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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

NOVEMBER 22, 2012

## Checkpoints promote safe driving

**By Sara E. Martin**  
*Army Flier Staff Writer*

The Fort Rucker Provost Marshal's Office and the Directorate of Public Safety will conduct several compliance checkpoints throughout the next few weeks to promote safe driving.

Officers use these checkpoints to monitor driver and vehicle compliance with state law and installation regulations, to ensure the safety of personnel on the installation and educate people on cell phone use and what is considered proper identification, according to Maj. Joshua Munch, Fort Rucker deputy provost marshal.

"We will set up in a specific location on a specific day on the road and stop traffic from both

directions. It's not our intent to inconvenience people; we're trying to keep the roadways safe," he said.

The average stop lasts 15-30 seconds and stops will be conducted day and night. Officers will be checking for seatbelts, cell phone usage, proper documentation, as well as looking for anyone who is impaired by alcohol or drugs, according to Staff Sgt. Jacob Deaton, traffic investigations NCO in charge.

"Typically, if [a person] does not have the proper paperwork in the vehicle we will give them a warning, but if there is something that is expired or if we feel like further assessment needs to be made on an individual or a vehicle we will have them pull off the road and see if we need to



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

**Maj. Joshua Munch, deputy provost marshal, and Staff Sgt. Jacob Deaton, traffic investigations NCO in charge, make a routine traffic stop Nov. 15, after a vehicle failed to obey a visual traffic device.**

write a citation or not," he said.

Registration, proof of insurance, a license and military identification (when appropriate) is

the proper paperwork that each driver should have in the vehicle at all times, said Deaton.

During the stops, officials

suggest people stay calm and not become irritated.

"Please be patient during the checkpoints. Don't become [aggravated] just because we conducted a stop and you feel like you shouldn't have been stopped," said Munch. "If you have an issue during the checkpoint bring them to the station afterward, don't argue with an officer at the site."

Deaton agreed.

"During the checkpoints don't get frustrated with the officer and do not get out of your car. Follow the questions or guidance of the officer and things will go smoothly. Don't be nervous. Just be safe about it," he said.

Lt. Col. Madeline Bondy, pro-

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PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

**Capt. Scott Sorquist, Air Medical Company at Lyster Army Health Clinic, with his children, Walter, Josephine and Henry (not pictured), speak with Leroy Minus, child youth and school services youth sports and assistant fitness director, about what youth sports has to offer his family.**

## FRG open house highlights Fort Rucker Family services

**By Sara E. Martin**  
*Army Flier Staff Writer*

Family readiness is considered a lifestyle for Soldiers and their Families, and Picerne Military Housing along with a few other organizations on Fort Rucker put together a Family Readiness Group open house Nov. 15 to help Families be proactive, and educate them on some of the opportunities that are available on Fort Rucker and in the community.

With relocation, separation and Family challenges, the goal of most FRGs is to assist Soldiers and their Families

by equipping, educating and empowering them with the tools to be ready and be proactive in the military lifestyle, according to Curtis L. Williams, Army Community Service mobilization and deployment program manager.

"This is the first-ever open house, and for tonight, this gathering is like an appreciation. That is what we tried to portray to them. It is our way of saying 'You are appreciated and here are some of the resources that are available to you that we think you should know about,'" he said.

To become familiar with such services is a great asset to Families, according to Williams.

"We also appreciate what these programs do for Families

and we appreciate them as well. We want to show these programs off because we are proud of them and know they offer great, invaluable services to Soldiers and their Families," he said.

The open house was held at the Picerne Military Housing headquarters building. Many tables were set up with displays and information for people to browse and ask questions to the attendants at each booth.

Some of the participating programs were: Leading Change Team, Red Cross, Survivor Outreach Services,

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PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

**Misty Howell, an environmental scientist at the environmental office, takes an old computer monitor from Sebrina Vail, an Army spouse who recycled electronics, Nov. 15, so they can be refurbished or recycled during America Recycles Day at the main exchange.**

## Post participates in America Recycles Day

**By Sara E. Martin**  
*Army Flier Staff Writer*

As electronic systems age and people upgrade, the importance of properly disposing of old electronics is stepping into the limelight of recycling, and Fort Rucker participated in a national campaign, America Recycles Day, Nov. 15 to reduce electronic waste.

E-waste refers to the variety of electronic products that have met the end of their useful life. If not recycled properly, this growing waste stream can leave toxic metals in landfills and poses threats to the environment and to people's health,

according to Colleen Quinlan, Fort Rucker Environmental Office hazardous waste manager.

To combat the problem locally, the Directorate of Public Works hosted an E-cycling event Nov. 15 at the post exchange and the recycling center.

"We accepted everything from whole computers and their parts to all sizes and shapes of batteries. People brought a lot of televisions and old video equipment like videocassette recorders," she said.

More people participated this year, according to Quinlan, but she estimates that they collected about the same amount of waste as last year.

"Each year I think we will get bigger. This event is really important because we try to educate people on the precious and non-precious metals that are found in many electronics. If these metals get into the soil after they are deposited into landfills, it can lead to massive health problems for plants, animals and people," she said.

The event is held once a year and this is Fort Rucker's second year participating.

The facts that no paperwork is involved and civilians can participate are other reasons that make the

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# PERSPECTIVE

## CG holiday message to Fort Rucker community

**By Maj. Gen. Kevin Mangum**  
*U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker Commanding General*

Happy Holidays! From my Family to you and yours, we wish you a very merry holiday season and a prosperous New Year. We have so much to celebrate again during this holiday season. I, for one, will celebrate having the opportunity to work with, for and alongside each of you as we work to make Fort Rucker, Army Aviation and USAACE the very best they can be! As you reflect on last year's accomplishments and next year's resolutions, objectives and goals, celebrate what you and your Family accomplish every day doing just

that — making Fort Rucker and USAACE a great place to live, work, raise a Family, and to develop and deliver Army Aviation professionals and indispensable Aviation capability to commanders and Soldiers on the ground. The result of your effort and commitment is a national treasure — an amazing Army community and a center of excellence that is the gold standard for Aviation training and capability development. Take time to enjoy your Family during this holiday season. If you are traveling to visit loved ones, please be safe. Know your limits and be aware of your surroundings and changing conditions to keep your Family and yourself safe.

If you are staying in the Wiregrass, please take advantage of all the wonderful programs Fort Rucker has to offer. As you gather to celebrate the season with your friends and Family, please remember the many Soldiers and service members who cannot be with their Families this year, as they do our nation's business away from home, many of whom are in harm's way. Angel and I want to thank each of you for your service, sacrifice and commitment to our Army and nation. We wish you a bountiful holiday and a healthy, happy New Year. We look forward to your safe return and a great year working together to make a difference! Above the Best!



**Maj. Gen. Kevin Mangum**

## IMCOM leaders send Thanksgiving message

**By Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter**  
*Installation Management Command Commanding General and Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Rice*

Thanksgiving marks the beginning of the holiday season, a time of year when our thoughts naturally turn to home and Family, reflecting on the past year and our good fortune. We also honor and appreciate military Families this month, and it seems only fitting to focus on what Family means, and the quality of time and attention we give them. U.S. Army Installation Management Command is the Army's home. Each day proves it is the



**Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter**

people we serve and care for who are most important. Now, more than ever, it's important that we take care of each other. People are

the heart and soul of the IMCOM mission. They are both our purpose and our greatest asset, creating a larger Family that includes co-workers, battle buddies, the Soldiers to our left and our right, along with all who are near and dear to our hearts. For many, quality time will be spent gathered around the time honored American tradition of Thanksgiving turkey. As you do so, remember that somewhere there is a young Family new to the Army flying to their first overseas assignment right now. They'll be in lodging for the holiday and the DFAC for dinner. Welcome them into this Family. Make sure the service they receive is world class. Take the time to greet them, to direct them and make them feel valued and wanted in their new garrison community. Other members of our Family, civilians and Soldiers alike, are deployed. Even far from home, a word of encouragement can make a difference. Some of our Family members may be giving thanks as their Soldiers return from deployment while experiencing stresses related to reintegration at the same time. The Army is a life of service! To all who provide services on our installations — IMCOM, MEDCOM, NEC, DENCOM and AMC — we're proud to serve with each and every member of this team. You, and the work you

do each and every day, are important to us. It's critical to the lives of the Soldiers, civilians and Family members we serve in garrisons around the globe. While preparing for travel and attending celebrations, let's all be vigilant — keep safety and responsibility at the forefront of all that you do. As you enjoy this Thanksgiving holiday, we hope that it will be a time for thanks, relaxation and renewal. Remember your Family and extended Army Family as well: battle buddies, co-workers and the person next to you now. Be thankful, as we sincerely are, for their (and your) service and commitment to both the Army and this great nation. Army Strong!

## Rotor Wash

“Black Friday is traditionally the beginning of the holiday shopping season. How do you tackle the holiday shopping season?”



**1st Sgt. Hecor Benitez,**  
**D Co., 1st Bn.,**  
**13th Avn. Regt.**

“My wife does all the shopping. I try to stay out of it.”



**CW3 Samuel Acosta,**  
**WOCC**

“Look up magazines and read advertisements.”



**2nd Lt. Dan Sweeney,**  
**B Co., 1st Bn.,**  
**145th Avn. Regt.**

“Just look at ads online, but I don't participate in the shopping too much.”



**Nyrna Reyna,**  
**military spouse**

“I save to get ready.”



**Staff Sgt. Joseph Smith,**  
**NCO Academy**

“I talk to my wife and find out what she and the kids want. This will be the first time I'll be participating in Black Friday.”

### COMMAND

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FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

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FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

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## ACE SUICIDE INTERVENTION

### Ask your buddy

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

### Care for your buddy

- Remove any means that could be used for self-

injury.

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

### Escort your buddy

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





# DPW, Picerne offer winter home tips

By Sara E. Martin  
*Army Flier Staff Writer*

With the ups and downs of the winter weather experienced in the southeast, it can sometimes be hard to know what to do to keep homes warm, but Picerne Military Housing and Directorate of Public Work officials offer tips on how to efficiently heat homes and keep them safe during the cold months.

When it comes to saving money during the winter, the simple things matter, according to Tony King, DPW resource efficiency manager.

“Sealing a window or door with caulk and weather stripping prevents infiltration and is a quick payback. Attic insulation is recommended to be R30 or approximately 12-15 inches deep. This does cost, but again the paybacks are quick if the insulation is less than 6 inches currently,” he said.

“People can also use solar radiation in the winter. Open drapes and blinds to allow sunlight to heat the house during the day then shut them to slow heat loss during the night,” he said.

King also said to wear warmer clothing during the winter months while inside —like a sweater and long socks— and to not use energy-inefficient space heaters.

“Avoid the use of small space heaters where possible. They are against Army regulations, anyway,” he said.

Picerne Military Housing also provides many winterizing supplies for free, according to Brandon Masters, PMH communications manager.

“Change your heating, ventilation and air conditioning filter every month to get the most out of your system. Neighborhood offices will provide these for free. If you need to add weather stripping to your home, neighborhood offices will also add it for no cost,” he said.

Keeping cold air out is usually many people’s main way of saving cash, and King said that



blocking air leaks is people’s best defense.

“In the case of leaking windows that you do not want to replace, kits are available with shrink wrap that can be applied to the window moldings. Using a hair dryer, the shrink wrap is stretched tightly allowing for near-transparency while providing a barrier to air flow,” he said.

Masters added to King’s air flow tips.

“Adding door sweeps beneath doors for added insulation will help keep cold air out and warmer air in,” he said.

Freezing or bursting pipes might not seem like a problem in the area, but King said that it happens more than people might expect.

“We don’t have a lot of days when we worry about pipes freezing, but I have personally repaired pipes that have burst. Put insulation on exposed pipes and faucets, and set them to a slow drip on nights when the temperature is projected to drop below freezing. Foam pipe insulation comes in sticks and is relatively inexpensive and easy to install,” he said.

For Families living in a manufactured homes off post, King says they are very susceptible to winter damage.

“A mobile home without skirting around the base is a real problem. All pipes are exposed to the outdoor temperature and the wind can leech the heat from the pipes very quickly. The best protection

is to skirt the home and insulate any exposed pipes,” he said. He added that mobile homes often have less insulation than a site-built house and even the pipes in walls can freeze, so people need to take extra precautions.

Many people shut off the heat entirely when leaving the home for several hours or over the weekend to save on heating expenses, but King said that is not the most efficient way to save energy or money.

“Energy-efficiency experts agree that turning off HVAC units is not a good idea unless the space is going to be vacant for at least two weeks. We recommend setting back the thermostat 2-6 degrees during unoccupied times,” he said.

King suggests that when people leave their home they should turn the thermostat down in the winter and up in the summer, and to be careful in the winter to not make significant changes in the upward direction if they have a heat pump.

“Turning a heat pump up more than 2 degrees engages the electric resistance back-up heat and will eliminate whatever savings you gained with it turned down very quickly,” he said.

For Families and Soldiers living on post, contact neighborhood offices to lower the thermostat on water heaters to save some cash.

“Water heaters sometimes come from the factory with high temperature settings, but a setting of 120 degrees provides comfortable hot water for most uses,” said Masters.

