 and older. Advanced tickets are available for purchase at The Landing Zone. Guests will be able to enjoy a Hawaiian-style dinner from 6-8 p.m. and drink specials all night, along with music by DJ Dave.

For more, call 598-8025.

Home Buying, Selling Workshop

Army Community Service hosts a Home Buying and Selling Workshop Aug. 21 and 23 from 6:30-8 p.m. in Rm. 284 of Bldg. 5700. The two classes will cover mortgage loans, real estate agents, understanding charges and

closing paperwork, buying and selling homes, as well as information to help make the decision of hiring an agent or purchasing and selling on your own. People need to register for the workshop by Aug 16.

For more information or to register, call 255-9631.

AFTB Level I

Being new to Army life can be confusing, but Army Community Service's Army Family Team Building Level I training is designed to help with the transition. The next AFTB Level I training is scheduled for Aug. 28-29 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371F. Modules of learning include military acronyms, chain of command, customs and courtesies, and more.

For more, call 255-2382.

Talent show auditions

Auditions for the third annual Fort Rucker Talent show, "Rucker Rocks" are scheduled for Sept. 4 and 5 from 6-8 p.m. at the post theater. Soldiers, spouses, Army civilians and civilians from off post can enter for a chance to win cash prizes. The top eight acts selected from the auditions will compete for cash prizes Sept. 15 at the Fort Rucker Arts & Crafts Fair.

For more, call 255-9810.

Family Member Resilience Training

Army Community Service offers its free Family Member Resilience Training Sept. 6 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sept. 7 from 8 a.m. to noon at The Commons. The MRT provides people with the thinking skills and coping strategies needed to take care of themselves. The skills people learn will assist them with strengthening relationships, building confidence and increasing their general well being. People need to register by Sept. 4 to take part in the training.

For more, call 255-3643 or 3735.

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Workshop offers home buying, selling tips

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Soldiers and their Families often move from post to post and they may be hit with the burden of having to buy a new home or sell their existing one, but Army Community Service provides the Home Buying and Selling workshop to help make that process an enjoyable experience, according to the ACS Survivor Outreach Services financial counselor.

“Buying a home can be an exciting time in [one’s] life, but in the military it can be a financial pitfall for some,” said Beth Gunter. “For many in the military, they never know when that next permanent change of station order is going to come, so we want people to go into home buying [and selling] with the tools to make good decisions.”

The workshop will be led by Gunter, who is also a certified housing counselor, to equip people with the knowledge they need to understand what is involved with buying and selling a home and how to go about the process properly.

“It’s a two-evening program,” she said. “The first evening we will go over loans and talk to people about what types of information you need to be able to present to the bank in order to get a loan.”

The first session of the workshop will also cover the different types of mortgages that banks offer and educate people on the different paperwork involved with getting a mortgage like Housing and Urban Development statements, good-faith estimates, and truth and lending disclosures.

“We want to teach people what all that means so when they sit down at a closing, they’re not looking at a stack of papers thinking ‘Oh my gosh, what am I doing?’” said the housing counselor.

During the second session, Gunter said that people are educated on how to go about buying and selling a house. They are shown how they should present a home and how to get their home into the market to stand out against other houses in the same market.

“In so many markets, there is such an influx of homes and so many of them selling out of foreclosure,” she said. “So if [people] are trying to sell their home straight out and don’t want to lose any money on it, [we] can show them how they might be able to do that.”

The program teaches people how to go about selling a home by owner to save money and maximize their profit during the selling process.

“Sometimes realtor fees can really cut into the profit that people are making when selling their homes since it is a buyer’s market right now,” Gunter said.

Realtors go hand-in-hand when dealing with buying and selling homes, and people don’t always have to use them, but if they want the workshop teaches people how to choose a realtor that is best for them and their situation, she said.



“We show people what to look for in a realtor and ... make sure that people are given the information they need as to not be taken advantage of,” she said. “[If they get a realtor], we want to make sure people have the knowledge to ask the right questions and find a realtor who works well with their personality, has the time to work with them and knows the area well.”

Going into the process of buying or selling a home without the proper education can have disadvantages that can end up costing people more money when buying a home or cutting into their profits when selling, she said.

“One of the pitfalls [that people encounter] when selling a home is overpricing their home,” said the housing counselor. “Those that bought their homes during the housing bubble owe so much on their house that they’re [upside down] on how much they owe.”

This can cause people to overprice their home when listing it, which can result in their house being on the mar-

ket for too long with no interested buyers, she added.


Another pitfall that people run into is not knowing what resources and what programs are out there for people to use and educate themselves on buying and selling their homes, according to Gunter.

