

GIVING BACK
Angel Tree benefits
post children



HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Post to bring holiday
cheer with events



FOOTBALL
Bama Bombers
beat Double Tap to
advance to final



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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 29, 2012

Club inducts 3 NCOs

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

Three Soldiers were inducted into Fort Rucker's Sergeant Audie Murphy Club during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum Nov. 20.

Staff Sgt. George Lambert, NCO Academy; Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Murray, NCO Academy; and Staff Sgt. Loshana Alexander, Directorate of Training and Doctrine, were inducted into the club and presented with certificates of membership, the Sergeant Audie Murphy medallion and the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious achievement by Command Sgt. Maj. James H. Thomson Jr., Aviation Branch command sergeant major, and Col. Donald N. Galli, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence chief of staff.

"A noncommissioned officer must exemplify leadership characterized by personal dedication and concern for the needs, training, development and welfare of Soldiers and Families," said Thomson, adding that in order to be recommended, Soldiers must embody these attributes, then go through a process of boards conducted on the division-level of the organization.

"The club recognizes noncommissioned officers who set the standard for leadership and excellence," said Sgt. 1st Class Crystal Figs, narrator for the ceremony. "[The NCOs'] exemplary duty, performance and unmatched professionalism set them apart from their peers."

The ceremony was unique in that three members were inducted into the club as it was decided that two quarters would be combined to include Alexander, who was deployed to Iraq at the time of her induction earlier in the year.

"It makes me feel privileged and honored to be a part of the club because only about

10 percent of the Army accomplishes the eligibility to be inducted," said Alexander. "It's such an honor to be inducted into a club under such a great Soldier such as Audie Murphy."

"I'm so honored to be a member of a club of somebody that has done so much for his country," said Lambert. "I look forward to giving back to the community as much as I can."

Murray said that being inducted into the club is more than just being a part of an organization, but being a part of something that looks beyond oneself.

"Audie Murphy, to me, means taking care of others before taking care of yourself," he said. "You look out for everyone and make sure they are squared away, and it's about being a leader and setting an example."

Alexander agreed.

"The Army has been changing rapidly as far as how we do things and what our priorities are, but one of the main things that is, and will always be constant is leadership and the need for leadership," she said. "That's what this club basically is. The motto is 'We lead from the front' and I think that is a great foundation for leaders."

Audie Murphy was a war hero, an actor, songwriter, poet and the most decorated Soldier in World War II, earning 33 awards and medals, including the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club originally started in 1986 at Fort Hood, Texas, and the Fort Rucker club has been active on the installation with leader development and taking care of Soldiers and Families, according to Thomson.

"[Club members] participate in numerous community and Family support activities like Toys for Tots, the Angel Tree Program, local



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Col. Donald N. Galli, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence chief of staff, pins the Army Commendation medal on Sergeant Audie Murphy Club inductee Staff Sgt. George Lambert during the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club induction ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum Nov. 20. Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Murray and Staff Sgt. Loshana Alexander also received the Army Commendation Medal and were inducted into the club.

SEE CLUB, PAGE A5



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Command staff thanks Soldiers

2nd Lt. Robyn Miller, D Co., 1st Bn., 145th Avn. Regt., is served a Thanksgiving meal from members of the command staff Nov. 22 at the dining facility.

Army Band hosts CG's Holiday Concert Dec. 13

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

The 98th Army "Silver Wings" Band hosts the Fort Rucker Commanding General's Holiday Concert: "Joy to the World!" at the Fort Rucker Post Theater, Bldg. 9212, Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m. to promote holiday cheer and good will.

The concert will feature the Blackout Brass Band, Crossfire and the Wiregrass Jazz Ensemble, as well as other special guests during the performance, according to CW4 Jesse Pascua, commander and bandmaster for the 98th Army "Silver Wings" Band.

"The entire Family is welcome and encouraged to join us for this fun-filled evening of festive concert music from around the world. Jazzy holi-



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

The 98th Army "Silver Wings" Band rehearses Nov. 21 in preparation for the Dec. 13 commanding general's holiday concert.

day tunes, modern favorites as well as some sing-alongs will be played," he said, adding that the concert will last a little over an hour.

The annual concert is free and open to the public, and Pascua

said the concert is sure to ring in the joy of the holiday season at the Family affair that continues onstage as well as off.

"We will have guest artists and vocalists, and other personnel, spouses and children, will

be playing at the concert with us. We will also have special dancers from our Family readiness group," he said.

Supporting the Soldiers and Families on Fort Rucker is the bands No. 1 mission, but band members, like Spc. James Old who plays the trumpet, said the concert will give the band a chance to reach past that mission.

"We can support the Fort Rucker community as well as the other local communities through this concert. We can spread holiday cheer to everyone through our music," he said.

The traditional holiday music that will be played includes music from various cultures, as well as a musical telling of the "Night Before Christmas."

"We will play things like Bing

Crosby's 'Mele Kalikimaka,' 'O Holy Night' and 'Carol of the Bells.' We also have a few novelty tunes here and there," said Pascua.

To complete each song, the bandmaster will speak a few times during the show.

"Before or after a tune, a short narration will be given to give listeners a little insight to each song we play," said Pascua.

The concert is for children and children at heart of all ages.

"We will have a very special guest that likes to wear a lot of red," said Pascua. "Dress up and come out to have a great time. It doesn't matter if you're old or young."