Masters said that by following simple tips such as not blocking heating outlets or return registers with furniture and stopping hot water from running when washing one’s face or shaving can easily save people money.

“It’s not about cutting corners but eliminating unnecessary costs and wasted energy,” he said. “Just by taking that extra little step people can make it through the winter with a little extra money in their pocket,” he said.

Safety is an additional consideration during the winter, according to King.

“No one wants to potentially burn down their house in an attempt to stay warm during the holidays, so safety is important. Any heating device that operates on a combustible fuel source should be certified for indoor use, maintained and fueled properly, but it is the less efficient way to heat a home or a room. If open-flame heaters are used, they should be installed with proper clearances,” he said. “Fireplaces are also much safer if they are clean. Only use hardwoods and make sure you have a screen or doors in place to prevent unwanted sparks from reaching the room.”

# Edens maintains standard for motorcycle training

By Bob Van Elsberg  
*U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center*

Brig. Gen. Timothy J. Edens, director of Army Safety and commanding general, USACR/Safety Center, recently joined a group of new and returning riders at Fort Rucker for the Motorcycle Safety Foundation’s Basic Rider Course.

Edens had ridden dirt bikes as a teenager, more than 30 years ago. But with his purchase of a Harley Davidson cruiser earlier this year, the Army considered Edens a new rider, the same as any other Soldier with no experience on a motorcycle.

For Edens, the training was more than a check-the-block Army requirement; he knew he needed BRC training to survive on the highway.

“I think it’s absolutely essential to learn

the proper way to ride a motorcycle,” he said. “It’s particularly important when you put that ‘how to ride’ against the threats out there on the road.”

The BRC combines classroom training with practical skills taught on a specially designed course. From riding in a straight line where they master basic starting and stopping skills, riders move on to cornering skills, and braking and swerving techniques for avoiding highway dangers.

The course helped Edens realize how vulnerable riders are, lacking the protection offered by an automobile’s structure. That vulnerability is increased by drivers who miss motorcycles on the road or, when they do see them, are confused by their size. Being smaller than other vehicles on the road, motorcycles may appear further away or traveling more slowly

than they really are.

Even with those hazards, the training eased Edens’ concerns about returning to the road.

“I feel confident with the skills the BRC gave me,” he said, adding he looks forward to fulfilling all levels of the Army’s Progressive Motorcycle Program.

Among other requirements, the PMP mandates that Soldiers returning from a three-year or longer riding hiatus undergo sustainment training. In addition, riders who have not taken the progressive training courses prior to sustainment training must complete those steps first.

“It’s all about upholding the standards,” Edens said. “We’re not trying to make riding difficult, we’re simply giving Soldiers the best possible start to what should be an enjoyable and safe hobby.

“There is no reason for motorcycling to go underground when the Army offers its riders good training and sponsors peer experiences like the Motorcycle Mentorship Program.”

Moreover, no Soldier — regardless of rank — is exempt from safety training.

“Even as a general officer, I’m no exception to the rule,” he said. “It’s up to leaders to set the standard. Current accidents show indiscipline doesn’t discriminate by rank. Leaders at all levels must walk their talk concerning discipline and standards.”

More information on the PMP may be found in Army Regulation 385-10. Additional information and resources on motorcycle safety and the Motorcycle Mentorship Program is available at <https://safety.army.mil>.

## News Briefs

### Commissary closure

The Fort Rucker Commissary will be closed Friday (Black Friday) because of historically low patronage on the day following Thanksgiving and also to reduce operational costs. For more, call 255-9177.

### AAFES Black Friday

Military shoppers can come early and gobble up the savings as the Fort Rucker Post Exchange will open its doors at 4 a.m. Friday for Black Friday sales. “From our Family to yours, happy Thanksgiving,” said the exchange’s main store manager, Don Walter Jr. “The day after is the unofficial holiday season for many Exchange shoppers. The deals we will be serving up will offer plenty of incentive to get up early.” Beginning at 4 a.m., the PX staff will pass out take-a-tickets for the most popular “doorbuster” items, as well as bounce back coupons that can be used throughout the weekend that add value and excitement to this year’s event, Walter said. For more, call 503-9044, Ext. 211.

### PX Sunday hours change

Starting Dec. 2, the Fort Rucker Post Exchange goes to new operating hours on Sundays. The new hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. each Sunday. The hours Mondays through Saturdays will remain the same, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### CG’s Holiday Concert

Maj. Gen. Kevin W. Mangum, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, hosts the CG’s Holiday Concert Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the post theater. Featuring Fort Rucker’s own 98th Army “Silver Wings” Band, the free concert’s theme is Joy to the World! The band’s Blackout Brass Band, Crossfire and Wiregrass Jazz Ensemble will perform a festive concert with music from around the world, jazzy holiday tunes, modern favorites and sing-alongs. Santa will be in the house, as well.

### Military pay closure

The Defense Military Pay Office will close at noon Dec. 7

for its holiday luncheon and off-site training. All DMPO customers are asked to visit the DMPO with their pay inquiries prior to the closure. Soldiers who have a military pay emergency or need to clear the DMPO during this time should call Christy Carter at 237-1968 or James Fails at 470-4405 for assistance. The office will reopen Dec. 10 and begin new operating hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### South Carolina tax returns compromised

In October, an international computer hacker broke into the South Carolina Department of Revenue database and gained access to more than 3.6 million state income tax returns. The hacked returns dated back to 1998 and included unencrypted social security numbers. Also compromised were over 16,000 credit and debit cards. People whose information has been compromised will receive a free year of identity protection service provided by Experian and paid for by the state. For more, visit <http://www.sctax.org/default.html>. Anyone who filed a South Carolina tax return from 1998 onward should call (866) 578-5422.



# IMCOM looks to expedite hiring process at garrisons

By Installation Management Command  
Public Affairs

Garrison commanders are recruiting for about 2,000 job openings, and while the competitive process can be time-consuming, exceptions to the process allow for noncompetitive selection of current IMCOM employees, transitioning Soldiers, disabled veterans and certain others.

At the same time, the Army still faces a new fiscal environment that could require more civilian workforce reductions in the future, so the headquarters will continue to closely oversee the filling of critical vacancies to ensure the command stays within sustainable end strength numbers.

IMCOM started FY12 facing a mandatory reduction of more than 4,000 civilian positions including the headquarters, the regions and the garrisons. In the interest of retaining a highly experienced and specialized workforce, the command approached the necessary reduction with a commitment to meet the end strength target through attrition and judicious filling of critical vacancies.

This proactive approach to human resources management has succeeded to the extent that IMCOM has exceeded its reduction target through voluntary separations, retirement and cross-leveling through reassignment. The new personnel outlook is good news for protecting the workforce, but the garrisons are now anxious to fill these nearly 2,000 openings to sustain their operations.

“It’s great to see that we could continue to meet our mission requirements while still taking care of our civilian workforce,” said IMCOM commander Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter.

The federal hiring system is a competitive process, designed to evaluate applicants fairly, but not necessarily quickly, especially in recruiting from outside the government. But federal regulations allow for noncompetitive consideration of the very populations IMCOM seeks to help—including current employees, transitioning Soldiers and disabled veterans.

“As we look at ways to expedite the approval process, there are steps the gar-



risoners can take to speed the process, including streamlining the recruiting process, working in advance with the CPAC on determining the level of competition, getting job assessments ready, considering noncompetitive selections of the current IMCOM workforce, and hiring veterans and Family members,” said Karen M. Perkins, IMCOM director of human resources.

Most hiring actions still must go to the HQ IMCOM Human Resources Management Board for initial screening and a recommendation to the commanding general. When the commander approves a hiring request, he specifies whether a vacancy must be filled by a current IMCOM employee or whether it can be recruited outside the command and even outside

the federal workforce.

The first step remains the IMCOM Enterprise Placement Program, which may provide a reassignment opportunity for a potentially vulnerable IMCOM employee who is willing to relocate. While the IEPP process is working, managers can begin their recruitment process to be ready to select if IEPP does not provide an eligible candidate.

If managers want to consider using one of the special hiring authorities laid out under Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations, there are many ways to hire transitioning Soldiers, disabled veterans and persons with disabilities noncompetitively.

“These are excellent ways to select qualified people noncompetitively, and

they help disabled veterans and transitioning Soldiers, which we want to do anyway,” said Lois Keith, chief of civilian personnel in the IMCOM G1.

One such authority is the Veterans’ Recruitment Authority, which allows for noncompetitive appointment to positions in grades up to GS-11 of disabled veterans or veterans who served on active duty during a war, a recognized campaign or expedition, or certain other military operations. The VRA also extends to recently separated veterans.

Another opportunity is to appoint a veteran retired from active duty with a disability rating of 30 percent or more. These appointments are 60-day temporary or term to start with, but may be converted to career or career-conditional at any time. There are no grade limits with a 30 percent disability appointment, as long as the applicant meets all qualification standards.

Another talent resource is Army spouses, who normally won’t qualify for noncompetitive appointment, but often come with wide experience and varied skill sets that might not be readily available in the local talent pool. And former government employees eligible for reinstatement can be selected noncompetitively in any grade up to their former highest grade, as long as they meet qualifications.

The installation Civilian Personnel Action Center is the local resource for all civilian hiring, but especially when trying to expedite hiring through the use of noncompetitive appointments, so every action should be in consultation with the staff there.

With the need for balance between expedited hiring and sustainable end strengths, garrison commanders need access to more than one option when filling a critical vacancy. The headquarters will likely stay very involved in the hiring process for the foreseeable future in the interest of sheltering the workforce from future adverse actions due to civilian reductions.

Options do exist, however, and using the hiring authorities provided can help garrisons fill their critical vacancies while also providing opportunity for some very deserving candidates.

## Opportunity Knocks

>>Employment Forum<<

The Department of the Army has the following vacancies. For announcements and application information, call 255-9015 or visit [www.armycivilianservice.com](http://www.armycivilianservice.com)

<b>INTERNAL</b>	<b>Safety and Occupational Health Specialist</b>
<b>Air Traffic Control Specialist (Terminal)</b>	SCEG12240260780967
SCEG12249954779832	GS-0018-12
GS-2152-12/13	Closing Date: Nov. 27
Closing Date: Nov. 30	
<b>Supervisory Training Instructor (Cargo Utility Aviation Academics)</b>	<b>Security Guard</b>
SCEG12244757784466	SCEG12049170672729S
GS-1712-12	GS-0085-04
Closing Date: Nov. 26	Closing Date: Sept. 13, 2013

## Prevention tip #2

Cough or sneeze into your elbow, thus covering your nose and mouth to avoid spreading cold germs.

Health bulletin

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# Dillard's

## MILITARY APPRECIATION DAYS

Wednesday, November 28 & Thursday, November 29, 2012

At Dillard's, we recognize with continuing gratitude the sacrifices our military forces and their families make daily for our country. In appreciation, we are extending a

# 20% Discount

to military personnel on purchases\*\* made at Dillard's on Wednesday, November 28 & Thursday, November 29, 2012

**DILLARD'S IS PLEASED TO EXTEND THIS SPECIAL DISCOUNT\*\* TO**

**ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBERS & their immediate families**

**FULL-TIME ACTIVE GUARDSMEN & their immediate families**

**ACTIVATED GUARDSMEN OR RESERVISTS & their immediate families**

Make your list and shop for the holidays in your favorite Dillard's store on **November 28 & November 29, 2012**. Enjoy extra savings as Dillard's honors our military heroes & their families! **Thank you for your service to our country!**

- These individuals and/or a representative from their immediate family are cordially invited to shop any area Dillard's store on either or both days.
- Guests from the military are asked to SAVE their sales receipts.
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# Safe: Officials urge drivers to remain vigilant

Continued from Page A1

vost marshal and director of public safety on Fort Rucker said that drivers may feel like the checkpoints are conducted to meet quotas, which is false.

“We do not have a quota of citations that we have to write weekly, monthly or yearly. That is a common misconception. These checkpoints are to ensure the safety of the road, whether it’s from oneself or others,” she said.

Bondy said that the checkpoints can be conducted anywhere at any time, and that everyone should be prepared to stop.

“[The checkpoints] can be near the gates or closer to the interior of the installation as opposed to our normal patrols ensuring compliance to laws, rules and regulations,” she said.

There are many issues that Bondy said drivers are being careless about, and that

Soldiers and Family members should uphold the law not only because it is the law, but for safety.

“Holding your phone in your hand or lap on speaker phone does not constitute hands free — that is not in compliance with regulations. Seatbelts are also another major concern. People know the dangers of not wearing a seatbelt, so there is no excuse,” she said.

DPS officials also have a few other concerns.

“We are having problems with people not respecting the appropriate significance to Reveille and Retreat. People should stop their vehicles and get out to show proper respect, whether that be saluting or standing in the direction of the nearest flag,” she said.

“Ignorance is not an excuse or defense, so if anyone has questions please call us,” she added.

Bondy also wanted to bring attention to pedestrians who may be bringing more danger to themselves than they realize.

She said that, for safety, people cannot wear ear buds on the paths around housing or on sidewalks around post because many people are oblivious to the cars around them.

“Lots of people wear ear buds while on the roadways and sidewalks while they are exercising. There are only three designated paths where wearing ear buds is allowed. They can be worn at the air assault track by the gym on Andrews, and the paths at Beaver and Ech Lake,” she said.