“We have about eight or nine people in each workshop and in a way it’s kind of nice to have a small group like that because we can really get into the individual situations in each person’s life,” she said. “Every time I’ve done the workshop ... I walk away feeling that somebody has a better grasp of what’s going on when buying and selling their home.”

The workshop will be Aug. 21 and 23 from 6:30-8 p.m. at Bldg. 5700, Rm. 284, and is available to all ID card holders including, Department of the Army civilians. People interested in the workshop must register by Aug. 16. There is no cost associated with the workshop, but childcare is not provided.

For more information or to register, call 255-9639.

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Science on Saturdays in August at Landmark Park

By Laura VanLandingham Stakelum
Public Relations Director, Landmark Park

DOTHAN — Each Saturday in August, Landmark Park will present fun and educational Family programs at 10 a.m.

These programs will be held in the Interpretive Center Auditorium and are free with paid gate admission. Space is limited, so people should call 794-3452 for reservations.

The programs include:

- **Saturday – Gems and Minerals.** Arnie and JoAn Lambert from the Dothan Gem and Mineral Club will introduce park visitors to mineral and gem identification. The Lamberts are rock hounds with an impressive collection of gems and minerals, including fluorescent minerals that glow in the dark. This is a hands-on presentation you won't want to miss.
- **Aug. 18 – Herbs 101.** If you have ever wanted to learn to grow and use fresh herbs, this workshop is for you. Join Wiregrass master gardener Linda Westphal as she shows you ways to use fresh herbs that can be grown in your own garden. Some of the herbs she will discuss include parsley, paisley, Mexican tarragon and rosemary.
- **Aug. 25 – Dog Training Basics.** Our four-legged, furry friends will be the stars of this program as local canine specialist Renee Jones-Lewis, along with her canine teaching assistant, shows visitors the correct way to interact with dogs. Park visitors will also learn training tips they can easily take home and use with their own Family pets.

Above and beyond these programs, there's an adventure waiting for you and your Family just on the outskirts of Dothan at Landmark Park located on U.S. Highway 431 North.

A 135-acre park built to preserve the natural and cultural heritage of southeast Alabama's Wiregrass Region, Landmark Park is more than just a place to for sightseeing. It is a place to participate and experience.

Experience history on an 1890s living history farm, complete with an old farmhouse, smokehouse, cane mill, syrup shed, and sheep, mules, cows, chickens, goats and pigs. Drift back in time in a Victorian gazebo, a one-room schoolhouse, a drugstore and soda fountain, a country store or a turn-of-the-century church.

Experience nature with a walk through the woods on an elevated boardwalk, stroll nature trails, visit our interpretive center and planetarium, see wildlife exhibits and have a picnic in our picnic area.

Experience the excitement of annual special events like folklife festivals, antique car shows, traveling exhibits, concerts and workshops.

Landmark Park offers people a chance to experience the heritage of the Wiregrass Region and experience an adventure. Entry into the park costs \$4 for adults, \$3 for children and is free for children 3 and younger. Admission varies for entry into the many special programs that take place throughout the year at the park. The park's hours are Mondays–Saturdays from 9 a.m to 5 p.m. and Sundays, noon to 6 p.m. For more information, contact the park at 794-3452 or visit <http://www.landmarkpark.com>.



LANDMARK PARK PHOTO

Landmark Park hosts many events through the year.

WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ANDALUSIA

ONGOING — The American Legion Post No. 80 regular meetings are the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Legion Hall.

For more information, call 222-7131 or visit www.andalusialegionpost80.org.

DALEVILLE

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

AUG. 25 — “Ride for Supplies,” sponsored by FAITH Riders, is a benefit motorcycle ride to collect basic school supplies and monetary contributions to purchase supplies for Daleville city school children and teachers. Cost of the ride is \$15 per person and includes lunch. Ride departs Daleville Baptist Church at 9 a.m. Riders are also asking for donations for “Stuff the Bus” parked next to MaFoosky’s Deli from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 598-4530 or 598-2313.

DOTHAN

SATURDAY — Houston County hosts Wiregrass Football Fest 5-9 p.m. at the Dothan Civic Center. This event features several activities including samples of tailgating foods, college football items for sale, trivia contests and prizes and more. General admission seating is \$13; VIP reserved seating is \$100. For more information, call (334) 699-1475 or visit www.wiregrass-footballfest.com.

SATURDAY THROUGH AUG. 18 – Circle City BMX hosts August Free Race Days at Circle City BMX at noon. For more information, call 333-6669.

ONGOING — The Wiregrass Youth

Symphony Orchestra meets every Saturday morning at the Dothan Cultural Arts Center. They offer beginner lessons and welcome all string players high school age and below who already play. For more information, visit www.tristatecommunityorchestra.com or call (334) 696-2320.