Sgt. Stephen Doney, a french horn player, said this is the time to get into the spirit of Christmas

SEE CONCERT, PAGE A5

PERSPECTIVE

USAARL: 50 years of research for Army air, ground warriors

By Catherine Davis
U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory
Public Affairs Specialist

The U.S. reported a decline in the number of Aviation mishaps during fiscal year 2011. The decrease in numbers from 237 mishaps in fiscal year 2010 to 189 mishaps during fiscal year 2011 may be due in part of the U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory at Fort Rucker that helps save lives by testing helicopter equipment for the Army.

Today, many air and ground warriors are thankful for USAARL’s research accomplishments, which aim to provide medical research in the military operations environment to sustain the warfighter’s performance.

USAARL’s history began in the early 1960s when then Col. Spurgeon Neel, commander of Lyster Army Hospital, shifted the results of wars through his innovation.

Neel recognized that an expanding Army Aviation community would need specialized medical and physiological support to help close the gap between Army combat Aviation needs and human capabilities, and to protect Aviators from altitude, climate, noise, acceleration, impact and other stressors in a growing hostile environment.

In October 1962, Neel and Maj. Gen. Ernest Esterbrook, then commander of the U.S. Army Aviation Center at Fort Rucker, established the U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Unit with a goal of solving Aviation medicine problems.

But in 1969, as USAARU’s involvement in air mobility research grew, the Army redesignated the unit as USAARL, making it a subordinate command under the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command.

During the past 50 years, USAARL’s research has led to many innovations, such as the development of crushable ear cups, used in flight helmets, to aid in the prevention of basilar skull fractures.

An additional innovation includes the fielding and testing of the communications ear plugs, which provide Aviators with hearing protection and state-of-the-art communications. By using the ear plugs, the Aviator is able to fly extended missions without compromising hearing, safety or operational effectiveness.

“Every time an aircrew member retires without a serious hearing disability, he can thank USAARL for giving him the best hearing protection available,” said Dr. Dennis Shanahan, former USAARL commander.

In more than 50 years, USAARL has been involved with most medical aspects of vehicular occupancy, airworthiness testing, air safety, occupational hazard exposures and personal protective equipment.

In addition, USAARL has researched topics such as vibration, jet lag and fatigue, tinnitus, spatial disorientation, helmets, visors, night vision goggles, seats and restraints, cockpit air bag systems and fire protective clothing.

In 2006, USAARL developed the noise-immune stethoscope that enables medical personnel to hear a patient’s heartbeat and breath sounds in high-noise environments. In 2012, medics began using the NIS in operational environments. That same year, the lab developed the facial and ocular countermeasure for safety head form to test and evaluate the performance of face and eye protective equipment without using human or animal subjects. FOCUS provides scientific data to improve equipment worn by Soldiers.

Today, USAARL’s mission has expanded to cover research preventing and mitigating Aviator and ground warrior injuries.

“It is USAARL’s promise to the Aviator, the airborne Soldier and ground warriors to find medical solutions that reduce health hazards, prevent injury, and protect and improve performance,” said Col. Dana Renta, commander of USAARL.

USAARL does this by delivering medical research, testing, and evaluation solutions for air and ground Warriors. The lab conducts medical research to devel-

op return-to-duty standards for Soldiers suffering from neurosensory injuries as well as mild traumatic brain injuries. USAARL also conducts research to determine the effectiveness of life support equipment, and to prevent and mitigate ground crew and aircrew biomechanical injuries.

For example, in 2009, USAARL co-developed the tactile situation awareness system, which uses the sense of touch to provide situation awareness information to pilots. This multifunctional system reduces pilot workload and increases situation awareness allowing pilots to devote more time to weapons delivery systems and other visual attentive tasks. TSAS also treats patients with balance problems due to traumatic brain injury.

“USAARL enhances product development by ensuring the products are optimized to the warfighter or that they improve warfighter safety and survivability,” said Shanahan.

USAARL has a vital role to play in the development of advanced products that enhance a warfighter’s senses, increase his capabilities, or protect him from a hostile environment.

However, the mission would not be accomplished without USAARL’s team of physicians, engineers, scientists, psychologists, pilots and administrators.

Through the strengths and talents of its personnel, USAARL possesses a unique capability not available in any other Army laboratory.

“USAARL personnel apply their knowledge and skills to make effective and functional systems for the end user — the U.S. Army warfighter,” said Shanahan. “In doing so, the laboratory has had an immeasurable effect in improving Army systems and has helped save countless lives.”

In the future, USAARL will continue to pursue its vision of becoming innovators in aeromedical and operational medical research. This vision will be achieved by USAARL’s commitment to Aviators and ground warriors to find medical solutions that reduce health hazards, prevent injury, and protect and improve performance.

Rotor Wash

“As weather continues to cool down, Families will turn to space heaters and fireplaces for warmth. What steps should Soldiers and Families take to ensure heating devices are used safely?”



Rick Brand,
civilian

“Don’t leave a heater unattended and don’t put it close to another heat source.”



Mary Davis,
DOD civilian

“Make sure they have a safety switch on them and have automatic turn off in case they fall over. Turn off electric blankets when you’re not using them.”



Neville Reese,
civilian

“Make sure you set it away from the wall or other flammable things. Unplug heaters or external heat sources when you leave home.”



Staff Sgt. Bruce Moore,
6th MP Det., 1st Bn.,
13th Avn. Regt.

“Don’t put a heater close to curtains or blinds and keep decorations away from fireplaces.”



W01 Benjamin McKay,
B Co., 1st Bn.,
145th Avn. Regt.

“Keep a heater in a central location and make sure you turn it off when you go to bed.”

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

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.