The winter months can also cause people to take more medication, and the officers warn people of driving while under the influence of some prescription medications.

“People can get a driving while under the influence citation off of medication or cough syrup. Do not operate heavy machinery on medicine or prescription drugs; a vehicle is a heavy machine. You can get a citation even if your blood alcohol level is below 0.08 percent,” said Munch.

The parties that often accompany the holidays can set people up for a citation if someone is transporting alcohol improperly.

“People cannot have a drink open in the car or in their hand. If it is open and within reach of the driver then they can be cited for an open container. The safest bet is to put it in the trunk of the vehicle or inside a cooler in the back seat. Don’t let that homemade eggnog in a pitcher sitting in the passenger seat get you in trouble,” said the deputy provost marshal.

# FRG: Programs enhance readiness of Soldiers, Families

Continued from Page A1

Lyster Army Health Clinic, youth sports, the arts and craft center, and Dothan Obstetrics and Gynecology.

The open house served to not only educate people on what services are in place, but to also educate people on what FRGs are and do for Families.

“The FRG is an official Army program and is a commander’s program within his or her unit. It is a group made up of Family members, volunteers, and Soldiers and civilian employees belonging to that unit or organization that together provide an avenue of mutual support and assistance. It is a network of communication among Family members, the chain of command and community resources,” said Ingrid Pierce, the FRG adviser for 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment.

The FRG is vital in assisting commanders in enhancing readiness of Soldiers and Families, according to Pierce.

“Things are constantly changing and we want to keep information, which is vital to these leaders, at their fingertips and up to date. I am glad that Col. [Stuart J.] McRae, [Fort Rucker garrison commander], was here, it shows he cares,” she said.

Several briefings were held throughout the night as well as a fashion show featuring children’s clothing.

“Briefings regarding the Leading Change Team and the Yellow Dot Program will be conducted, as well as an overview of what Code Red is all about and Military OneSource representatives will talk for a little while about what they have available,” said Williams.

All assigned Soldiers (married or single), Army civilians, volunteers and their Families (immediate and extended) are automatically considered to be members of FRGs, but participation is completely voluntary, according to Pierce.

“Army Families are on the move constantly, therefore our positions of leadership change within the FRG on a consistent basis. To arm those leaders with the information they need to be helpful to Families, this open house seemed like the easiest one-stop solution,” she said. “It’s beneficial for FRGs to learn about resources available in different communities, military and civilian, that can support Soldiers and Families wherever they live.

“Successful FRG programs enhance Family readiness and preparedness for whatever may come our way,” she



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Capt. Jared Koelling, FRG leader for C Company, 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment, speaks with Leroy Minus, child youth and school services youth sports and assistant fitness director, about what youth sports has to offer his Family.

added.

Several of the booths had services they offered during the event. Lyster Army Health Clinic gave free blood pressure tests and measured people’s height and weight, and the DFMWR table had a photo booth set up where people could use props such as ‘I love Fort Rucker’ signs, fake mustaches and kissy lips to take a memorable photo.

Some members of the community in attendance, like Susan Johnson, said that they liked the opportunity to have more details provided to them about on and off-post services.

“I like having an opportunity to make friends who are going through exactly what I am going through and the FRG provides that. I like the support network,” she said, adding that the fact that she saw a lot of Soldiers at the

event and not just spouses made her happy.

Dinner in the form of sandwiches, chips, cookies and tea was provided to attendees.

“We just wanted to make people comfortable since they are going to be here a while,” said Williams.

With everything said and done, Williams wants Families and Soldiers to know that ACS and other programs on Fort Rucker such as Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation are concerned for each and every Family member.

“We just want people to know that we care. We partner up and put events like this together to show everyone involved in FRGs or who wants to be involved in FRGs that we are here for them,” said Williams.

To find out more about FRGs, call 255-0960 or email [fortruckerfamilyreadiness@facebook.com](mailto:fortruckerfamilyreadiness@facebook.com).

# Post: Recycling process easy, invaluable to community

Continued from Page A1

recycling events special.

“It is super easy to drop things off. No hassle, no paperwork and no fees. These events are invaluable to the community. We couldn’t make it any easier. You can live off post, you can bring your neighbors’ stuff, you can work on post—it doesn’t matter. As long as people could get it to us, we took it without any questions being asked,” she said.

A lot of the equipment that people brought in, according to Quinlan, can be refurbished.

“All of the cell phones donated go to the Cell Phones for Soldiers program and a lot of the other items can help people.

It is a much better alternative to throwing it away,” she said.

When the recycling center is not having special events, like the E-cycling drive, it collects what is considered typical, recyclable material year round.

“We take cardboard, aluminum, paper, plastic, old toner cartridges and even used oil. We also take metals like brass and we even accept compact discs now because we have the shredder,” she said.

According to Quinlan, recycling is a mindset that is slowly spreading across the area.

“It’s slow but it’s coming. I have found that many people just don’t realize the dangers that a lot of waste poses. They don’t

know it’s hazardous and that is why many people don’t recycle — not because they don’t care,” she said.

The military community is no stranger to recycling, and the hazardous waste manager said that military Families can greatly benefit from recycling and the programs that many installations provide.

“Being in the military, people tend to collect things because they move so often. So recycling is a great way for people to get rid of old and basically useless belongings. There is nowhere for people to take old televisions or computers unless they sit them out by the road,” she said, adding that recycling is a great

alternative.

Many areas do not have recycling centers, so Quinlan said she appreciates the recycling opportunities Soldiers have on Fort Rucker.

“It’s great that people have a place to take it to so we can recover some of those precious metals and don’t have to keep generating new materials and items,” she said.

Sabrina Vail, an Army spouse and enthusiastic recycler, agreed that the opportunity to recycle locally is priceless.

“I am from Washington state, so I am used to recycling everything. It was odd to come to a place where recycling is not a major concern. It was really nice

to see [the post] participating in the event so I can safely get rid of products that I don’t use anymore,” she said.

For Quinlan, the biggest issue about recycling is the state that the planet will be left in for future generations.

“It’s about the future. One day our children will have these overflowing landfills with no options. It’s going to turn into a bigger and bigger problem every year as people update more and more electronics,” she said.

For anyone wishing to recycle materials, the recycling center at Bldg. 9322 and hazardous waste center at Bldg. 1315 are open Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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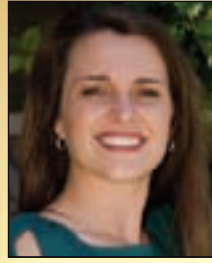
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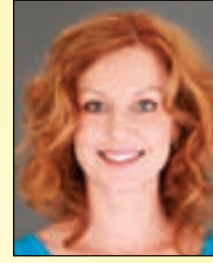
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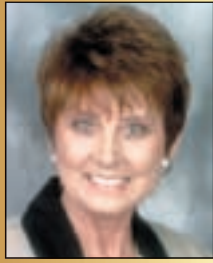
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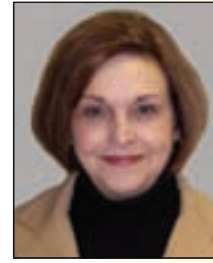
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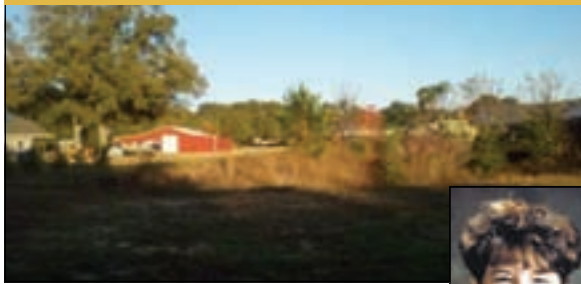


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NOVEMBER 22, 2012

# Attitude gives team what it needs

By Sgt. 1st Class Abram J. Pinnington  
101st Airborne

KHOWST PROVINCE, Afghanistan — “There is no rush like sling loading,” said U.S. Army Sgt. Joshua Keller, the day-shift Helicopter Landing Zone non-commissioned officer in charge.

Getting Soldiers the supplies they need to sustain combat operations takes careful planning. Delivery methods vary given the type of items in need and the degree of danger taken to deliver them to their destination.

This is where the Soldiers of Headquarters Company, 626th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team “Rakkasans,” 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), show off their combat efficiency with sling load operations.

Due to Afghanistan’s rugged terrain and narrow passes, timely delivery of supplies and equipment often comes by air.

“This is an extremely important mission we have here at the HLZ,” said Keller.

The 626th BSB proved their capabilities by pushing out more than 992,000 lbs of supplies to outlying forward operating bases and combat outposts in October. Of that figure, 970,000 lbs. was transported by sling load.

The operation known as sling load is when cargo is prepared on the ground for airlift. First is a meticulous inspection looking for anything that may endanger the load, helicopter and people or property while in transit below.

Once ready for transport, the adventure begins.

As the helicopter approaches the cargo, a Soldier stands between the load and the hovering machine. Slowly, the craft lowers itself within feet of the cargo. Once within arm’s reach, the Soldier then attaches the sling directly to the belly of the aircraft.

As the helicopter hovers over its target, the Soldier then moves out from under the aircraft. Slowly gaining distance from the

SEE ATTITUDE, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS ABRAM PINNINGTON

Sgt. Joshua Keller, who hails from Louisville, Ky., a helicopter landing zone non-commissioned officer in charge from Headquarters Company, BSB, 3rd BCT “Rakkasans,” 101st Abe. Div. (Air Assault), awaits as a civilian-contracted air asset helicopter approaches for a sling load of supplies at FOB Salerno, in Khowst Province, Afghanistan, Nov. 5.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

## PUMA TRAINING

Sgt. Michael Tackett, HHC, 3rd BCT, 25th Inf. Div., launches a Tier I Small Unmanned Aircraft System, “PUMA,” during training at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, Nov. 14.

# U.S., Bulgarian forces train together during Allied Force 12 exercise

By Staff Sgt. Joel Salgado  
U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs

NOVO SELO, Bulgaria — Soldiers from U.S. Army Europe and their partners from the Bulgarian Land Forces worked together from Oct. 29 to Nov. 10 to certify a Bulgarian battalion as part of exercise Allied Force 12.

U.S. Army Europe’s 172nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team provided observer-controllers to oversee the training, while Soldiers of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team trained alongside members of the Bulgarian 1st Battalion, 61st Mechanized Brigade, in the exercise. The brigades’ support to the Bulgarian certification helped fulfill USAREUR and Department of the Army goals of providing U.S. support to coalition partners participating in contingency operations, and ensured the battalion is fully ready to deploy if called upon.

“Training like this is important because it best replicates the multinational environment in which our Soldiers will be operating downrange when serving in (the NATO International Security Assistance Force) or in other missions abroad,” said Maj. Mary Clare McKenna, desk officer for Bulgaria, Romania, Kosovo and



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. JOEL SALGADO

A Soldier from the 173rd Abe. BCT pulls security as a medical evacuation helicopter lands during Allied Force 12, at Novo Selo, Bulgaria, Oct. 8. Allied Force 12 is an exercise involving U.S. Army Europe’s 172nd Inf. BCT, the 173rd Abe. BCT, and the Bulgarian 1st Bn., 61st Mech. Bde., and designed to test the Bulgarian Land Forces first battalion combat team for readiness to deploy in support of contingency operations.

Hungary at USAREUR’s Security Cooperation Division.

As a lead-up to the battalion’s certification, elements of the 61st Mechanized Brigade participated in several rotations during the past 18 months at USAREUR’s Joint Multinational Readiness Center to prepare themselves and

their multinational partners for contingency operations.

“I am very pleased to be here today to congratulate the Bulgarian Armed Forces, and especially the Land Forces, on the certification of their first Battalion Battle Group — the 1st Battalion, 61st Mechanized Brigade,” said U.S.

Ambassador to Bulgaria Marcie Ries. “This achievement underscores the commitment of the Bulgarian Armed Forces to fully realizing their potential as a NATO member, as well as their importance to the alliance.”

Bulgaria currently has nearly 600 soldiers supporting ISAF.

# Calif. Guard Aviators train for mission

By Capt. Jacob J. Ring  
1st Bn., 351st Avn. Regt.,  
166th Avn. Bde., Division West

FORT HOOD, Texas — The California Army National Guard’s B Company, 1st Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, one of the oldest CH-47 Chinook helicopter units in the Army, is no stranger to Afghanistan.

The unit deployed to Regional Command-East five years ago, and all of the unit’s pilots-in-command and flight engineers either were on that deployment or had previously deployed to Afghanistan while on active duty.

Although the unit from Stockton, Calif., has ample experience with Afghanistan, they recently mobilized to Fort Hood for the first time.

“It’s a lot different to deploy in the Guard than in active duty,” said the Schooner’s tactical operations officer, CW3 Lucas Eggers.

Before mobilizing at Fort Hood to be trained by Division West’s 166th Aviation Brigade, known as “the Schooners,” conducted three two-week training exercises focusing on pre-deployment training tasks at Camp Roberts in their home state of California. This enabled them to focus specifically on flight training once in Texas. In fact, the group amassed more than 400 flight hours, including more than 150 hours of night flying, at Fort Hood.