ENTERPRISE

SATURDAY — The Johns Chapel AME Church Golf Tournament kicks off at Tartan Pines Golf Club (423 Tartan Way). The two person scramble registration begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch at noon and a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Entry fees are \$65 for individuals; \$130 for two-player teams. For more information, contact: 393-2661 or 308-2152.

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 — The Boll Weevil Dance Club meets every Friday from 7-10 p.m. at the Enterprise “Jug” Brown Recreation Center. Cost is \$5 per person. For more information, call 347-3381.

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 — Disable American Veterans Chapter No. 99 meets Aug. 23 at 6 p.m. in the New Brockton City Hall. Food and drinks will be served followed by regular chapter business. Veterans throughout the Wiregrass are invited to join as new members. Each Tuesday and Wednesday, Chapter No. 99 maintains a DAV service office in the New Brockton Police station. All veteran services provided are free. For more information, call 718-5707.

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

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

AUGUST 17-18 — The Dale County AgPlex Arena hosts the 18 Annual South Alabama Pro Rodeo Classic. The rodeo will feature barrel racing, steer wrestling, bull riding and more. Gates open at 6 rodeo begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 adults; \$8 children; 5 years and younger get in free. For more information, call 774-9448 or 797-9754.

WEDNESDAY — The Dale County Extension office will be hosting a Master Gardener Class on Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Aug. 15 through Oct. 31 at Dale County Government Building .

The price is \$125. For more information, call 774-2329.

THURSDAY—The city of Ozark will host the Association of the United States Army Breakfast on Thursday at the First United Methodist Church Family Life Center at 7:30 a.m. \$10 per person or \$80 per table. For more information, call 774-4952 or 494-2999, or email orincubator@ozarkalabama.us or slagleb@alaweb.com.

AUG. 18 THROUGH SEPT. 28 — The Dale County Council of Arts and Humanities hosts the 12th annual Regional Juried Art Exhibition at the Ann Rudd Art Center/ Dowling Museum. Entry fee for non-members is \$35 and \$30 for DCCA members for the first entry. 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 Saturday, 1-4 p.m. Opening reception and award presentation is Aug. 18, 7-9 p.m. For more information, visit www.ruddartcenter.org.

PINCKARD

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

SAMSON

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

TROY

ONGOING — Troy Bank and Trust Company sponsors senior dance nights every Saturday night from 7-10 p.m. at the J.O. Colley Senior Complex. The complex is transformed into a dance hall and features music from the 40s, 50s, and 60s, finger foods, and refreshments. For more information, call Janet Motes at 808-8500.

Beyond Briefs

Pier Park Summer Concert Series

Relax and enjoy free music on the lawn at Panama City Beach’s Aaron Bessant Amphitheater. The concerts are open to the public and free of charge. Bring your own lawn chairs or blankets for more comfort. Food and coolers are allowed. All concerts start at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit pbeach.org.

Mystery Dinner

Mobile Mystery Dinners are performed at Mobile’s Carnival Museum at 6:30 p.m now through December.

Cost is \$55 per person. Reservations are required. For more information, call (251) 479-3212.

Ghost Walk

Birmingham’s Ghost Walk at Linn Park runs all year long Fridays at 8 p.m.; and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. For more information, call (205) 538-1853 or visit ghostmagick.com/ghost-walks.html.

Friday Fest

On the first Friday of the month now through November from 6 to 10 p.m. downtown Panama City on Harrison Avenue hosts a street fair with music and food. For more information visit, <http://www.pcfridayfest.com>.

All the King’s Women Play

The Kaleidoscope Theatre, located on 24th Street in Lynn Haven, Fla, hosts a comedy about Elvis and his fans Saturday through Aug. 26.

Saturday shows begin at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday shows at 2 p.m.

For more information visit, www.kt-online.org.

Mountain Lakes Triathlon

The Guntersville Mountain Lakes Triathlon is Aug. 11 from 7:30 a.m. until noon at the Guntersville Recreation Center, 1500 Sunset Drive. Fee for participants only. Early registration suggested. For more information, call (205) 908-5970.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Sebastian, a 12 week old male foxhound mix. He is sweet and friendly. Sebastian is \$81 to adopt, which includes neutering, a microchip and heartworm testing. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels. Donations can be dropped off at the veterinary clinic or the commissary. Visit the Fort Rucker stray facility's **Facebook** page at <http://www.facebook.com/fortruckerstrayfacility/> for constant updates on the newest animals available for adoption.



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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 Worship Protestant Service.

SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER, BUILDING 8939

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

BIBLE STUDIES

9 a.m. Protestant Women of the Chapel, Wings Chapel, Tuesday 11 a.m. Above the Best Bible Study, Yano Hall, Wednesday 1 a.m./6 a.m. Adult Bible Study, Spiritual

Life Center, Wednesday noon/1 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Soldier Service Center, Wednesday 5:30 p.m. Catholic Adult Bible Study, Spiritual Life Center, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. Youth Group Bible Study, Headquarters Chapel, Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Chapel Next (Meal/Bible Study), Wings Chapel, Thursday 9 a.m. Adult Bible Study, Spiritual Life Center, Thursday.

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)

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

Fort Rucker Protestant Men of the Chapel

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

Protestant Women of the Chapel

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

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Wed. Aug. 15th - 11:30 - 1:00

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III **DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: DOG DAYS** - PG
EVERYDAY 2:00, 7:00 & 9:00

OZARK

KIDDEE MATINEE, THURSDAY, AUGUST 9 • 9:30 AM
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Sun: 2 & 7:00 • Mon - Thurs 7:00

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AUGUST 9, 2012

Misfits take down Double Tap, 11-6

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Despite heavy rainfall over the past week, the Fort Rucker Intramural Softball playoff tournament continued on wet clay and soggy fields.

The 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment Misfits took down the U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory's Double Tap 11-6 during a game Tuesday at the softball fields.

"I feel good about tonight's win because we beat them three times this year and they won the post championship last year," Staff Sgt. Brad Mort, coach for the Misfits. "We were the Show-stoppers last year and they beat us twice in the championship game. We saw them this year, though, and we got them."

The double elimination softball tournament began July 31 and the final game will play tonight at 6 p.m. at the softball fields.

Double Tap was first to take to the plate and started off strong with two consecutive base hits early on followed by a 3-run homerun by one of their power hitters, Marcus Prichard, to put them on the scoreboard early.

Their offense remained strong as they put more players on the bases by hitting multiple ground balls, but were unable to maintain the momentum they had gathered as their opponent's defense went to work to catch two line drives and make a play at second base to send Double Tap into the field.

The Misfits first at bat started with a base hit as a player hit the ball to a pocket in center field to try and match their opponent's offense.

They were able to keep the base hits going to bring in their first run of the game with only one out. The 1-145th team was eventually able to load the bases, giving them the opportunity to bring in more runs, which they managed before getting their third out to end the first inning, 3-2.

The USAARL team went back on offense by sticking to their base hit strategy and managed to get players on the bases to bring in a run, but only managed a single run before their opponent's



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFAU

John Manning, player for the Misfits, hits the ball during a Fort Rucker Intramural Softball tournament playoff game Tuesday. The Misfits went on to win the game against Double Tap 11-6.

defense stopped them.

As the game remained close, Double Tap's defense continued to keep the Misfits at bay with a play at second base followed by a double play to keep the 1-145th team without any runs for the inning.

Double Tap had the advantage going into the 3rd inning as they continued their aggressive play style by finding the gaps in their opponent's defense and getting their players on the bases.

As aggressively as they were playing, however, it wasn't enough to break the Misfits' defense and they were unable to bring in any runs during their time at the plate.

The Misfits took to the plate two runs down determined to bring in runs to surpass their opponents, which is what they ac-

complished by keeping the ball on the ground and out of the hands of their opponents to bring in two runs and tie the score 4-4 with only one out.

As their morale soared, they were able to keep their momentum going and managed to bring in two more runs before succumbing to Double Tap's defense to end the inning, 6-4.

Double Tap went into the 4th inning down by two runs to add pressure on the team to retake the lead. Their offense seemed to fizzle, however, as they racked up two outs during their first two at bats of the inning followed shortly by their final out to send them back into the field without adding to the scoreboard.

The 1-145th team's offense came back as aggressively as their defense was playing during

their time at the plate and managed to bring in run after run to take a substantial lead over their opponents before ending the inning, 11-4.

The USAARL team now had their work cut out for them going into the 5th inning and they tried to place the ball in the gaps of their opponents defense, but the Misfits' defense remained too strong and Double Tap was unable to bring in any runs during their time at the plate.

The Misfits took to the plate with the 10-run rule within their grasp as they tried to mimic their offense in the previous inning, but Double Tap's defense stepped up to the challenge and kept their opponent's from scoring any runs, giving them a chance to close the gap.

As strong as the USAARL

team's energy was in the previous inning, they brought the same energy into the next inning in their offense, and showed promise as they hit consecutive base hits and managed to load the bases.

A ground ball to center field brought in two runs for Double Tap, but they were unable to keep up the pace during their time at the plate and were soon sent back into the field.

The Misfits offense seemed to tire as they went scoreless for two straight innings, but hoped to end the game by playing their defense hard in the 7th inning, which they were able to accomplish by keeping Double Tap from scoring in the final inning, ending the game 11-6.