Angel Tree benefits post children

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

With Black Friday done and gone, and many shopper's holiday purchases tucked away, the last thing many people want to do is brave the seasonal crowds again to purchase more gifts.

But officials at the Main Post Chapel encourage people to buy a few more gifts for less fortunate children for this year's Fort Rucker Angle Tree Program.

The program gives people a chance to provide a holiday gift for Fort Rucker children in need, according to Therese Erthal, Catholic parish coordinator.

"Our Angel Tree is located in the lobby of Main Post Chapel. The tree is up and running, ready for anyone who wants to participate. All [people] have to do is come in and take a tag off of the tree," she said.

Those who take a tag are responsible for providing a gift to the child on the tag. The program is anonymous. The only information the giver receives is the gender and age of the child.

"This year I have 475 children to collect gifts for — that is about 25 more than last year. Every year there are more and more children on the tree. So, we ask that people take as many tags as their heart desires," said Erthal.

The ages range from 3 months to 18 years and gifts are asked to be returned to the chapel no later than Dec. 14.

The chapel adopted the program several years ago from Army Community Service and has turned it into what it is today.

"Every year I get a list from ACS of the Soldiers, and some civilian workers, on post that are in need of assistance this year and received Thanksgiving food vouchers. I then make gift tags for each child and hang them on our Angel Tree and ask people in the community to take a tag, purchase an age appropriate gift and return it to the tree," said the coordinator.

Gifts turned in need to be new, unwrapped and unopened gifts.

"People can choose to leave the tags on or off. It is up to the person donating if they want the receiver to have the



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Therese Erthal, Catholic parish coordinator, hangs tags on the Angel Tree located at the Main Post Chapel across the street from the commissary.

option to take the gift back if it is something like clothing," said Erthal.

Gift cards are an acceptable gift and make for a good choice for the older teens, but Erthal asks that participants not give food.

"Please do not bring candy, cookies or treats like that. We cannot give that out and it will be a few weeks before the children get their gifts," she said.

"We also accept donations of tape and gift wrap, and large sturdy gift bags are absolutely wonderful," she added.

For people concerned with buying the perfect gift, Erthal said that a gift list is not provided.

"We do not have any idea what the children might like. It is completely anonymous and confidential," she said.

Erthal hopes that 2012 ends a sad holiday trend.

"Last year we had well over 100 children's tags left on the tree. We ask that the community come forth to support Soldiers and their Families. Having that many children's tags left on the tree is such a sad thing," she said.

The chance for the Army Family to take care of its own is invaluable, Erthal said.

"We are one big Family and we are here to take care of one another," she said. "I don't think there is anyone, at one point or another, that hasn't had to go through a tough Christmas. A person's dollar can only stretch so far. Sometimes you need a little help and that's OK."

Gifts dropped off after Dec. 14 will be saved for children next year.

Gifts can be dropped off at any time, and if anyone wants to give a gift but does not have the time to claim a tag they can drop off their gift at the tree and Erthal will select a child that remains on the tree for that gift.

"People can buy as much as they want. Whatever their heart leads them to buy," she said. "Soldiers give an awful lot. I don't think the people in the United States appreciate not only what Soldiers give up but what their Families give up. They don't realize how often they are alone for Christmas or birthdays. This is just a great way to give back to good people who give a lot for our benefit."

If anyone takes a tag and realizes they cannot purchase a gift, Erthal said that they can either call the church at 255-9894 and give the tag information so a replacement tag can be made, or they can drop by the chapel and hang their tag back on the tree.

"It may seem embarrassing, but I don't need their names. None of us know what unexpected expenses might pop up, so it's totally understandable when that happens," she said.

DPS officials warn of invisible carbon monoxide danger

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

The holidays are a time for gift giving and Family, but Directorate of Public Safety officials warn that an invisible danger lurks as the weather turns cooler.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless and toxic gas, and because it's impossible to see, taste or smell carbon monoxide, it can kill before people are even aware of its presence, according to the environmental protection agency website www.epa.gov.

"Carbon monoxide can be deadly," said David Ammons, assistant fire chief for the Fort Rucker Fire Department, adding that CO is produced whenever fuels such as gas, oil, kerosene, wood or charcoal are burned.

The first line of defense people can have against this deadly gas is knowledge, according to Lt. Col. Madeline T. Bondy, DPS director and provost marshal.

"People should be smart about how they use appliances," she said. "They need to make sure they are knowledgeable of an

appliance before they use it. Read and follow all of the instructions that accompany any [fuel-burning device] and ask questions. If you don't know something, find out by asking."

Dangerous levels of CO can result from malfunctioning appliances or those that are improperly used. Hundreds of people die every year from accidental carbon monoxide poisoning caused by malfunctioning or misused fuel-burning appliances, and even more die from CO produced by idling cars, according to the EPA.

"When using space heaters in enclosed areas, people have to be very cautious about the carbon monoxide emissions," said Bondy. "Make sure everything is connected properly and people should make sure they allow for proper ventilation."

"This happens a lot in the winter time when people are trying to keep warm while working in a garage," she said. "A lot of times, people will close windows and doors and allow no way for proper air flow when using these fuel-burning devices — they forget to properly ventilate their workspace."

Because of risks from carbon monoxide

and fire, space heaters are not allowed to be used in commercial and office buildings on Fort Rucker, according to Ammons. Space heaters are allowed in military housing units, but residents are urged to follow the safety guidelines provided by the manufacturer.

Ammons advises people to have trained professionals inspect their fuel-burning appliances, such as: oil and gas furnaces, gas ranges and ovens, gas dryers, gas or kerosene space heaters, fireplaces and wood stoves to ensure they are working properly. They should also make sure that flues and chimneys are connected, in good condition and not blocked.