Much of the Schooner’s flight preparations focused on both individual as well as collective flight training, particularly air assault missions. The focus on individual training was the result of two of their senior flight engineers, including their first sergeant, being unable to deploy because of medical reasons in the week prior to mobilization.

Despite the challenges, the Schooners rose to the occasion and quickly advanced several members of the team to fill out 12 fully mission-qualified crews.

First Sgt. Jeff Stanfield, who met the unit at Fort Hood one week after the

SEE MISSION, PAGE B4



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# Attitude: Team keeps Soldiers in the fight

Continued from Page B1

ground, the cargo begins to lift and the Soldier inspects from a safe distance. Once the all clear is given, the helicopter is off to its intended destination.

This dangerous process takes less than one minute.

“When the helicopter is right on top of you, your heart really begins to pump,” said Keller.

Although the adrenaline rush of having four tons of machinery hovering within feet of you is substantial, Keller and the Soldiers of the BSB HLZ pride themselves on playing a key role in supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

“We love being able to help maintain the fight,” said Keller. “Sling load is crucial in getting those Soldiers the supplies they need in order to keep up their operational tempo.”

More than 1,000 supply loads were flown out to Soldiers in the past month. Items ranging from ammunition, mail, replacement parts, howitzers, water, fuel, hesco barriers and even toilet paper.

“Everything we send out of here helps that Soldier or unit,” said Keller. “We have the ability to rapidly resupply our guys with sling load and I love it.”

Keeping the Soldier in the fight is a 24-hour operation.

“Day-time sling loading is fun but at night it’s a different ballgame,” said Sgt. Adam Phipps, the night-shift HLZ NCOIC. “You really have to keep an eye on the helicopter and how close it gets to you at night. However, night time operations are what I do best.”

The tempo of operations doesn’t slow down when the sun goes down.

“We stay busy here all day and night,” said Phipps. “Our priority is to make sure we’re always ready to sling a load

at any given moment.”

These Soldiers take a great deal of pride in their job, and their attitude and quality of work show it.

The group has even created a crafty motto they proudly state at any given opportunity: “You bring it, we sling it.”

The motto, given by Phipps, fits their mentality of sling loading.

“I gave us that motto,” said Phipps. “We know, if you can get it to us, we’ll find a way to sling load it out of here.”

The HLZ team is making life easier for those Soldiers in remote places. They know sling loading will continue to play a vital part in sustaining forces in Afghanistan. A challenge they say they’re more than up to.

“This challenge is one that I love. Nothing like waking up every morning knowing that rush of sling loading awaits you in order to help those in the fight,” said Keller.

# Mission: Aviators focus on mission readiness

Continued from Page B1

rest of the unit, was glad to have the opportunity to assist the group.

“Luckily, I’m already part of the family,” Stanfield said.

After several days of initial in-processing and deployment readiness activities, the Schooners began their flight training with local area orientations and then began individual readiness level progression training, maximizing their training by supporting III Corps units. In particular, the 166th Aviation Brigade arranged for them to support the 85th Civil Affairs Brigade, a civil affairs battalion that was conducting a deployment readiness certification, and two companies from 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, that were conducting company-level collective training in preparation for a deployment scheduled for next summer.

“The (B Co., 1st Bn., 8th Cav., 2nd BCT, 1st Cav. Div.) mission was basically the typical mission set that we’re going to be doing once we’re overseas,” said 1st Lt. Chase Ross, a Schooners platoon leader. “We’ll pick them up and then we’ll drop them on another target. We’re practicing time-on-target, navigation and talking on the radios.”

The Schooners also supported the 120th Infantry Brigade’s training of another deploying expeditionary force unit by conducting casualty evacuation operations, enabling Soldiers in the Army Reserve’s 993rd Transportation Company to practice calling in medical evacuation requests and communicating with aircraft. This simultaneously enabled the Schooners to familiarize themselves with the special requirements involved with a Chinook helicopter casualty evacuation. The Schooners

benefitted from this practice, since they were called on to evacuate the wounded from the Battle of Wanat in July of 2008 and know the complexity and importance of such a mission.

After completing aerial gunnery with their newest crew members, the Schooners deployed seven of their aircraft to Double Eagle II Airport in New Mexico for a week of intensive flight training in the mountains. There, the Schooners focused first on dust landing techniques, honing the critical crew coordination and flight skills necessary to land in the sand and dust of Afghanistan. Their main objective was to develop their younger pilots-in-command.

“I want all of my PCs and FEs to be 100 percent comfortable conducting zero illumination dust landings,” said Capt. Ben Bowman, commander of B Co., 1st Bn., 126th Avn. Regt.

Upon completion of their dust landings, the Schooners moved on to high-altitude landing zones, practicing power management techniques and pinnacle landings that will be useful for operations in the mountains of Afghanistan.

Once they recovered their aircraft at Fort Hood, which included reacting to a precautionary landing near Coleman Airfield in west Texas, the Schooners then turned their attention to getting their aircraft ready for the culminating training exercise conducted by the 166th Avn. Bde.

Aircrews focused on air assault mission planning, receiving and planning two air assault missions during their company collective training. That practice paid off during the CTE, when the unit received five air assault missions over the course of five days, on top of air mission requests for numerous air movement operations.

The Schooners continued their support of 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 2nd Brigade



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS GAIL BRAYMEN

An observer controller and trainer, top left, from 1st Bn., 351st Avn. Regt., 166th Avn. Bde., Division West, ensures that Soldiers of B Co., 1st Bn., 8th Cav., 2nd BCT, 1st Cav. Div., are secure aboard a Chinook helicopter prior to taking off on an air movement operation at Fort Hood, Texas, in September.

Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, conducting internal and external load training with the forward support company. They again supported the 120th Infantry Brigade, conducting an insertion and extraction for a key leader engagement conducted by the Iowa Army National Guard’s 1034th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion.

“This gets me a little bit more oriented,” said Spc. Jesus Camacho, a crew chief with B Co., 1st Bn., 126th Avn. Regt. “I’m getting used to people jumping on and off the aircraft, what to be aware of, what they might do, what they might not do, how to talk to them. It’s a lot different from not

having any passengers on the aircraft. It’s good training, overall. I feel like I’ve learned a lot.”

Upon completion of their CTE, the Schooners staged their deploying aircraft at Robert Gray Army Airfield, transferred their remaining aircraft to other National Guard units and began packing their equipment. Confident in their training and readiness, the Schooners are prepared for their mission in RC-East.

When asked about the value of the two-month training experience at Fort Hood, 1st Lt. Perkins said, “Fort Hood makes you ready to go to Afghanistan.”

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COURTESY PHOTO

Col. Stuart J. McRae, Fort Rucker garrison commander, reads a story to children at the Camping Under the Stars event at Lake Tholocco's West Beach Friday.

## Camping Under The Stars

Fort Rucker outdoor event brings Families, community together

By Nathan Pfau  
Army Flier Staff Writer

Cozying up next to a fire and having some hot cocoa on a cold November night is how about 150 Soldiers and Family members spent part of their Friday night during the Camping Under the Stars event at Lake Tholocco's West Beach.

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation teamed up with other organizations on Fort Rucker, as well as the Boy Scouts of America's Troop 50, to put on the event for military Families, according to Brian Jackson, DFMWR program manager.

"The emphasis of the Camping Under the Stars event is a tribute to military Families," he said. "It's a way for DFMWR and other organizations to come together to provide an activity for our military Families."

Jackson said the importance of providing military Families with events like camping comes from the unique circumstances that military Families experience, and Sgt. Shane Cross, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment, agreed that events like Camping Under the Stars are appreciated.

"Feeling disconnected is a big thing that happens with military Families, so events like this help out with that," said Cross, who attended the event with his wife,



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Nilsa San Miguel, Army Spouse, and her children Pedro (left) and Angelina (right), and Family friend Chance Birch, military Family member, sit and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate as they watch a movie during the Camping Under the Stars event at Lake Tholocco's West Beach Friday.

Sara, and two children.

"It's definitely good to be able to come out and feel like you're a part of the community here," said Sara. "It seemed like a fun Family event to do and I thought [our children] would enjoy it."

The night kicked off with a showing of the movie "How to Train Your Dragon" on an inflatable screen that Families were able to watch from tents that were set up in front of the screen.

Families were able to use free tents provided by outdoor recreation and share a Family experience with different activities.

"We had a total of 13 Families

reserve the ODR tents and 28 Families that signed up for the "Tell Me A Story" program," said Jackson.

"Tell Me A Story" is a program in which Col. Stuart J. McRae, Fort Rucker garrison commander, came out to read stories to the children during the event.

Along with McRae, members of the Center Library were also in attendance to read stories to children. After the garrison commander read to the children, the Center Library read the story "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs," followed by a showing of the movie of the same title, which

Jackson said provided a unique experience.

"The movies provided by [the post exchange] were a huge hit and children loved the story readings by Colonel McRae," said Janice Erdlitz, DFMWR marketing director. "We had a great turnout with the cool fall weather and it was perfect for campfires, s'mores and tons of Family fun. The event provided the perfect opportunity to enjoy quality Family time."

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers was also on hand to provide games like Tic-Tac-Toe and Kerplunk in scaled-up versions

for Families to take part in. Children were also able to get their face painted or take part in the child, youth and school services' scavenger hunt.

"The scavenger hunt was called 'Skulls and Tails'," said Jackson. "There were different taxidermy animals that were put in and around the forest line, and the children had to find them and figure out the type of animals they were."

Activities like the scavenger hunt were just part of the activities that provided a learning experience for Families in attendance.

"It's definitely a learning experience for Soldiers and their spouses to have with their children," he said. "They can come out and learn how to make a s'more or set up a tent. That's really the point of the event."

The need for the event comes directly from feedback that DFMWR gets from the community on the installation, and a camping event is something that Jackson said Families were interested in.

"Every year or two we do a needs assessment survey, and one of the top five events out of 20 programs was a camp out," he said. "Last year was our first time putting on a camp out, but it was unfortunately rained out. There was still a lot of interest, so we wanted to make sure we did it again this year and we had a perfect night for it."

## Bazaar offers holiday fun for a good cause

By Nathan Pfau  
Army Flier Staff Writer

The time for holiday decorations and presents approaches and the Fort Rucker Community Spouses' Club offers a good opportunity for people to get ready for the upcoming gift-giving season.

The FRCSC Holiday Bazaar will be Dec. 1 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Yano Hall, and for \$5 admittance people can help a good cause while shopping for gifts, crafts and food, according to Andrea Merrigan, FRCSC Holiday Bazaar co-chairperson.

"The Holiday Bazaar is essentially a craft bazaar that we've held for more than 45 years," she said. "It's our largest fundraiser and there will be more than 65 vendors, bake sales, raffles and even a Santa Clause for children to take pictures with."

People can expect to see a wide variety of holiday crafts and de-



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Sgt. Ted E. Bear puts on his Fort Rucker Community Spouses Club T-shirt to get ready for the upcoming Holiday Bazaar. This year's bazaar will be Dec. 1 at Yano Hall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

cor, jewelry and some home-based businesses at the event while getting into the holiday spirit with a performance by the Fort Rucker Primary School First Grade Chorus, said Merrigan.

The chorus will begin performing at 11 a.m. and this is the

first time the children have performed at the bazaar. Along with enjoying the choir, Merrigan said people can also enjoy a gift wrapping station that will be taking donations to wrap gifts.

There are many reasons to hold an event like the bazaar, but the

Spouses' Club's purpose is one of community service.

"Our primary mission is to develop a spirit of community responsibility," said Merrigan. "This event supports the community and supports Fort Rucker's Spouses' Club. We also provide opportunities for social, cultural and creative pursuits."

Merrigan said events like the bazaar have helped the Fort Rucker Spouses' Club and other organizations raise and distribute more than \$133,000 in scholarships to military Family members and students in the community over the past nine years.

According to the website, [www.ftruckerescsc/scholarship.htm](http://www.ftruckerescsc/scholarship.htm), FRCSC along with other organizations helped award \$17,400 in college and continuing education scholarships to local military Family members in 2012.

Although raising money for the community is the organiza-

tion's primary mission, the club provides a place for military spouses to feel at home.

Merrigan said the Spouses' Club also holds monthly luncheons and social events to bring the spouses together, and that the organization has given her a place to feel comforted in the sometimes stressful military Family life.

"Being in the Spouses' Club has been a wonderful experience for me and it's the main place that I've been able to meet some really close friends," said Merrigan. "Since spouses typically bounce from post to post, it's nice to be able to come to an installation and know you can join the spouses' club and meet people in the same situation, and immediately get involved in the community."

For more information on the Holiday Bazaar or how to join the FRCSC, visit [www.ftruckerescsc.com](http://www.ftruckerescsc.com).



# ON POST

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

### Thanksgiving Feast

The Landing offers its Thanksgiving Feast today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The feast will be buffet style, costing \$16.95 for adults, \$6.95 for children ages 6-12, \$3.95 for children ages 3-5, and children ages 2 and younger eat for free. A military Family special will be available for two adults and two children to eat for \$39.50. Reservations are recommended.

For more information or to make a reservation, call 598-2426.