"I think we have the best team out here," said Mort. "It shouldn't be too hard for us."

Intramural bowling starts Sept. 4

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Fort Rucker Bowling Center offers fun for people of all ages, but it also offers the opportunity for friendly competition.

The fall intramural bowling league begins Sept. 4 and people should sign up now at the bowling center, said Ron Cook, Fort Rucker Bowling Center business manager.

"[Our] intramural bowling is just a quick 10-week, nine-pin no-tap bowling league designed around just being able to come out and have fun at a reasonable price," said Cook. "You don't have to worry about being a good or bad bowler, it's just designed to be fun."

Nine-pin, no-tap means that if a bowler gets nine pins down on his or her first bowl, it will be counted as a strike, he added.

"It's just a fun bowling experience wrapped up into a short season," Cook said.

The teams are played as four-person teams, and people can sign up individually or as a pair to be placed on a team.

The cost to join the intramural league is \$10 and includes the price of all the games as well as the end of season banquet, said the business manager, adding that the only weekly fee that people have to pay is the price of shoe rentals, which is \$1.75 per week.

All of the games will be played on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and the season will lead up to a banquet at the end where prizes will be given out, which Cook said is different from how prizes have been awarded in the past.

"We're changing it up a little bit compared to what we've done in past years," he said. "We used to give away bowling balls every week, but this time we're just taking everyone's names and putting them into a hat and we're going to do big giveaways during the banquet."

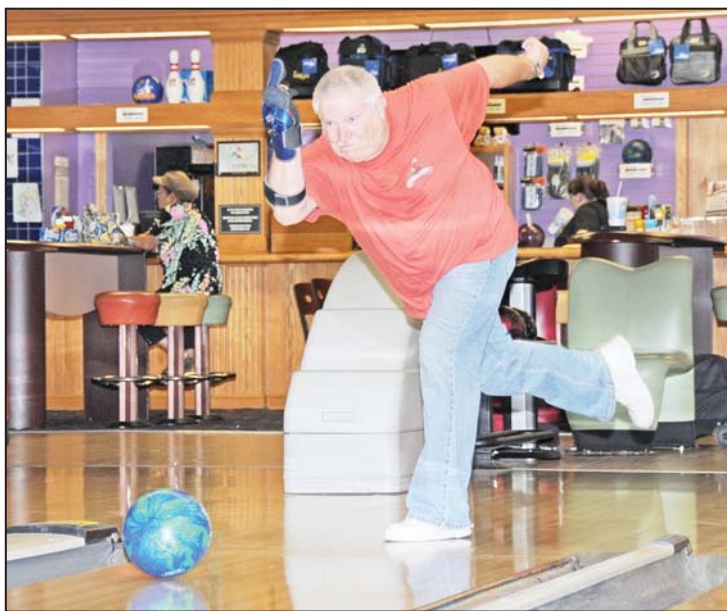
The giveaways will include pro shop merchandise, bowling merchandise and more.

Cook said that although the bowling center is open to the general public, the intramural league is only open to ID card holders including Department of Defense civilians and contract civilians.

People must also be at least 19 years of age to be eligible to participate, he added.

"The intramural league does have a tendency to fill up quickly, so we always recommend people come and sign up early and not miss out on it," Cook said.

The bowling center also offers youth leagues on Saturday mornings for under \$2 a week to follow closely with the intramural season, he said. Parents can choose to pay a \$25 yearly registration fee for the youth league, which will include registration with



PHOTOS BY NATHAN PFAU

Steve Paramore, retired military and contractor, releases the ball at the Fort Rucker Bowling Center Tuesday.

the U.S. Bowling Congress.

If people aren't interested in the bowling leagues, they can also come out and enjoy Quarter Mania on Monday nights, which is 25-cent games and 50-cent shoe rentals;

and extreme bowling on Saturday nights from 8 p.m. to closing, which is unlimited bowling all night for \$10.

For more information or to register, call 255-9503.

DOWN TIME



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BY JIM KEEFE



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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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TRIVIA



Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LANGUAGE: What does the Greek prefix "crypto" mean?

2. MEASUREMENTS: If the outside temperature is 10 degrees on the Celsius scale, what temperature is it on the Fahrenheit scale?

3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: The Julian calendar was named for whom?

4. ASTRONOMY: What is perihelion?

5. CHEMISTRY: What is the symbol for the element magnesium?

6. LAW: Legally speaking, what does a testament do?

7. GEOGRAPHY: What modern-day country is in an area known in ancient times as Lusitania?

8. MEDICINE: What disease is caused by deficiency of vitamin A?

9. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "The Swiss Family Robinson"?