Ammons said there are some things people should never do, such as: idle the car in a garage; use a gas oven to heat a home; use charcoal grills indoors; sleep in any room with an unvented gas or kerosene space heater; or use gasoline-powered engines in enclosed spaces.

Preparation is another key, and Ammons said that people should install carbon monoxide detectors in their homes if not already installed.

"The first thing that we usually advise people to do, [if CO detectors are installed], is change their carbon monoxide detector's batteries every time the time changes," he said, to make sure that the detectors are in proper working order.

People should also have awareness about symptoms of possible carbon monoxide poisoning, so that they are able to detect the danger before it's too late, said Ammons.

According to the EPA, if people are experiencing severe headaches, becoming dizzy, mentally confused, nauseated or faint — they may be experiencing moderate levels of carbon monoxide poisoning.

"A lot of times people will mistake [the symptoms] for the flu," said the assistant fire chief. "If people are exposed to moderate levels of carbon monoxide over a long period of time, they can die."

If people are experiencing any symptoms of CO poisoning, they should immediately get fresh air, said Ammons. Possible victims should ventilate and leave the house, and go to an emergency room and talk to a physician, letting the physician know they suspect carbon monoxide poisoning.

News Briefs

Traffic delays

Daleville holds its Christmas parade Friday at 5:30 p.m. People who use the Daleville Gate around that time should expect traffic delays.

PX closes early Sunday

The Fort Rucker Post Exchange will close an hour early Sunday at 5 p.m. for its Christmas party. Dec. 9, the PX 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.

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.

Aviation Seminar Series

The U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence hosts the continuation of its Army Aviation Seminar Series Dec. 11 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. This third part of the series features a distinguished panel of veterans on hand to discuss the birth of Army Aviation as a branch in 1983 and on into its employment in Operation Desert Storm. All are invited to attend.

Siren test

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

Holiday meal hours

During the holiday break from Dec. 20 to Jan. 2, the Warrant Officer Candidate Dining Facility, Bldg. 5914, will close and meals will be served at the Advanced Individual Training DFAC, Bldg. 6204.

Meal hours at the AIT DFAC will be 8-9 a.m., noon to 1 p.m. and 4:30-5:30 p.m.

The WOC DFAC will close after the lunch meal Dec. 19 and will reopen for the breakfast meal Jan. 3. Dec. 19, the dinner meal will be served at Bldg. 6204.

The holiday meal will be served Dec. 18 at both DFACs during the regular scheduled lunch meal hours. The holiday meal rate of \$7.50 will apply. Family members, guests and retirees are welcome. A traditional holiday meal will also be served on Christmas Day for patrons on the installation.

For more, call 255-3017.

1st WOC change of command

The 1st Warrant Officer Company hosts its change of command ceremony Dec. 18 at 9 a.m. at the Fort Rucker Wings Chapel, Bldg. 6036 on Andrews Avenue. CW3 (P) Travis T. Elliott will assume command of the company from CW4 (P) Richard C. Myers Jr.

For more, call 255-2646.

Instructors of the year

The U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence hosts its Instructors of the Year Awards Ceremony Dec. 14 at 2 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

For more, call 255-9840.

Holiday gift wrapping

Community groups can raise funds while spreading holiday cheer as the Fort Rucker Exchange solicits partners for the Army and Air Force Exchange Service's annual community gift wrap program.

"In order to make the holidays a little easier, the exchange partners with local groups to ensure gifts can be wrapped up before they even leave the store," said Don Walter Jr., main store manager. "Beyond offering a one-stop solution for busy military shoppers, this effort also helps raise money for local military support initiatives."

During peak holiday seasons, the Fort Rucker Exchange sets up tables and provides supplies that community volunteer groups can use to wrap gifts in exchange for donations. Interested organizations can contact the Fort Rucker Exchange for information on scheduling a time to participate by calling 503-9044, Ext. 211.

PX return policy

Nearly 20 percent of Americans will return at least one holiday gift item this holiday season, according to Lavi Industries, a provider of public guidance. To take the stress and confusion out of the return process, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service has extended the terms of its hassle-free return policy for the holidays.

"We want to make returns as simple as possible for our holiday shoppers," said Don Walter Jr., Fort Rucker Exchange's main store manager. "Our relaxed refund policy will guarantee customer satisfaction."

The exchange's standard policy limits returns anywhere from 15 to 90 days with a sales receipt, but the holiday return and exchange policy extends these guidelines through Jan. 31 for any item purchased between Nov. 1 and Dec. 24.

As is the case year-round, refund requests with sales receipts are processed in accordance with original forms of payment (cash for cash, credit for credit card). Refund requests without sales receipts receive an exchange gift card.

In addition to returns on items purchased at the Fort Rucker Exchange, shopmyexchange.com orders can be returned to the nearest Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy or Coast Guard Exchange. Online returns due to an error on the exchange's part reimburse standard shipping charges, as well.

Thrift shop

The Fort Rucker Thrift Shop is open Wednesdays-Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and also the first Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. to noon, unless it falls on a holiday weekend and then the shop will be open on the second Saturday.

The thrift shop needs people's unwanted items. People can drop off donations at any time in the shed behind the shop (former Armed Forces Bank building) located in front of the theater next door to the bowling alley. Donations are tax deductible.

For more, call 255-9595.