### Youth ornament contest

Fort Rucker youth, ages 3-11, once again have the chance to participate in the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Ornament Contest. Youth should turn in their ornaments between now and Sunday to youth services in Bldg. 2806 at 7th and Division Road, the child development center in Bldg. 8938 on Red Cloud Road or parent central services in Bldg. 5700 on Novosel Street. The ornament submissions should include the child’s name and age along with the guardian’s name and contact information. Ornaments will be judged based on overall aesthetics, creative use of materials, quality of craftsmanship and originality of design. All ornaments will be hung on the post Christmas tree on Dec. 6. People wanting to keep their ornament can remove it from the tree following the ceremony. Ornament contest winners will be announced during the ceremony. There will be one winner chosen in the following categories: 3-5 years, 6-8 years, 9-11 years and an overall winner. All winners will receive prizes and a trophy at the tree lighting, and the overall winner will help to light the tree. For more, call 255-1749.

### New youth center opening

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosts the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Fort Rucker Youth Center Nov. 30 at 4 p.m. at Bldg. 2800 on 7th Avenue. After the ribbon cutting, attendees are invited to tour the new facility that features a full basketball court, rock climbing wall, technology lab, arts and crafts room, interactive physical fitness room, entertainment center, homework center, a teen lounge and more.

For more, call 255-2375.

### Financial Readiness Training

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

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



FILE PHOTO

## Christmas Tree Lighting

Santa works the crowd at last year’s Christmas tree lighting. The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosts this year’s Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Dec. 6 from 5-6 p.m. at Howze Field. The event will feature music, hot chocolate, the lighting of the post Christmas tree, and, of course, the friendly visitor from the North Pole. Afterward, enjoy complimentary photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus at The Landing – they may also have some treats for good girls and boys. Immediately following the Christmas Tree Lighting, from 6-8 p.m., The Landing will host its annual Spaghetti Dinner. Dinner will include a choice of pasta and sauce, salad bar, garlic bread, assorted cookies, tea and coffee. The dinner will cost \$10 for adults 13 and older, \$5 for children ages 3-12 and children 2 and under eat for free. A Family special will be available for \$25 for a Family of two adults and two children 12 and younger. In case of inclement weather, the event will take place at The Landing. For more, call 598-2426.

### Comedy Live

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosts Comedy Live Dec. 7 from 8-10 p.m. at The Landing. Entertainers will include comedians Jarrod Harris and Mike Winfield. Tickets are \$10 before 2 p.m. Dec. 7 and \$15 at the door. Doors will open at 7 p.m. and The Landing Zone will have a live DJ following the performance. This show is for individuals 18 and older.

For more, call 255-9810.

### AFTB Level II Training

Army Community Service hosts Army Family Team Building Level II training Dec. 4-6 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371F. AFTB Level II gives people the chance to gain personal growth skills, including communication, stress management, time management, acknowledging change and more. Advance registration is required.

For more, call 255-2382.

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

Fort Rucker’s Army Family Team Building hosts its Get R.E.A.L. class – Rucker Experience, Army Learning – to help those who may be a bit confused by Army life Dec. 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371F. Topics in the class will include acronyms, Army customs and courtesies, military ranks, community resources and more. The class also helps people make new friends and learn more about Fort Rucker. Advance registration is required.

For more, call 255-2382.

### Dinner special at The Landing Zone

In honor of Military Family Appreciation Month, two children ages 12 and younger eat for free with the purchase of one adult entrée off the dinner menu at The Landing Zone now

through Nov. 30. For more, call 598-8025.

### EDGE! December activities

Child, youth and schools services host various activities as part of its EDGE! program in December. December activities include wreath making, winter scarf arts and crafts, wood burning crafts and more. EDGE! events cost \$5 per hour. Activities occur every weekday from 4-6 p.m.

For more, call 255-0666.

### Steak Night

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

For more, call 598-2426.

### AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief scholarship applications for the 2013-2014 school year are available at [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) and are due by April 1. AER scholarships are available for spouses and dependent children of active duty, retired and deceased Soldiers.

For more, visit [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) or call (866) 878-6378.

### Boneless Wing Night

This month, every Monday in The Landing Zone will be Boneless Wing Night starting at 4 p.m. Patrons can get six wings for \$3, 10 wings for \$4.75 or 15 wings for \$7 with the purchase of a beverage. This offer is not valid with any other coupons or promotions and is for dine-in only.

For more, call 598-8025.

# DFMWR Spotlight

Open to the Public

## Thanksgiving Feast



**November 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**11 am – 2 pm**  
**The Landing**

Let The Landing take care of the cooking this year!  
The feast will be buffet style, featuring delicious Thanksgiving favorites!



For details or reservations  
call The Landing, 598-2426.  
[www.ftruckermwr.com](http://www.ftruckermwr.com)



The Landing

## FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR NOV. 22 - 25

### Thursday, Nov. 22

Closed for Thanksgiving

### Friday, Nov. 23

End of Watch (R) .....7 p.m.

### Saturday, Nov. 24

End of Watch (R) .....7 p.m.

### Sunday, Nov. 25

House at the End of the Street (PG-13) .....7 p.m.



# Chaplain: Thanksgiving a time to recognize blessings

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

This week, most of us will celebrate Thanksgiving somewhere. Some of us will travel to distant places to be with Family members while others will gather in homes and restaurants to share a meal and time of fellowship with those we love and care for.

Whatever your Family plans and wherever your trip takes you this week, please be safe in all you do.

This week I want to share what I consider a beautiful Thanksgiving story.

Several years ago, when I was stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., I heard the most emotional and moving story that I had heard in all my life — I will never forget it.

It was the story from a daughter and mother that they decided to share with the community and the world on the evening news. This mother and daughter related their experience of being thankful and grateful for what had happened to them that year. They were celebrating this daughter's life and were so thankful for the blessing of her miraculous surgery that they felt it a duty to give their testimony

on international television.

It turned out that this young woman was a dialysis patient for many years and had her name on a donors list for a kidney transplant for more than a decade. She waited patiently for a donor organ, but as several years drifted by it seemed that her day would never come. She and her mother talked to lots of doctors on countless occasions to discuss the possibility of her mother donating a kidney — and her mother was always more than willing to do it in spite of the possibility of endangering her own health and life in the process.

However, each time the conversation came up doctors advised against it because the mom's health was not in the best condition to perform the operation with the assurance of complete recovery. Doctors warned that in spite of the time involved in waiting, and the uncertainty of finding a perfect match, it would be better to be patient and wait for a donor's kidney than to do the procedure and jeopardize mom's health and life.

To the medical community's surprise, the mom and daughter requested to perform the operation with full knowledge of the prognosis, which was grim at best,

and that the outcome could be fatal. The two of them emphatically stated that they prayed about this issue and fully trusted God to perform a miracle for them.

At first, the medical team that performed the operation deliberated, but hesitatingly agreed to try it. After surgery, the doctors exclaimed that they were pleased to announce that the entire process was beyond their expectations. They said the operation proceeded without one difficulty and they expected full recovery in the days ahead. They didn't anticipate future problems, and told the mom and daughter that they could be home within a few days.

You can only imagine how happy these two ladies felt when they heard the words of life instead of death, and hope in the place of despair. They were so pleased at the outcome that they said, "Let's tell this story to as many people as we can! Let's tell the community, better yet, let's tell the world." So, they did.

Now, that's a beautiful account of the power of God and the love of a mother that would move anyone to give thanks for such a gift that can't be purchased with money.

On the other hand, that is what Thanks-

giving is all about — giving thanks to God for the blessings of life, strength, health, shelter, food, healing and the list goes on.

Each of us has been blessed beyond measure. You may not think you are blessed, and it may not feel like you are blessed — especially if you lost a loved one this year, or if you are looking for employment and can't find anything. Or maybe you had a misfortune over the past months that devastated you in a way that is almost beyond recovery. Trust me, you are still blessed and you have a lot to be thankful for.

One of my favorite songs has a line in it that says, "I complained that I had no shoes until I saw a man who had no feet, then I said, I am blessed — better than blessed — praise the Lord." That same song goes on to say, "Be grateful, because there is someone else who is worse off than you. Be grateful, because there is someone else who would love to be in your shoes."

As you celebrate, please take time to give thanks to consider the words of this Bible verse: "Whatever happens, give thanks, because it is God's will in Christ Jesus that you do this," 1 Thessalonians 5:18.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

## Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Chelsea, a 16-week old female domestic short hair available for adoption at the Fort Rucker stray facility. She is sweet and loving. It costs \$81 to adopt Chelsea and other animals at the facility, which includes all up-to-date shots, the first round of age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip and spaying. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels. Donations can be dropped off at the veterinary clinic or the commissary. Visit the Fort Rucker stray facility's **Facebook** page at <http://www.facebook.com/fortruckerstrayfacility/> for constant updates on the newest animals available for adoption.

## Religious Services

### WORSHIP SERVICES

Except as noted, all services are on Sunday.

### HEADQUARTERS CHAPEL, BLDG. 109

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

### MAIN POST CHAPEL, BLDG. 8940

9 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, BLDG. 6036

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

### SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER, BLDG. 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

10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Spiritual Life Center, Wednesday

Noon Adult Bible Study, Soldier Service Center, Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Youth Group Bible Study, Headquarters Chapel, Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Chapel Next (Meal/Bible Study), Wings Chapel, Thursday

### MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS

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 at 9 a.m. at the Spiritual Life Center, Bldg 8939. For more information, call the religious support office at 255-2989.

### PROTESTANT MEN OF THE CHAPEL

PMOC meets 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.

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"R" Rated Films, one must be 17 or with parent"

II **SKYFALL** - **R**  
Mon - Fri 7:10 & 9:45 • S & S 2:00, 7:00 & 9:45

II **FLIGHT** - **R**  
Mon - Fri 7:10 & 9:55 • S & S 2:10, 7:10 & 9:55

**WESTGATE CENTER**

III **TAKEN 2** - **PG-13**  
Mon - Fri 7:10 & 9:10 • S & S 2:00, 7:10 & 9:10

IV **IRON FIST** - **R**  
Mon - Fri 7:00 & 9:00 • S & S 2:00, 7:00 & 9:00

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SHOWING ON 2 SCREENS  
College Cinema - Rated PG-13  
**TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 2**  
Mon - Fri 7:00, 7:30, 9:30 & 10:00  
S & S 2:00, 2:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30 & 10:00

II **WRECK-IT RALPH** - **PG**  
3D • S & S 2:10 & 7:10 • Mon - Fri 7:10  
2D\*\* 9:15 Everyday

**UZARK**

I **TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 2** - **PG-13**  
Mon - Fri 7:00 & 9:30 • S & S 2:00, 7:00 & 9:30

II **HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA** - **PG**  
Mon - Fri 7:10 & 9:10 • S & S 2:10, 7:10 & 9:10

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## Church Directory

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

**Center Point  
Community Church**  
†Charismatic † Relational † Purposeful†  
Pastor: Ed Corley  
† 3351 Lynn Road - Enterprise  
(right off Rucker Blvd)  
† **Service times**  
☪ Sunday Worship - 10 AM  
☪ Sunday Evenings - 5 PM  
☪ Wednesday Evenings - 7 PM  
☪ Nursery - Children - Youth  
† Office: 334 347 5044  
[www.centerpointag.org](http://www.centerpointag.org)  
[centerpoint3351@yahoo.com](mailto:centerpoint3351@yahoo.com)

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

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will change the world"  
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Call 347-9533  
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on this page.



# Events to brighten the holidays

## Alabama Tourism Department Press Release

MONTGOMERY — Alabama’s gardens, trails, historic homes and parks light up for the holiday season. Visitors can see historic homes and mansions decorated with lights and holiday finery in Eufaula, Decatur, Opelika, Demopolis, Mobile, Tuscombiana and Montgomery. Parks in Arab and Florence offer dazzling light displays and winter wonderlands, while gardens in Huntsville and Mobile showcase millions of lights and hundreds of displays. Visitors can catch spectacular holiday displays at these 40 historic homes and holiday light festivals suggested by the Alabama Tourism Department:

**Childersburg — Desoto Caverns Christmas Sound, Lights and Water Show**  
Now through Jan. 1, admission charged. This special light show commemorates the Christmas story of Jesus Christ with thousands of lights setting the cave aglow. The show takes place on each cavern tour during November and December. Monday – Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call (256) 378-7252 or visit [www.desotocavernspark.com](http://www.desotocavernspark.com).

**Huntsville — Galaxy of Lights Holiday Light Show**  
Now through Dec. 31, admission charged. Celebrate the holiday season with a drive through the Huntsville Botanical Garden nightly from 5:30 – 9 p.m. beginning today. This magnificent holiday light extravaganza features thousands of lights and more than 700 lighted displays arranged in 125 varied holiday scenes and themes. For more information, call (256) 830-4447 or visit [www.hsvbvg.org](http://www.hsvbvg.org).

**Arab — Christmas in the Park**  
Friday through Dec. 31, admission is charged for Historic Village, but park admission is free. A dazzling display of nearly 2 million holiday lights transforms Arab’s city park into a winter wonderland. Visitors can enjoy holiday music and special decorations in the Historic Complex, which features an old church, a school and an operational gristmill. Village hours are 5:30 – 8 p.m.; park is open until 10:30 p.m. For more information, call (256) 586-8128 or visit [www.arabcity.org](http://www.arabcity.org).