10. MATH: What does the symbol "r" stand for in geometry?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Super Crossword

ILL HUMOR

ACROSS

1 Monty Python's Michael

6 Deli choice

9 Gear teeth

13 Film pterodactyl

18 Porthos' pal

20 Team scream

21 Well-ventilated

22 Felony

23 Start of a remark

24 Funnymann Phillips

25 Deep purple

26 Confused

27 Faux —

28 Vince of "Ben Casey"

31 Small shots

33 PC key

34 "Rosanna" rockers

36 Couple

38 Part of HOMES

41 Part 2 of remark

46 Minnesota city

47 Alias initials

48 Heavy metal instrument?

49 Child welfare org.

50 Mil. unit

51 Say it isn't so

53 Labyrinth

55 Relax

59 Gentle as —

62 Abhorrence

64 A Barbary State

67 "Norma —" ('79 film)

68 Buccaneers' head-quarters

69 Actress lone

71 Football's Swann

72 Woodsman's tool

73 Part 3 of remark

79 — Mahal

81 Alley Oop's love

82 Out-of-this-world org.

83 Invasions

86 President Bush was one

87 Overturn

89 Macho type

92 Roast host

93 Circus sight

95 Tootsie

97 — majesty

98 Canterbury quaff

99 Hoagy

102 Wordsworth work

104 ABA member

105 Teach on the side

107 Part 4 of remark

112 Deprive (of)

113 Wooden strip

114 Olympic event

115 Flight

116 Tasty tuber

118 Proposition

121 Carol opener

124 Inevitable activity

127 Hungarian sheepdog

129 Shaq's pack

130 End of remark

133 Daybreak

134 Toast topper

135 Perlman or Palillo

136 Bostonian, for one

137 "The Brandon — Story" ('98 film)

138 So. state

139 Still

140 Self-confidence

5 Zilch

6 Make coffee

7 "Rama — Ding Dong" ('61 tune)

8 Legendary athlete Jim

9 Pepper

10 Vinegar's partner

11 Chow

12 Token

13 JVC competitor

14 Tarnier's tidbit

15 Win over

16 Audrey Tautou role

17 Peachy-keen

19 Take care of

29 Ei —, AR

30 Tapered seam

32 Cut a cuticle

34 Decimal base

35 Two — kind

37 Morocco's capital

39 Cable channel

40 Thickening agent

41 Writer Rogers St. Johns

42 Thingumbob

43 Got by, with "out"

44 Disappear

45 Lapis —

46 Part of Q.E.D.

52 Canadian territory

54 "Only Time" singer

56 Destroy

57 Getz's instrument

58 Fairway accessory

60 Speedometer abbr.

61 "Blue —" ('77 hit)

63 Blabby bird

65 Business abbr.

66 — drum

70 One of the Fords

74 Weasel word?

75 First name in fashion

76 Finger food

77 Composer Jean-Philippe

78 "Platoon" setting

79 Gumshoe

80 Chicken —

84 Apollo's isle

85 Soothsayer

88 Witty

90 Vito center

91 Irritate

94 Punta del —

96 Link

100 Actress Thurman

101 Bunch of birds

103 "Pyramus and Thisbe," e.g.

105 Playground game

106 Luau instrument

107 Confederation

108 January stoat

109 Earl Grey's place

110 William Sydney Porter

111 Man of the cloth?

112 Great time

117 Stubbom sort

119 Hautboy

120 Be bombastic

121 "Kon- —"