Electronic retiree newsletter

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

Decisive Action Training Environment:

Future training grounded in today's intelligence

By Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Jo Bridgwater
U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

FORT EUSTIS, Va. — To ensure Soldiers are trained and ready for any mission, the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command's Directorate of Intelligence created the Decisive Action Training Environment, a program that uses current intelligence to create intense, authentic training environments for Soldiers, leaders and units.

For years, Combat Training Centers have conducted mission readiness exercises for units designed to prepare Soldiers for deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The DATE allows Soldiers to use combat "tools" to solve tactical problems in a wide range of real-world scenarios derived from actual threats across the Army's Operational Environment instead of a training scenario derived from a known deployment location.

"Soldiers want realism as manifested by a well-trained opposing force, good training areas, role players, and all the things that make combat the complex event that it is," said Gary Phillips, director of TRADOC Intelligence Support Activity. "DATE is not a rehash of yesterday's headlines about any place in the world."

The first step in developing DATE was to establish a framework and analysis for capturing the conditions across a particular OE. Studies focused on the notion of ground operations requiring a brigade-size unit and the expected mission essential tasks.

The second step was to look at OEs likely to require Army employment in the near to mid-term future. The scenarios used in the DATE are not an attempt to determine

the next deployment location for U.S. ground troops. Instead, the list of particular OEs act as an aid to inform the training community at the Army's Combat Training Centers the range of potential conditions U.S. ground forces are likely to encounter based on real-world intelligence.

"The DATE scenario is complex and multinodal," said Brig. Gen. Charlie Flynn, deputy commanding general of operations for the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C. "The changing conditions and variables that units are confronted with place enormous demands on our leaders; they have to remain engaged intellectually and physically. The DATE conditions enable a unit and leader "crucible" at our combat training centers."

The DATE is further enhanced by scalable exercise design, database

creation and manipulation, and OE products from the Training Brain Operations Center, which, like the TRADOC Intelligence Support Activity, is a component of the TRADOC G-2 OE Enterprise.

For example, in October the TBOC supported the DATE-based mission readiness exercise for the 2nd Cavalry Regiment at the Joint Multinational Training Center in Grafenwoehr, Germany. Using parameters set by official DATE publications, the TBOC created insurgent, paramilitary and criminal threat networks, including biographic data sheets for more than 220 unique opposing force roles.

It also created historic databases for intelligence reports, imagery products, and open source messages to add complexity and to facilitate training objectives.

"We help units tailor their exercise to their training requirements," said Jim Slavin, TBOC director. "The customized databases and on-site expertise give units a better understanding of their OE and the asymmetric threats they'll face in the future."

There are eight variables used to create the OEs and they center on the political, military, economic, social, information, infrastructure, physical environment, and time components of a particular area. The variables combined with embedded real-world actors create an array of potential threat capabilities that anticipate future conflicts. Together, they create a picture of the environment's nature and

characteristics that would significantly impact the military if deployed to that area of the world.

According to Maj. Keefe A. Savin, public affairs officer for the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., the DATE exceeded expectations during the BCT's recent rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.

"The fact that this was the first time we have been able to do this type of training and the first time this (Decisive Action Training Environment) has been done at JRTC over the last 10-year period — we were impressed with the level of training and professionalism we received and can take back into

the force," Savin said. "The training gave us the final few yards to be ready to answer our nation's call to deploy anywhere in the world on short notice."

According to Flynn, the DATE scenarios provide commanders with realistic training that will better prepare them for the combat environment.

"When the complexity of the environment is coupled with the operational tempo, it places great stress on our units and leaders. It's something we can't replicate at home station," said Flynn. "At the CTCs, units and leaders will make mistakes, but from those mistakes, we will learn — and learning before going to combat will save lives."

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PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Soldiers line up to congratulate the newest inductees into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum Nov. 20.

Club: NCOs dedicated to community

Continued from Page A1

food locker collection and the Army Emergency Relief fund,” he said, adding that in the past year, the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club raised over \$2,000 for the child

advocacy center on Fort Rucker.

The club also has the added responsibility of running the USAACE-level ceremonies on the installation, according to Thomson, and provides the narrators, award bearers and personnel needed for the ceremonies.

“This small group of NCOs is very dedicated to our community, our Soldiers and Families,” said Thomson. “They are a great example of professional leaders in our formation and are truly setting a huge example for our young Soldiers to aspire to.”

Concert: Event aims to create Family holiday memories

Continued from Page A1

and to create Family memories.

“It’s going to be a great time whether you’re military or not. It reminds us of holidays past and it will create memories for children. Soldiers sometimes don’t get to spend holidays with their Families, so [Soldiers need to] take advantage

of the post events if [they] are fortunate enough to be with [their] Families this season,” he said.

Old added that the concert is a great way for the post and the local community to mingle together and celebrate the special season.

“We want to give back to the civilian community. They support us just like we

support them. This area is very proud of its military heritage, so even though this is a small holiday event we really hope civilians will come and celebrate Christmas with us,” he said.

Band members encourage people to come early to enjoy the music in the foyer before the concert begins.

“This is a nice way to get to perform

for the public. I am really looking forward to the holiday concert. This is a more traditional way for Soldiers who may be away from their Families to celebrate the holiday and just for those who may have never heard a holiday concert live before. Come a little early, get a good seat and have a fun Christmas time,” said Doney.