**Calera — The North Pole Express**  
Friday through Dec. 17, fee for train ride.

Families can take a magical trip to the North Pole on a train at the Heart of Dixie Railroad Museum. Lots of holiday lights and displays, hot chocolate, cookies and Christmas carols are a few of the highlights Friday through Sunday nights with train departures at 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. For more information, call (205) 382-3946 or visit [www.HODRRM.org](http://www.HODRRM.org).

**Huntsville — Santa’s Village**  
Friday through Dec. 23, admission is free. Kids will have fun at Alabama Constitution Village as its turned into Santa’s Village. Enjoy a nightly snowfall, hear stories from Mrs. Claus, see live reindeer, decorate cookies in Santa’s kitchen and listen to local groups perform holiday music. The villages is open 5-9 p.m. For more information, call (256) 564-8100 or visit [www.earlyworks.com/santasvillage](http://www.earlyworks.com/santasvillage).

**Mobile — Bellingrath Gardens Magic Christmas in Lights**  
Friday through Dec. 31. Stroll through a wonderland of more than three million twinkling lights and 928 custom-designed holiday displays throughout the 65-acre estate during Magic Christmas in Lights at Bellingrath Gardens in Mobile. Tour the historic Bellingrath Home decorated in its holiday finery, enjoy nightly entertainment and visit with Santa. Light show and home tours nightly from 5–9 p.m., closed Christmas Day. For more information, call (800) 247-8420, [www.bellingrath.org](http://www.bellingrath.org).

**Silverhill — Artic Express**  
Friday through Dec. 24, admission charged. The railway and park at the Wales West RV Resort and Light Railway are decorated with more than one million lights, figures and blow-ups with miles of ribbon and garland. The steam powered train leaves the station for a mile-long ride through the wonderland of lights. Each child receives a handmade wooden locomotive as part of their visit. Express is open Saturdays and Sundays from 1-9 p.m. For more information, call (251) 978-3050 or visit [www.waleswest.com](http://www.waleswest.com).

**Demopolis — Christmas on the River**  
Nov. 29 through Dec. 2, fees for attractions only. Four days of activities on the Tombigbee River and downtown include a lighted nautical parade with fireworks, candlelight tours of antebellum homes, a “Jingle Bell Run” on Saturday and a Barbecue Championship Cook-off Nov. 30. Festivities open from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Dec. 1 with a nautical parade from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, call 289-0270 or

visit [www.christmasontheriver.com](http://www.christmasontheriver.com).

**Gadsden — Noccalula Falls Christmas at the Falls**  
Nov. 29 through Dec. 23, admission charged. The park is aglow for the holidays with millions of lights that are synchronized to music. Park visitors may stroll through the mesmerizing display on foot or take an exciting train ride through the park. Christmas at the Falls includes a train ride, Pioneer Village and a visit with Santa. Kids can also write Santa a letter and mail it at the old post office. Visitors will also be able to see the 90-foot waterfall in all of its splendor. For more information, call (256) 549-4663.

**Huntsville — Kris Kringle’s Candlelight Christmas**  
Nov. 30 through Dec. 1, admission charged. Hundreds of flickering candles will add to the nostalgic feel of candlelight Christmas at Burritt on the Mountain. Visitors will enjoy cider, baking cookies, figgy pudding, stringing popcorn and visiting with Kris Kringle on the star-lit mountain. Events open from 5-8 p.m. For more information, call (256) 533-4118 or visit [www.burrittonthemountain.com](http://www.burrittonthemountain.com).

**Columbiana — Christmas Tour of Homes**  
Dec. 1, admission charged. The City of Columbiana opens various historic homes and museums for tours from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. For more information, call (205) 669-5800 or visit [www.cityofcolumbiana.com](http://www.cityofcolumbiana.com).

**Dauphin Island — Christmas through the Ages at Fort Gaines**  
Dec. 1, admission charged. Join soldiers and their families as they celebrate Christmas as it was in the 1700s-1900s. There will be pottery and blacksmith demonstrations and ornament making activities for kids from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information, call (251) 861-6992 or visit [www.dauphinisland.org](http://www.dauphinisland.org).

**Demopolis — Holiday open house**  
Dec. 1, admission charged. Visitors can tour the beautiful, historic Gaineswood Mansion by candlelight. Enjoy holiday decorations and treats during the tours from 1-3 p.m. For more information, call 289-4846 or visit [www.preserveala.org](http://www.preserveala.org).

**Eufaula — Christmas Tour of Homes**  
Dec. 1, admission charged.

Visitors can stroll through downtown to see the antebellum homes aglow in holiday splendor. Enjoy a seated luncheon or dinner at the grand, historic Shorter Mansion. Daylight tours are 1-5 p.m., twilight tours are 5-8 p.m. For more information, call 687-6664 or visit [www.eufaulapilgrimage.com](http://www.eufaulapilgrimage.com).

**Gulf Shores — Swift-Coles Home at Bon Secour Holiday Open House**  
Dec. 1, admission charged. The 16-room, 10,000 square-foot historic tidewater mansion overlooks the Bon Secour River and will be decorated for the holidays. The holiday tour is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through December with regular hours of Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call (251) 580-1897.

**Mobile — Candlelight Christmas at Oakleigh**  
Dec. 1, admission charged. Step back in time and enjoy a festive 19th-century holiday celebration. Enjoy seasonal music, guided tours, Victorian Santa and refreshments 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hot chocolate will be offered during the Candlelight tours from 5:30–7:30 p.m. For more information, call (251) 432-616 or visit [www.historicmobile.org](http://www.historicmobile.org).

**Mobile — Christmas on the River**  
Dec. 1, admission is free. Alabama’s official tall ship, the Joshua will lead lighted, decorated boats down Dog River in Mobile’s oldest boat parade. The boats circle and pass the Dog River Bridge as treats are thrown to the cheering crowd. Event is open from dusk until 8 p.m. For more information, call (251) 443-6300 or visit [www.grand-marinermarina.com](http://www.grand-marinermarina.com).

**Tuskegee — Holiday at the Oaks**  
Dec. 1, admission is free. Visit the Booker T. Washington home as it’s decorated for the holidays in a special open house event by the National Park Service. For more information, call 727-3200 or visit [www.nps.gov/semo](http://www.nps.gov/semo).

**Birmingham — Christmas at Arlington**  
Dec. 1-2, admission is free. Floral designers transform the interior of the Antebellum home into a replica of Christmas past. This year marks the 55th anniversary of Arlington as Birmingham’s historic house museum. Event is open Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Dec. 2 from 1-4:30 p.m. For more information, call (205) 780-5656.

# WIREGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT, EMAIL JIM HUGHES WITH ALL THE DETAILS AT [JHUGHES@ARMYFLIER.COM](mailto: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](http://www.andalusialegionpost80.org).

## DALEVILLE

**NOV. 30** — The Daleville Christmas Parade begins at 5:30 p.m. along Daleville Avenue. The parade is followed by a tree-lighting ceremony on the lawn in front of Daleville High School. Santa will be inside the DHS lunchroom. Groups interested in being in the parade line-up are asked to call 598-6331 or email [chamber@dalevilleal.com](mailto:chamber@dalevilleal.com).

**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.

## DOTHAN

**NOW THROUGH DEC. 27** — The Wiregrass Museum of Art hosts a series of paintings, entitled Color in Freedom: journey through the underground railroad. The series was part of a U.N. exhibition in Geneva, Switzerland. Open to the public. Admission to the museum is free Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**DEC. 1** — Landmark Parks Advanced Photography Workshop will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration required. Ages 12 and older. Bring camera, extra batteries, the camera manual, a clean media card and a sacked lunch and drink. Areas such as camera set up including ISO settings, aperture, depth of field and manual focusing

will be discussed. For more information, call 794-3452.

**DEC.2** — Landmark Park holds its Christmas decorating workshop at 1 p.m. A snack will be provided and volunteers will have a chance to create their own old-fashioned ornament to take home. The workshop is free with paid gate admission. Registration required. For more information, call 794-3452.

**DEC. 3-7, 10-14, 17-21** — Landmark Park hosts it’s Christmas Past Seasonal for students in preschool-6th grade in either a morning session from 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m. or an afternoon session from 11:30 a.m.- 1 p.m. Participants will have a chance to experience an old-fashioned Christmas with storytelling, games, and cider. They will also have a chance to create an old-fashioned ornament. For more information, call 794-3452.

**DEC. 29** — The Cultural Arts Center hosts the Ballroom Dance Club from 7-9:30 p.m. Food and drinks are available. The cost is \$2 per couple. For more information, call 677-4967 or visit [www.theculturalartscenter.org](http://www.theculturalartscenter.org).

## ENTERPRISE

**NOV. 30** — St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church hosts a Holiday Mart from 3-7 p.m., Dec. 1 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the “Old” Parish Hall. Holiday shopping, to include gifts for all occasions, will be available. For more information, call 393-3579 or 393-4034.

**DEC. 1** — The Ladies Auxillary VFW Post 6683 hosts its second annual Spaghetti Supper from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the VFW post. Plates are \$5. Tickets can be bought at the door.

**ONGOING** — The American Legion Post 73 meets at the American Legion/Doer’s Shrine Club at 200 Gibson Street in Enterprise on the fourth Saturday of each month, beginning at 8 a.m. This building is across the street from the Lee Street Baptist Church on Lee Street. For more information, call Post Commander Jerry Goodson at 347-5961 or 447-8507.

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

## GENEVA

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

## MIDLAND CITY

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

## NEW BROCKTON

**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

For more information, call (251) 510-8527 or go to [www.mobilerockandgem.com/GemShow.htm](http://www.mobilerockandgem.com/GemShow.htm).

## That Mancini Magic!

Mac Frampton & The Moon River Orchestra featuring Cecil Welch will play at Elba High School Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. The show brings to the stage songs of composer Henry Mancini and includes music from “Breakfast at Tiffany’s,” “The Pink Panther,” “Days of Wine and Roses,” “Hatari!,” “Charade” and more. For more information or tickets, call 406-2787 or visit [www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com](http://www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com).

## Beyond Briefs

### 9th annual Festival of Trees

The Festival of Trees takes patrons back to post-war 1940’s from Monday through Dec. 1 in Panama City Beach’s Bay Banquet Hall. This year’s theme is “It’s a Wonderful Life.” Families and individuals can participate in the special mini-events. Tickets are required, RSVP and are available at the door. For more information, call 850-481-1093.

### Rock and Gem Show

Mobile Rock & Gem Society’s annual gem, jewelry and mineral show and sale will be held at the Abba Shrine Center Friday through Sunday. Educational exhibits, lapidary arts demonstrations, dealers in minerals, gemstones, findings and lapidary equipment and related items are available for viewing or purchase. Special interest items such as the “Rock Food Table” and flint knapping will also be available. Local universities will display their Geo-sciences research projects. Door prizes every hour, and raffle tickets available on site.



# Hero Summit panel encourages support for military Families

By Erin Wittkop  
*Defense Media Activity*

WASHINGTON — A panel of military Family members gathered here Nov. 15 with many of the nation’s most influential journalists, civil servants and decorated service members to discuss the challenges of being a military Family member and the ways that American citizens can support them.

The inaugural Hero Summit, hosted by “Newsweek” and the “Daily Beast,” was a two-day theatrical-journalism event designed to bring together American military heroes, civil servants, writers and historians to examine the definition of American heroism and share stories of courage and bravery in the face of extreme adversity.

ABC news correspondent Deborah Roberts moderated the Family panel, which included retired Air Force Maj. Lori Bell, wife of an active-duty Air Force Airman and founder and president of the National Association of Military Moms and Spouses; Bill Norwood, father of Marine Corps Sgt. Byron Norwood, who was killed in action; Kim Ruocco, widow of Marine Corps Maj. John Ruocco and Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors national director of postvention programs; and Patti Walker, wife of retired Army 1st Sgt. Kevin Walker and Wounded Warrior Program advocate on Fort Riley, Kan.

Each speaker offered insight into the unique challenges faced by military Families. Bell noted how hard it can be to keep herself and her Family grounded when coping with frequent moves and unexpected deployments.

When her Family was given two-weeks’ notice that her husband would deploy to Afghanistan, Bell said, she “wanted to connect with someone, but no one wanted to connect with the commander’s wife.”

That experience, she added, inspired her to start an online community for military Families that offers support in times of need without worrying about rank or social politics.

Bell is now the founder and president of the National Association of Military Moms and Spouses. Her website offers military Families the opportunity to connect and



PHOTO BY BRADLEY CANTOR

Patti Walker, left, wife of retired Army 1st Sgt. Kevin Walker and Wounded Warrior Program advocate on Fort Riley, Kan., talks to ABC News correspondent Deborah Roberts during a Hero Summit panel titled, “The Other Side of Sacrifice: Military Families” in Washington, D.C., Nov. 15. Other panel members included, from left to right, Bill Norwood, father of Marine Corps Sgt. Byron Norwood, who was killed in action; retired Air Force Maj. Lori Bell, wife of an active duty Air Force airman and founder and president of the National Association of Military Moms and Spouses; Kim Ruocco, widow of Marine Corps Maj. John Ruocco and Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors national director of postvention programs.

receive mentorship when dealing with the unique challenges associated with a military lifestyle.

Walker also understands the importance of community support for military Families. She said that small, everyday actions from community members can make a huge difference in the lives of military Families, and she encourages all Americans to spread the word for veteran support.