122 Summer-time treats

123 — -Ball

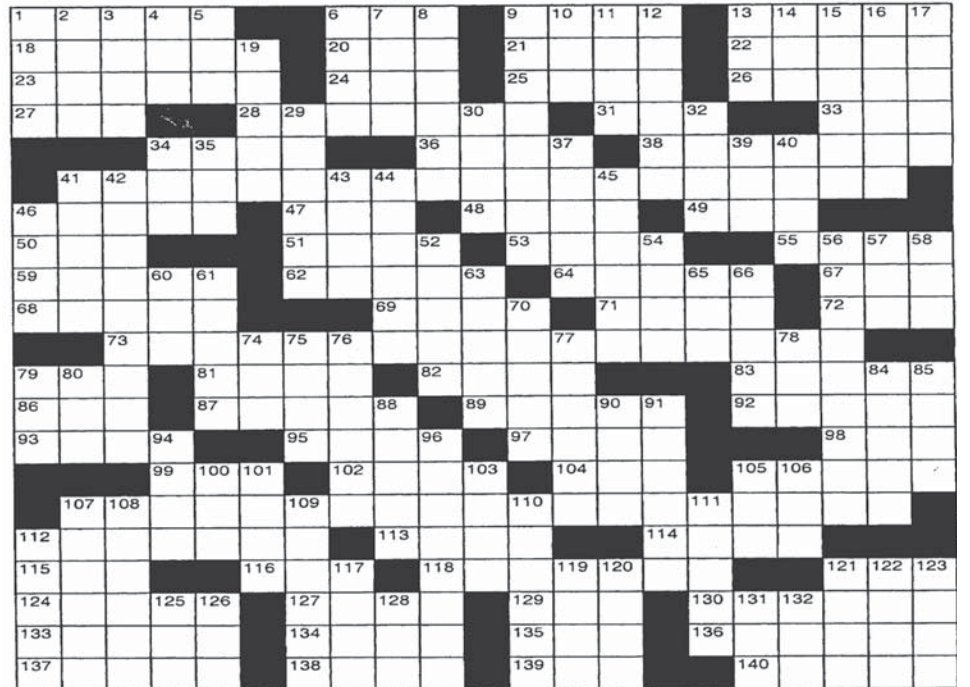
125 "Sister Act" extra

126 Scholastic abbr.

128 Deighton or Dawson

131 "The Bells" monogram

132 — -Cat



See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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



STARE CASE! Hey, whatcha staring at out there in the sand? To complete picture, draw connecting lines from dot to dot.

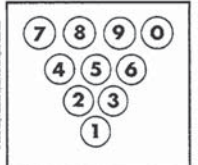
JOB HUNT! If Cher Ate is a teacher and Peter Carn is a carpenter, what jobs are held by Tina Eep, Mel Burp, Alan Mess and Tess Car? Rearrange letters for answers.

LETTER GO! Solve this verse-riddle, letter by letter. My first is in run, but not in race. My 2nd's in nose, but not in face. My 3rd's in door, but not in lock. My 4th's in herd, but not in flock. My 5th's in grass, but not in lawn. My 6th's in deer, but not in fawn. My 7th's in honest, but not in true. My 8th's in green, but not in blue.

What am I? Clue: My whole is an unlikely winner, but a favorite with the crowd.

Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman



STRIKE-OUT TEASER

TO SCORE a strike in the diagram at left, simply cross out answers to posers below. That is to say, if answer to No. 1 is 0, cross out 0; if answer to No. 2 is 435, cross out 4, 3 and 5 etc. Object is to cross out all 10 of the "pins."

1. TV show: "— Minutes."

2. Number of holes in six dozen doughnuts.

3. A bed, curiously, has — legs but only — foot.

4. If ABC is 123, HIE is —. Decode.

5. Add 32 to one-third of this number and the answer is 33: —.

Time limit: 2 minutes.

Wishing Well®

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



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.





PHOTO BY TIM HIPPS

Jamie Gray, wife of U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit shooter Staff Sgt. Hank Gray, bites her Olympic gold medal after winning the women's 50-meter three-positions rifle event Aug. 4 at the Royal Artillery Barracks in London. Bronze medalist Daria Vdovina of Russia stands beside Gray, who established Olympic records in both qualification (592) and final (691.9) of the event.

Army wife Gray wins Olympic gold in 3-positions rifle event

By Tim Hipps
IMCOM Public Affairs

LONDON — Jamie Gray, wife of U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit shooter Staff Sgt. Hank Gray, won an Olympic gold medal in the women's 50-meter three-positions rifle event Aug. 4, at the Royal Artillery Barracks.

U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program rifle coach Maj. Dave Johnson, who leads Team USA's rifle shooters in London, coached Gray to the victory.

Gray established Olympic records in the qualification (592) and final (691.9) portions of the event, which includes shooting from prone, standing and kneeling positions.

On the next to last shot of the final round, Gray recorded her worst score (8.9) of the day, but she closed with her best shot (10.8) of the finale to seal the

victory with a flourish.

"It was almost a little bit of relief, honestly," said Gray, 28, of Phenix City, Ala. "I've dreaded that last shot for four years, and it's amazing to have it come through and be a good shot.

"It looked good and it felt good, so it was awesome. After shooting an 8.9 on the next-to-last shot, you want to come back from that one, and that's what I did."

Serbia's Ivana Maksimovic (687.5) claimed the silver medal and the Czech Republic's Adela Sykorova (683) took the bronze.

Gray realized she could secure the gold after shooting 198 in standing. She opened with a 198 in prone and finished with a 196 kneeling.

"After I shot a 198 standing, I was like, 'OK, here we go. This is a good one.' The

kneeling was probably the hardest thing I've ever shot — 20 shots kneeling and I got through it great. I can't ask for a better kneeling today. It was windy and I had one bad shot that just got away from me in the wind.