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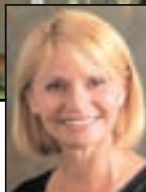
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58 COUNTY ROAD 171: Beautiful home, hardwood floors throughout, custom cabinets, granite counter tops, stainless appliances, pretty custom trim package & custom built mantel. Claw foot tub & tiled shower in MBA. Custom cabinets & sink in laundry room, huge lot (1.05+) with mature hardwood trees, plenty of room for a pool. **Fran Claytor Kallenbaugh 790-5973**



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16th CAB completes aerial gunnery



An AH-64 Apache helicopter pilot flies to the ammunition restock point after unloading rounds into a target at the 16th CAB aerial gunnery at Yakima Training Center, Wash., recently.

By Sgt. Adrianna Barnes
16th CAB Public Affairs

YAKIMA, Wash. — 16th Combat Aviation Brigade began its transition from a force-generating build-up into a training phase, in accordance with Army Force Generation model, with its first aerial gunnery at Yakima Training Center recently. Each subordinate battalion qualified on their individual aircraft weapons system in preparation for Collective Crew Training. The CCT training will be 16th CAB's first combined training, which will incorporate multiple airframes to achieve a single-mission goal. Both the aerial gunnery and CCT are cumulative exercises used to prepare for scheduled training rotations at the National Training Center in southern California in 2013. "We trained to qualify on our primary weapons systems, which will allow us collectively to peruse more advanced training," said Capt. Matthew Ford, 16th CAB assistant operations officer. "This training

also will allow us to support other neighboring units and their training requirements, and ultimately to deploy to combat theater and fight to win." Units qualified on various weapon systems for each airframe, including the OH-58D Kiowa, UH-60 Black Hawk and the AH-64D Apache helicopters. The 46th Aviation Support Battalion played a crucial role by providing training capabilities such as dining facilities, medical support, and forward arming and refueling point personnel. "The biggest lessons we've learned [are] how to integrate the support efforts of multiple [military occupational specialties] so that we can 'plug and play' into a variety of support scenarios," said Lt. Col. Mark Sisco, the 46th ASB commander. "The exercises have given us a higher degree of support flexibility." "We had a lot of young Soldiers," said Lt. Col. Bryan Hoff, commander of the

SEE AERIAL, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY SGT. CHRISTOPHER BONEBRAKE

PUMA TRAINING

Spc. Devin Hobson, a radio team operator attached to 1st Platoon, B Co., 3rd Bn., 187th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, 101st Abe. Div. (Air Assault), watches a pair of OH-58 Kiowa helicopters fly by the top of Big Gherghara in the Sabari district, Nov. 8. The helicopters provided overwatch for members of 1st Platoon on the mountain and in the village as they conducted their respective missions.

High-altitude missions: A balancing act

By Sgt. Daniel Schroeder
25th CAB Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — CW4 Andy Druilhet brings his UH-60 MEDEVAC Black Hawk in for a landing in a precarious location. Due to the slopes of the mountainside, Druilhet had to perform a two-wheeled pinnacle landing in a dusty patch at 7,000 feet in the mountains of Afghanistan. "I had my crew in the back leaned out the windows informing me of obstacles in the landing zone and my co-pilot on the radios communicating with the ground forces," said Druilhet, 3rd Forward Medical Support Team standardization pilot, 3rd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, Task Force Gunfighters, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, originally from San Antonio, Texas. "As we touched down, we had the parking brake set so we wouldn't roll away. I applied some forward input on the cyclic and held the collective in place so the tail of the aircraft would not fall. It was really a balancing act." Safe performance of high-altitude missions cause pilots to focus on a variety of variables. These variables include: the temperature at the landing zone, the terrain of the LZ, the dust kicked up from the rotor blades, winds around the LZ and the thin air at the altitude. The two major fac-



COURTESY PHOTO

A UH-60 Black Hawk assigned to A Co., 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., TF Lightning Horse, 25th CAB, flies through the mountains of Afghanistan during a high-altitude mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom Feb. 22.

tors for high altitude missions are the winds and thin air. "When flying high in the mountains, the winds are unpredictable," said CW3 Charlie Mock, B Company standardization pilot, 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., TF Gunfighters, 25th CAB, originally from Enterprise, Ala. "All landings in high altitudes are challenging all the time. Throw a gust of wind in during a one or two-wheeled landing at 8,000 feet and things tend to become complicated." The winds go hand-in-hand with the other main factor for aircraft performance at high altitudes — the thin air. The thin air of the mountains causes a significant decrease in aircraft performance. Because turbine engines operate from air flow, the thin air causes less proficiency from the engines. "You have to have a skill set when flying at high altitudes," said CW4 Stephen Lodge, standardization pilot for 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, TF Lightning Horse, 25th CAB, also a native of Hilo, Hawaii. "For OH-58D Kiowa Warriors, we cannot hover (at certain altitudes) due to our small power margins. Our engagement and reconnaissance missions are challenging due to the power limitations of the aircraft." Another aspect of the aircraft that is affected by the thin air is

SEE HIGH-ALTITUDE, PAGE B4

Lt. Gen. Campbell visits TRADOC

By Amy L. Robinson
TRADOC Public Affairs

Lt. Gen. John Campbell, U.S. Army deputy chief of staff G-3/5/7, traveled to U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command headquarters on Fort Eustis, Va., Nov. 15 to meet with command leadership and get a firsthand look at the hands-on training TRADOC students receive. Gen. Robert W. Cone, TRADOC commanding general, greeted Campbell at the headquarters building and provided him with an overview of command initiatives that Cone referred to as "TRADOC 101," ranging from the human and structural transitions the Army faces to the implementation of the Army Learning Model. "These kids today and how they learn — it's amazing," Cone said, adding that Campbell would get a chance to see the Army Learning Model in action during his visit later that day. "ALM is real, and we're using it in every schoolhouse," Cone said. "It's more of a mindset than a resource driver." A goal of the Army Learning Model is to provide Soldiers and leaders with career-long learning experiences that are more rigorous, relevant and effective for each individual. Learning experiences are not confined to Army schoolhouses; rather they occur at the point of need and are more engaging and accessible through enabling technologies such as virtual environments, online gaming and mobile learning, according to "The U.S. Army Learning Concept for 2015," TRADOC Pamphlet 525-8-2, the precursor to the Army Learning Model. In addition to the Army Learning Model, TRADOC leaders also presented information on other command initiatives, including updates on the Army of 2020, the Campaign of Learning and the Master Fitness Trainer Course. Although familiar with the TRADOC topics, Campbell said the face-to-face visit was a great opportunity to discuss them in detail.