“When you call your relatives, wherever they are, ask them to embrace the veterans in their community,” she said. “Employ our wounded veterans. Embrace their children. Give a minute of your time. Offer [vets] a thank you. If you have a service you provide, [offer it for free].”

Ruocco and Norwood pointed out that often the best kind of support is compassion, empathy and an ear to listen. Norwood’s son was killed during a rescue mission in Fallujah, Iraq. Ruocco lost her husband to suicide in 2005.

Honoring the lives of their loved ones has been crucial to the healing process for both Norwood and Ruocco. In the wake of his son’s death, Norwood said, he finds comfort by reaching out to Marines who served with his son and mentoring wounded service members in an effort to remind them to “live a strong, wonderful life, and enjoy it.”

Ruocco said her fear that her husband’s death would overshadow his life helped her

to realize the emotional needs of other suicide survivors.

“When someone dies by suicide, [survivors] so often focus on the death and how [their loved one] died, and it wipes out everything else,” she said. “I think for suicide survivors, they want to talk about their life and who this person was -- that they had so much to give and [they weren’t] a crazy, bad person.”

Ruocco now works with the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors to help Family member survivors of military suicide rebuild their lives in the wake of tragedy, and she urges citizens to offer survivors compassion and the opportunity to talk about their loved one’s life as they heal.

## Military spouse hiring program gains 30-plus companies

By Terri Moon Cronk  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON — More than 30 companies and organizations joined the Military Spouse Employment Partnership Nov. 14 as part of the White House-sponsored Joining Forces effort to help unemployed spouses find jobs.

The newly inducted businesses, which join 129 other companies, were brought into the program at the partnership’s third such ceremony. Inductees at the Nov. 14 Washington Navy Yard event represented businesses including fitness centers, banks, a hotel chain and a major soft-drink company.

The partnership’s members include small and large, local, national and international businesses, officials said.

“We appreciate your patriotism and your understanding that investing in military spouses makes military Families, service members and national defense strong,” Charles E. Milam, acting deputy assistant secretary of defense for military community and Family policy, told the new partnership members.

“Statistics will show that you’ll be reaching into a rich talent pool,” Milam said. “Military spouses are well-educated; many have degrees in fields such as science, math and information technology, which create innovation in today’s global economy.”

Milam added that the members’ commitment is a key component to military Families’ improved quality of life.

The partnership seeks to mitigate the challenges of military life by helping spouses find and maintain rewarding careers despite frequent relocations, said Frederick E. Vollrath, who is performing the duties of the assistant secretary of defense for readiness and force management.

Vollrath reminded the new inductees of the “core tenets” they’ve agreed to abide by in the partnership:

- Increasing job opportunities while maintaining employment status for spouses who relocate to new duty stations;
- Providing career promotion opportunities for those who help their employer meet its goals and objectives;
- Supporting spouses’ pay equity on par with their training, work experience and credentials; and
- Telling their corporate counterparts about their support and commitment to military spouses.

“We count on you to spread the word,” Vollrath said.

The partnership and its business members are vital to the military community because of spouses’ high unemployment rates and historically low wages, he said.

Despite their hard-to-find skills and high levels of education and training, Vollrath said, military spouses “face a 26-percent unemployment rate and a 25-percent wage gap compared to their civilian counterparts.”

And while 77 percent of military spouses – including men, and not just women, he pointed out – want or need to work, frequent relocation is often a barrier to establishing or continuing a career, Vollrath said. That inability to find and retain jobs because of relocation issues “com-

promises the quality of life of military Families and the readiness of the military force,” he said.

The military spouse is tech-savvy, adaptable and resilient; a strong leader, skilled multitasker and a team player who is mature and effective under pressure, Vollrath said.

And only recently, the partnership’s business members have become a large part of a national solution to the challenges of military spouse employment, he added.

Vollrath listed examples such as the Presidential Study Directive-9 report, “Strengthening Our Military Families: Meeting America’s Commitment,” which was published in January 2011 and highlighted the need for the federal government to help develop spouse career and education opportunities.

“But the government can’t do this in a vacuum,” Vollrath said. So, a goal was set to increase those opportunities through public-sector jobs.

“The Department of Defense looked at programs that were working well, and leveraged the successful partnerships created under the Army Spouse Employment Partnership,” he said. In June 2011, the program was expanded to add Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force spouses.



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In less than a year and a half, the partnership’s hiring figures have been “phenomenal,” said Vollrath, noting that more than 54,000 jobs were posted in October alone, and nearly 816,000 vacancies have been posted since June 29, 2011.

Partner members have hired more than 32,000 military spouses during that time, he added.

“Today, you join a vibrant, active and focused partnership,” Vollrath told the newest business inductees. “You will provide employment connections that help military spouses find and maintain rewarding careers.”

# Business Card Spotlight

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NOVEMBER 22, 2012



PHOTOS BY SARA E. MARTIN

Capt. Walter Thomas, A Co. team captain, runs the ball during a play as players from Squared Away attempt to remove a flag during an intramural football game at Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility Nov. 15.

# 145th knocks Squared Away out of playoffs

By Nathan Pfau  
Army Flier Staff Writer

A Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment took down the 1st Battalion, 11th Aviation Regiment's Squared Away as they met on the football field in a close game at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility Nov. 15.

The game had its share of close calls as both teams fought for the lead, but A Co. came out on top 24-14.

"It was a tough game and I feel like we kind of lost our composure toward the end, but we were able to come back and win," said Capt. P.J. Hall, player for A Co. "[Squared Away] was really good, but this win keeps us in the tournament and hopefully we'll be able to get to the championship game."

The game started as A Co. received the opening kick and managed a short return. A first down on their first play set the tone for their offense early on, but Squared Away's defense reminded them that they came to play.

The 1-11th team managed to bring their opponents to a fourth down, but rather than punting, A Co. went for the play but were unsuccessful and gave Squared Away possession.

As possession bounced back and forth, A Co. was finally able to break the stagnation as they came within yards of the goal line on a fourth down. The team decided to run a play rather than go for a field goal, which paid off to become the first touchdown of the game.

Squared away was determined to get



Capt. P.J. Hall, player for A Co., runs the ball downfield for a touchdown with Squared Away players on his tail during an intramural football game at Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility Nov. 15.

on the scoreboard and came back with an aggressive offense, but an interception by A Co. stopped them in their tracks as they ran the ball all the way to the end zone to score their second touchdown, bringing the score to 14-0 in the first half.

As Squared Away received the kick, they managed to get by their opponent's defense for a 30-yard return to bring them to the 50-yard line. A couple of plays later they were within 10 yards of the goal line, but A Co.'s defense proved

to be too much as they took possession of the ball at the end of the first half.

As the second half started, 1-11th received for a short return. They had their work cut out for them and they managed to slip past their opponent's defense with a 40-yard play that brought them close to the end zone, but A Co.'s defense stopped them again and forced a turnover at the 7-yard line.

A Co. was unable, however, to take the ball too far past the 50-yard line before Squared Away took possession of the

ball. Their offense finally managed to push past their opponent's defense again and score their first touchdown with only nine minutes left in the game.

As the clock wound down, 1-11th was determined to keep their opponents out of the end zone, a feat they accomplished at as they took possession and ran the ball for their second touchdown to tie the game 14-14.

A Co., determined to stay on top of their opponents, matched Squared Away's offense as they managed first down after first down to inch closer to the goal line with time running out. They managed a touchdown with less than 26 seconds left in the game to retake the lead and put pressure on their opponents.

As 1-11th received, they aggressively pushed downfield, but were unable to score as the game ended.

"I think tonight's game showed that we can come back against a tough team," said Capt. Walter Thomas, A Co. team captain. "It showed a lot of composure on our team's part when our quarterback was able to make the pass for a touchdown on a fourth down."

Hall agreed on the team's decision to go for the touchdown rather than a field goal.

"We chose to go for it rather than kick a 45-yard field goal, which I think was a great decision, but the other team was really good," he said. "It's close games like this that build character. You really figure out what your team is made up of, and that's what playing these games is about."

## PIGSKIN PICKS



	Houston vs. Detroit	Washington vs. Dallas	Oakland vs. Cincinnati	Atlanta vs. Tampa Bay	St. Louis vs. Arizona	Green Bay vs. N.Y. Giants	Carolina vs. Philadelphia
 Jim Hughes Public Affairs (48-29)							
 Brian Jackson DFMWR (34-43)							
 John McGee CDID (47-30)							
 Capt. Mike Simmons Directorate of Public Safety (43-34)							
 Sharon Storti Network Enterprise Center (43-34)							



# DOWN TIME



## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

# T R I V I A

1. ENTERTAINERS: Which actor's birth name was Ramon Estevez?
2. MUSIC: What was the name of Smokey Robinson's group?
3. INVENTIONS: Who is credited with inventing bifocal lenses?
4. PSYCHOLOGY: What irrational fear is manifested in peniaphobia?
5. LITERATURE: In which of Shakespeare's plays does the character Shylock appear?
6. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: During which war did Harry Truman fire Gen. Douglas MacArthur?
7. HISTORY: When did Australia become a commonwealth nation, largely gaining independence from Britain?
8. ANATOMY: About how long are the intestines in an adult male?
9. FAMOUS QUOTES: What American psychologist/philosopher once once said: "Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does."?
10. MEASUREMENTS: Which month is named for the Roman festival of ritual purification?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

## Super Crossword

### OHIO-STYLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lyrical verses
  - 5 Tree with long, beanlike seedpods
  - 12 Fraternity letters
  - 15 Tolkien villains
  - 19 German wife
  - 20 Actor Laurence
  - 21 Pick, with "for"
  - 22 Blood vessel
  - 23 Initial protective action, Ohio-style?
  - 26 Sicily's erupter
  - 27 Divides up
  - 28 Swerve off course
  - 29 Really smell
  - 30 Trig topic
  - 31 TV show with eligible bachelors, Ohio-style?
  - 36 Shoe tip
  - 37 Calf meat
  - 41 Suffix with project
  - 42 Western U.S. range
  - 43 Casey Stengel quote, Ohio-style?
  - 48 Hip-hop "Dr."
  - 49 To — (precisely)
  - 50 "En —!" (fencer's cry)
  - 51 Larva of a parasite
  - 53 Track star Jesse
  - 57 "The View" co-host Shepherd
  - 59 Invented, as a phrase
  - 62 Cut (off)
  - 63 Dull photo finish
  - 66 ESP, Ohio-style?
  - 70 On the ship, e.g.
  - 72 Egg cells
  - 73 — faire
  - 74 Beatles hit, Ohio-style?
  - 81 Made a beeline for
  - 82 Pose the question
  - 83 Pick up and haul in
  - 84 Most foul
  - 86 Dolphin kin
  - 89 Pantry invader
  - 90 Sickness symptom
  - 91 Adaptable, electrically
  - 95 Beer, in Bath
  - 97 Gene Kelly classic, Ohio-style?
  - 101 Snobbish
  - 105 Poetic night
  - 106 God, in Dijon
  - 107 Boggy land
  - 108 Golden agers, Ohio-style?
  - 112 Hair cluster
  - 114 Bygone
  - 115 Jordan native, e.g.
  - 116 Good flavor
  - 121 Twin brother of Jacob
  - 122 Many an Arctic area, Ohio-style?
  - 126 Rip to pieces
  - 127 Byrnes or Roush
  - 128 One taken in by another
  - 129 "— Love Her"
  - 130 Birch or larch
  - 131 See 4-Down
  - 132 Frees for a price
  - 133 Use a scythe
  - 4 With 131-Across, "L.A. Law" actress
  - 5 Pepsi, e.g.
  - 6 Settled down
  - 7 It may fly by
  - 8 Call at sea
  - 9 Eye coverer
  - 10 "— wee's Playhouse"
  - 11 Pooch's bark
  - 12 Cash
  - 13 Unsettles
  - 14 Olympian's no-no
  - 15 Got too thick with weeds
  - 16 Rip anew
  - 17 Film theater
  - 18 Serpents
  - 24 Eternal City fountain
  - 25 Perón played by Madonna
  - 32 Scout outing
  - 33 — Lilly (Prozac producer)
  - 34 Crime solver: Abbr.
  - 35 Fiery fiddler?
  - 36 Healthful quaff
  - 38 Cutting part
  - 39 Firehouse sound
  - 40 Mr. Moto player Peter
  - 44 Anne Rice title vampire
  - 45 Valhalla god
  - 46 Army division
  - 47 Yearn deeply
  - 52 Rolodex no.
  - 54 John of rock
  - 55 Like a well-pitched game
  - 56 — Gyra (jazz group)
  - 58 Hoagie
  - 59 Long for with envy
  - 60 Using speech
  - 61 — Plaines
  - 63 Big parrot
  - 64 Make ashamed
  - 65 Big name in toy trucks
  - 67 Hanks and Cruise
  - 68 Average golf scores
  - 69 2009 Best Picture nominee
  - 71 Genetic helix
  - 75 Lingerie item
  - 76 Caterers' dispensers
  - 77 Legendary snow humanoid
  - 78 Baker's need
  - 79 Striking
  - 80 Kate Nelligan title role
  - 85 Mystery novelist — Stanley Gardner
  - 87 Leeway
  - 88 "Essays of —"
  - 90 Twain's Huck
  - 92 Stimulant in 36-Down
  - 93 Fresca, e.g.
  - 94 "Your \$\$\$\$" channel
  - 96 Broke loose
  - 98 Pince —
  - 99 "Goodness!"
  - 100 Protruding bellybutton
  - 101 Authority
  - 102 Tenant, e.g.
  - 103 Ludicrous
  - 104 Major rant
  - 109 Unpunctual
  - 110 1981 PC introducer
  - 111 Discontinues
  - 113 Poker champ Stu
  - 117 Re
  - 118 Cherry discard
  - 119 Very, in Nice
  - 120 Use scissors
  - 123 River of Bern
  - 124 Pill-approving org.
  - 125 "Silkwood" actor Silver
- DOWN**
- 1 Sign- — (farewells)
  - 2 Recovers after a downpour
  - 3 Hearing aid part



See Page D3 for this week's answers.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

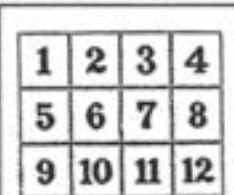


**DOUBLE DRIBBLE!** Two of eight basketball players above look enough alike to be twins. Which two? You decide.

**DO TELL!** Mel fell, Ed fied, Jan ran, Pat sat, Sue flew, Dave gave, Frank drank, Kate ate and Bert hurt. Can you think of some more similar name rhymes? Give it a try.