"Other than that, I took just great shots. Every shot was a good shot. After that, I knew that's a big one and I have a chance at this."

Post housing questions?

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword Answers

PALIN	BLT	COGS	RODAN
ARAMIS	RAH	AIRY	CRIME
PEOPLE	EMO	PLUM	ATSEA
PAS	EDWARDS	BBS	ALT
TOTO	PAIR	ONTARIO	
AREFOREVER	CALLING	ME	
EDINA	AKA	TUBA	PTA
REG	DENY	MAZE	REST
ALAMB	ODIUM	TUNIS	RAE
TAMPA	SKYE	LYNN	AXE
AHYPOCHONDRIA	CAND		
TAJ	OOLA	NASA	RAIDS
ELI	UPEND	HEMAN	EMCEE
CAGE	GARR	LESE	ALE
SUB	POEM	ATT	TUTOR
LETMETELLYOU	ITMAKES		
BEREAVE	LATH	LUGE	
LAM	YAM	THEOREM	TIS
AGING	PULI	NBA	MESICK
SUNUP	OLEO	RON	YANKEE
TEENA	TENN	YET	POISE

TRIVIA

Answers

- Hidden
- 50 degrees F
- Julius Caesar
- Point in orbit where an object is closest to the Sun
- Mg
- Indicates how a person's personal property should be distributed
- Portugal
- Night blindness
- Johann David Wyss
- Radius of a circle

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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Saturday 8am to 12pm—1st Saturday of the each month
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Video Game Spotlight >>

Dragon’s Dogma provides fun combat

By Jim Van Slyke
Contributing Writer

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

“Dragon’s Dogma” gets a lot of credit for trying to do something different than all the rest of the dragon-hunting adventure games.

With the action we’d expect, fun combat and an innovative Pawn system that lets gamers recruit avatars created by other players, this game feels a lot like an offline massively multiplayer online game. It mixes Japanese-style RPGs with Western-style RPGs and the result is a game that is a fun open-world adventure.

The game gets going when an ancient dragon starts to terrorize the land. The gamer creates a character who tries to defend his fishing village, but ends up having his heart ripped out and eaten by the dragon. The good news is that the character



Publisher
Capcom
Rated
Mature
Systems
Xbox 360, PS3
Cost
\$60
Overall
3 out of 4

is reborn and gets the chance to get his heart back.

Unfortunately, the plot then disappears for most of the rest of the game. It picks up at the end, but the ending is definitely on the weird side. The game world is big and dangerous. Characters of all levels should not be out at night when things get really scary.

The best part of “Dragon’s Dogma” is the combat. After deciding whether to be a fighter, ranger or wizard, there are plenty of enemies to slay. Each class gets special abilities as they level up. The wizard can levitate, for example. It’s important to pick the right companions as the game progresses. Sometimes it’s best to have a mix of Pawns, while other times it’s best to go all fighters.

“Dragon’s Dogma” takes some risks and it was definitely headed in the right direction. The plot gets lost for a long time and there are some technical issues — particularly for the Xbox 360. But this sword is worth sharpening if you’ve got the time, money and a PS3.



COURTESY SCREENSHOT

SPORTS BRIEFS

FLAG FOOTBALL COACHES MEETING

People interested in coaching an intramural flag football team should attend the coaches meeting Tuesday at 9 a.m. at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility gymnasium. Attendance is required to be a coach. The preseason will begin Sept. 10.

For more, call 255-2393.

VOLLEYBALL COACHES MEETING

People interested in coaching a men’s or women’s intramural volleyball team should attend the coaches meeting Aug. 21 at 9 a.m. at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility gymnasium. Attendance is required to be a coach. Preseason will begin Sept. 17.

For more, call 255-2393.

MIXED LEAGUE BOWLING

The Sundowners, a Wednesday night mixed bowling league, will hold its annual league meeting Aug. 29 at 6:30 p.m. at Rucker Lanes to adopt a League Constitution for the 2012-13 season.

The meeting is open to current league members and those people wanting to join the league. The Sundowners is a sanctioned handicap United States Bowling Congress league.

For more, call 393-0415, 790-2663 or 447-9957.

STRIKE OUT SUICIDE BOWLING TOURNAMENT

In observance of National Suicide Prevention Month, Rucker Lanes will host a bowling tournament Sept. 6, 13 and 20. People can form four-person teams, select a time to bowl and go to Rucker Lanes for a special “Lunch & Bowl” price from \$6-\$8.50, depending on food choice. The tournament awards luncheon will be held Sept. 27 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Teams must register with Rucker Lanes no later than Aug. 30. Available “Lunch & Bowl” times are 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. This event is open to all Soldiers, Family members, Army civilians and retirees.

For more information or to register, call 255-7509.

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