SEE TRADOC, PAGE B4

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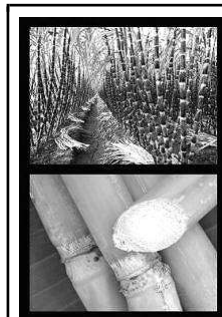
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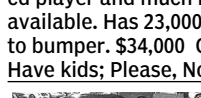
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Aerial: Exercises emphasize teamwork

Continued from Page B1

2nd Battalion (Assault), 158th Aviation Regiment. “It was their first time in the field and one of our greatest challenges was ensuring they were all well trained and didn’t have any accidents, especially when asking them to drive vehicles in excess of 20,000 pounds on uncommon treacherous roads. We took it slow and safe.”

The gunnery allowed helicopter gunners to prove they have basic skills and are able to properly identify and engage targets before moving into a CCT and working in a multifunction task force.

Soldiers worked together to properly engage targets while hovering, landing and enroute, as well as at various levels of Effective Translation Lift. The ETL is the transitional state present as a helicopter moves from a hover to forward flight. During the CCT, air crews were placed in realistic combat scenarios and all weapons systems were used.

“Collectively, we have some challenges we will face and, when adding the various aircraft together. As we move forward, we are going to make sure we are deliberate, safe and well-thought-out before we proceed forward,” said Hoff.

Working in multifunction task forces generates the ability to use the different capabilities each airframe brings. By using the various types of helicopters together, unit commanders maximize the strengths of each aircraft, which can support each other with unique, airframe-specific capabilities.

Aerial gunnery is the starting point for several training phases and exercises the 16th CAB will conduct as the unit prepares itself to become fully-mission-capable and ready for worldwide deployment.

TRADOC: Visit reinforces importance of training

Continued from Page B1

“A lot of the topic areas we talked through — I’ve seen in different forums, but to come down and be able to have some really small group huddles with the subject matter experts and get more details — it was very beneficial for me as the G3-5/7,” Campbell said.

In addition to small-group discussions, Campbell also received several opportunities to see the Army Learning Model during visits to the 128th Aviation Brigade

and the Training Brain Operations Center.

During his time at the 128th Avn. Bde., which is part of TRADOC’s Aviation Center of Excellence, Campbell learned how Army Initial Entry Training students are taught in classrooms, as well as through virtual simulation and hands-on training models, using a “crawl, walk, run” approach, according to Sgt. 1st Class Kurt King, Aviation Center of Excellence Advanced Attack Armament Branch chief, who presented an overview of the 128th Avn. Bde. training program.

After visiting the 128th Avn. Bde., Campbell also received a tour of TRADOC’s Training Brain Operations Center, where he watched a demonstration of the “Training Brain Repository,” a new capability that gives commanders an unprecedented ability to tailor exercises to reflect today’s operational environment.

Campbell said although he knew of the TBOC and had seen slide presentations, it was difficult to visualize the full potential of the capability without seeing it.

“We talked about [TBOC] before, and

we talked about how to continue to support it, but now — walking into the operations piece and seeing what it can do — it really stands out, and I see the benefits all the way down the road,” Campbell said.

At the close of his visit, Campbell said he appreciated the opportunity to visit and fully understands the hard work on-going within the command.

“TRADOC is doing a lot for our Army, and this visit just reinforced it, and gave us better visibility on some very critical areas that TRADOC is working,” he said.

High-altitude: Missions improve Soldiers’ confidence

Continued from Page B1

the lift capability. Like the engines, the thinner the air is, the less efficient the rotor blades are at producing lift. The allowable margin of error decreases with the increase in altitude.

Prior to flying in these conditions, the Aviators and crew members conducted High-Altitude Mountainous Environmental Training in Hawaii.

“I believe HAMET is a good tool to teach [flight crews] about the winds, terrain, relations between the two and power management of the aircraft,” said Mock. “It is a good asset for training Army Aviation. All pilots and non-rated crew members should go through the training prior to coming to Afghanistan.”

Upon completion of HAMET, Aviators and crew members have the necessary skills to safely and

successfully complete high-altitude operations while engaged with the enemy. The flight crews of the 25th CAB have conducted more than 500 air-assault operations and moved at least 30,000 Soldiers across the battlefield at altitudes above 7,500 feet in the past 10 months.

“I went through the HAMET training in Hawaii,” stated Druihhet. “I felt better prepared this time. Because I did the training before I deployed, I was more prepared for flying in these conditions.”

HAMET offers unique training specifically designed to dramatically increase individual and crew situational awareness on aircraft power and limitations. HAMET gives pilots the knowledge, confidence and proficiency to operate their aircraft routinely and safely at max gross weights in any environment. HAMET

training also teaches aircrews to conduct high-altitude operations as a team with multiple aircraft to include multiple aircraft types.