**TRY THIS** brain-to-finger signal-crosser. Clasp hands with wrists crossed in manner of Santa's at right. Twist clasped hands inward (see arrow) so that they appear before you as in inset. Now, have someone point to one of your fingers and see if you can wiggle that finger. It is not easy to comply.

Put your friend to the test, too, by asking him or her to fold hands similarly, and you do the pointing to fingers.



### KNOCK BLOCKS OFF STAMPS

The cluster of 12 stamps, at left, can be separated into sets of four. One such set would be 1,2,3,4 or 5,6,7,8, etc. How many sets can you find? Be creative.

Other possible variations are 1,2,5,6; 1,2,3,7; 1,2,6,7; 1,2,3,8; etc. You're not allowed to rip stamps in half, natch.

Remember, you're trying to find the number of four-stamp sets.

Too hard to count? Take a guess.

**SAW WHAT?** Suppose you saw the four corners from a square piece of wood. How many corners will result? Answer in eight seconds.

## Wishing Well®

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

**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 BOLTHOFF



**FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.**



# All-Army 3rd in basketball championships

By Tim Hippi  
*IMCOM Public Affairs*

SAN ANTONIO — The All-Army team overcame a lot of adversity, but finished third in the 2012 Armed Forces Men’s Basketball Championships Nov. 12-18 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

All-Air Force (6-1) took the gold with a 78-76 victory over All-Marine Corps (3-4) in the championship game. All-Army (3-4) prevailed 77-64 over All-Navy (2-5) in the consolation tilt.

The tournament format was double round robin, with teams with the two best records meeting in a winner-take-all championship game and teams with the lesser marks playing for third place.

First Lt. Cleveland Richard of Fort Lee, Va., represented the Army on the All-Tournament Team and the U.S. All-Armed Forces team that will compete from Nov. 28 to Dec. 3 in the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe Tournament in Mons, Belgium.

“I think Cleveland was probably the best overall player here,” All-Army coach Maj. David Smith said of Richard, who averaged 16.3 points and 6.4 rebounds in the tourney. “He scores in bunches. He outruns everybody. He can guard every position on the floor. One night I played him 39 minutes and 48 seconds and he got mad he sat out those 12. And he runs as hard in the 39th minute as he does in the first. It’s amazing to me why that kid is not in talks of playing in the NBA.”

Richard was joined on the All-Tournament Team by Air Force Capt. Nicholas Welch of Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif., Air Force Staff Sgt. Jammarr Major of Hurlburt Field, Fla., Navy Seaman Chris Linton of TISCOM in Alexandria, Va., and Marine Corps Sgt. Christopher Harris of U.S. Marine Corps Barracks, Washington, D.C.

Three more Soldiers were selected for the All-Armed Forces squad: Staff Sgt. Terry Daniels of Fort Meade, Md.; 1st Lt. Marcus Nelson and Pfc. David Turner, both of Fort Gordon, Ga.

The All-Army team dealt with several setbacks before arriving in Texas. Even before training camp began, they lost an invitee when 1st Lt. Tyrell Thompson, 23, died of heart failure while playing basketball at Fort Eustis, Va.

“This tournament meant a little bit more because my best friend was supposed to come and he was looking forward to it, and he ended up passing away,” said Cleveland, who roomed for six years with Thompson at the United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., and at Fort Lee, Va. “Every day, I just made sure I was giving my all for him.”

Then center Spc. Taylor Pratt



PHOTO BY TIM HIPPS

Army’s Cleveland Richard gets air as he blocks a layup shot by an All-Marine Corps player.

of Fort Riley, Kan., went down against Millersville University with an elbow injury that severely limited his effectiveness during the armed forces tournament.

“He is probably the best center I’ve seen in the military,” Smith said. “He was averaging 24 points and 15 rebounds and leading us in every game. He played at Montana State and he is phenomenal. He was our finisher. The team, knowing that their best player was out, tried to respond to that but they didn’t know how — we were tough but we just couldn’t adjust to not having him.”

Adding insult to death and injury, Hurricane Sandy blew through Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa., site of the All-Army basketball trial camp, sending the Soldiers’ preparation back a few more days.

“It was the best camp I ever had,” Smith said. “Guys were focused. We had good games. We had some pro teams come in; had some good college games. Then

all of a sudden Sandy hit us right in the mouth. We went three days with no water, no electricity, no lights, nothing. It got down to 40 at night, so we were sleeping in our rooms bundled up like we were out in the field.

“The roof of the barracks the players were staying in blew off, so they had to move to another building,” Smith explained. “Then we couldn’t practice — didn’t even see a court for three days. We actually moved out to Carlisle Barracks and had a place to practice, so we regrouped quickly. But it was an experience, that’s for sure.”

The Soldiers were in position to defeat the six-time defending champion Airmen in the opening night of the armed forces tournament, but let them off the hook. Sgt. Montavious Waters gave All-Army a 45-36 halftime lead with a buzzer-beating layup.

With the score tied at 86, Welch’s baseline jumper with 1.5 seconds remaining lifted All-Air

Force to an 88-86 victory. Welch made 9 of 11 shots, including 3 of 3 from 3-point range, to lead the Airmen with 21 points. Welch, who was named 2004 Mountain West Conference Co-Player of the Year as a sophomore at the Air Force Academy, also grabbed nine rebounds.

Waters, from Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va., led All-Army with 23 points on 8-for-10 shooting, including 4 of 4 from behind the arc. Richard had 19 points, five assists and four steals. Staff Sgt. Ronald Bartley (13) of Fort Carson, Colo., and Daniels (11) also scored in double figures.

On Tuesday night, Sgt. David Lee of Fort Benning, Ga., led All-Army with 21 points in a 97-77 victory over All-Navy. Richard and Waters each scored 16 points, and Daniels added 11 points and 16 rebounds.

On Wednesday, the Soldiers faltered down the stretch of an 89-88 loss to All-Marine Corps.

Daniels’ tip-in gave All-Army an 86-81 lead with 3:06 left, but the Marines rallied for an 89-88 victory on a layup by Sgt. Brandon Mitchell with .3 seconds remaining off an inbounds play. The Soldiers knew then that their shot at gold was greatly diminished.

“Finishing games goes hand-in-hand with approaching every possession,” Nelson said. “That was a case of situational awareness. Sometimes that’s just the way the game goes, and they got the lucky bounce that time.”

“We missed a couple of rebounds at crucial times and missed a couple of shots,” Richard added. “I think some of it was us trying to get used to things changing with Taylor Pratt being out. He’s pretty reliable. He makes a world of difference.”

Cleveland again led All-Army with 20 points, 13 rebounds and seven assists. Nelson added 11 points, six rebounds and six assists. Harris led the Marines with 32 points and five boards. Cpl. Richard Pollock of Okinawa, Japan, added 18 points and seven rebounds.

“Even though those two plays were just a total lost-in-the-sauce type thing, they hurt us inside,” Bartley said of the game-ending miscues in All-Army’s first two losses. “They were our games and we gave it to them. When we lost those two, then it started going downhill.”

On Thursday, Airman 1st Class Jason Stromvall of Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., had 16 points to lead All-Air Force to a 73-67 victory over All-Army. Staff Sgt. Jammarr Major of Hurlburt Field, Fla., added 10 points, and Welch had nine points and 10 rebounds for the Airmen. Only Richard, with 11 points, scored in double figures for All-Army.

On Friday, All-Army fell 77-71 to All-Navy and was mathematically eliminated from reaching the gold-medal game.

“I do remember a common denominator of us allowing teams to get offensive rebounds, especially at crucial times,” Richard explained All-Army’s downfall. “Most of the times when teams get extra chances to score, they hit 3s, and that’s a backbreaker. We just didn’t execute enough to be in the championship game.”

On Saturday, All-Army prevailed 84-78 over All-Marine Corps, which rested several starters for Sunday’s title tilt. Cleveland again led the way with 15 points. Pratt, with his elbow a tad recovered, added 14 points on 7-for-9 shooting.

The tourney was a grueling test of basketball in which every team played seven games in as many days.

“There is nowhere else in basketball like this where you only have a couple weeks to cut from 22 to 12 players, gel as a team, be fundamentally sound defensively and offensively, and oh, by the way, be peaking at the right time,” Smith said.

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

### Super Crossword Answers

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

### Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

## TRIVIA

### Answers

1. Martin Sheen
2. The Miracles
3. Ben Franklin
4. A fear of poverty
5. “The Merchant of Venice”
6. Korean
7. 1901
8. About 28 feet
9. William James
10. February (Februa)

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Basketball coaches meet

A basketball coaches meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 9 a.m. in the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility conference room. People wanting to coach a team need to attend. Basketball preseason will begin Dec. 10. For more, call 255-2296.

### Open-water diver course

Fort Rucker Aquatics hosts an open-water diver course Tuesdays and Wednesdays from Dec. 4-19 with dives on Dec. 15 and Jan. 5. Classes will meet from 5-9 p.m. at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility. Cost

of the course is \$375. Students must provide their own masks, snorkels, fins and dive booties. The course is open to authorized patrons.

For more, call 255-9162.

### Adult swim lessons

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility will host adult swim lessons now through Dec. 13. Classes will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays with a session from 5-5:45 p.m. for beginners and from 6-6:45 p.m. for intermediate swimmers. Registration for the course is \$30 and the lessons are open to authorized patrons only.

For more, call 255-9162.

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# PIGSKIN PICKS



	Michigan vs. Ohio State	Florida vs. Florida State	Oklahoma State vs. Oklahoma	Auburn vs. Alabama	South Carolina vs. Clemson	Mississippi State vs. Ole Miss	Notre Dame vs. USC
 David C. Agan Jr, Fort Rucker Public Affairs (50-34)							
 Kent Anger, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (56-28)							
 Benjamin Conner, Directorate of Public Safety (47-37)							
 Wes Hamilton, Network Enterprise Center (56-28)							
 Tish Williamson, USAACE (49-35)							

## Video Game Spotlight >>

# Technical issues dampen Epic Mickey 2

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.)

"Disney Epic Mickey 2: The Power of Two" is going to be a huge favorite for Disney fans.

There's a lot of history and colorful tributes to Disney's past in the game, and there's a fair amount of fun, too. However, there are too many issues with the controls and camera — some of the same issues that were in the first "Epic Mickey" game — to ignore.

The new game is undoubtedly ambitious. It mixes minor amounts of role-playing with action-adventure and platforming, as well as giving the whole game a musical touch that is reminiscent of very early Disney cartoons. There's also the fact that "Disney Epic Mickey 2: The Power of Two" is built to be played by two people in split-screen co-op, something that's not in enough games.

While the first Epic Mickey was a single-player game that had Mickey Mouse investigating Oswald the Rabbit because it was thought that he had been involved in the destruction of Wasteland, the sequel puts Mickey and Oswald on the same team. Mickey continues to wield his paint and Oswald has a device that controls electricity. The characters are well balanced and must work together to solve a lot of the puzzles in the game. Gamers can play alone, with the artificial intelligence taking over for the other character.

Though it's fun to experience Mickey this way, the issues with the camera and controls will frustrate a lot of gamers.



COURTESY SCREENSHOT

There are times when the camera won't show where Mickey and Oswald must go next, for example. Also, the controls often don't respond the way they should. These are both problems for a game where there is a lot of jumping from platform to platform.

"Disney Epic Mickey 2: The Power of Two" is a game that could have used another month or two in development. The Disney lore in the game is special, but it's marred by the camera and control issues.

Although it was probably finished too early because it was scheduled for a pre-Christmas launch, Mickey should have waited a little longer.

Reviewed on Xbox 360



<b>Publisher</b>
Disney Interactive
<b>Rated</b>
Everyone
<b>Systems</b>
Multiple
<b>Cost</b>
\$45-60
<b>Overall</b>
2.5 out of 4



COURTESY SCREENSHOT

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