HAMET was developed to ready experienced pilots for success in combat operations and adapting it with training that individual Army CABs have been conducting as part of their regular training operations for the past several years.

“I believe HAMET is a great foundation for deployment training,” Mock said.

“The training on pinnacle landings, lack of power, altitude and temperature makes [HAMET] very applicable for all of our flight profiles,” said Lodge. “The [HAMET] training has been a major factor in our success here in Afghanistan.”

In addition to conducting HAMET training, the 25th CAB also conducted several training

rotations at Pohakuloa Training Area in Hawaii.

“I believe we are well rounded for high-altitude operations because of all the training,” Lodge said. “When we conducted our aerial gunnery at PTA, we were training between 6,000 and 7,000 feet there.”

Both high-altitude training events made the pilots more comfortable and confident in their abilities to perform operations at high altitudes in mountainous terrain.

“We do pinnacle landings all the time during training,” said Lodge. “For OH-58D pilots, we only perform pinnacle landings for precautionary landings and during training. At 7,000 feet using [night vision] goggles with limited power to land in a small area is challenging for every Aviator. When performing a pinnacle landing, the approach angle

is critical with little to no margin of error.”

For UH-60 pilots, pinnacle landings are performed regularly and require the use of all crew members.

“Because I sit in front of the main landing gear, I rely on my crew chiefs to call where the wheels will touch down at so I can focus on the controls and power of the aircraft,” said Mock. “Because the mountainous winds swirl and change repeatedly and quickly, our main goal is to land, unload or upload Soldiers, and then take off again in as little time as possible.”

Due to the training of aerial gunnery at PTA and HAMET in Hawaii, 25th CAB Aviators and crew members were more prepared to conduct high-altitude flight operations safely and successfully during their current deployment to Afghanistan.

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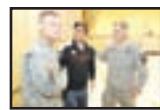
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NOVEMBER 29, 2012



FILE PHOTO

Santa greets children at last year's Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. This year's ceremony will be Dec. 6 from 5-6 p.m. at Howze Field.



Holiday cheer on tap at post events

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

Christmas traditions, some would say, are what make the season memorable and special, and Fort Rucker has a few traditions of its own coming up to welcome the Christmas holiday.

Fort Rucker will host one of these traditions, its annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony Dec. 6 from 5-6 p.m., according to Kimberly Abeln, Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation annual events coordinator.

"The event will be held at Howze Field, across the street from The Landing. We use a live tree that is planted in the ground.

It is around 22 feet high and we have to decorate it with a bucket truck," she said.

Maj. Gen. Kevin W. Mangum, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, will light the tree along with the youth ornament decorating contest winner.

"The one lucky winner of the contest will help light the tree," said Abeln. The contest ran Nov. 1-25 and the winner's name is being held until the ceremony.

To keep children and adults warm and cozy, refreshments will be served before and during the festivities.

"There will be free coffee and cocoa to keep everyone warm. We don't want any chilly fin-

gers," she said.

Enjoying a hot beverage while mingling with people from the local community is a good way to begin December, Abeln said.

"This is a great event that gives Soldiers, Families, retirees and civilians the opportunity to usher in the holiday season together. It is a wonderful way to support those who support our troops, such as the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, post chapel choir, 98th Army Band and local volunteers," she said.

The tree lighting is an important tradition, according to Abeln.

"It not only marks the beginning of the holiday season, but gives the community a chance to exchange holiday greetings with

each other," she said.

A man in a big red suit will also be in attendance.

"Santa will arrive after the official portion of the tree lighting is complete," said Abeln. "After the event outside is over, Santa will be heading over to The Landing for complimentary photos. We've been told his elves are hard at work and that there may be some goodies for the good boys and girls."

The Landing is also hosting a tradition — its spaghetti dinner will be from 6-8 p.m., right after the lighting ceremony.

"Families can eat first and then take photos or vice versa. It's such a great community event," she said.

The Landing is hosting a Family special price for the buffet-style dinner for \$25 that includes two adults and up to two children 12, and younger.

"Adults ages 13 and older will be \$10, children ages 3-12 are \$5 and children ages 2 and younger eat for free," said Esther Rodriguez, The Landing's marketing operations assistant.

Those who choose to buy dinner will have a choice of pasta and sauce, and will have choices like a salad bar, garlic bread, assorted cookies, tea and coffee.

"The dinner is a great way to make memories for Families to share with each other," she said. "It's going to be a great time to spend with Family and friends."

Craft center offers personalized Christmas gifts

By Sara E. Martin
Army Flier Staff Writer

With so many stores and gifts to choose from this holiday season, gift buying for friends and loved ones may seem like a daunting task, but officials at the Fort Rucker Arts and Craft Center can make gift purchasing a pleasant and easygoing experience.

Two relatively new ways to personalize gifts have been introduced to the ACC and are now available to customers, according to Heather Norris, operations assistant at the center.

"We can now embroider and adhere photos and digital images to physical merchandise using sublimation," she said.

Sublimation is where a photograph or design that has been printed with special gel ink is heated and put on an item such as fabric, stone, ceramics or wood.

"The products have to be polyester or polyester coated. So it's better for people to buy what we have here or what we can order from our catalog," said Norris.

Some of the items that people have to choose from are coasters, blankets, wallets, yard flags, tree ornaments, keepsake boxes, slate, cutting boards, clocks, a large variety of coffee and travel mugs, electronic cases, puzzles, luggage tags and anything that is polyester.

"Roughly mugs and T-shirts cost around \$10 and coasters cost around \$7, but the more a customer adds to the design the more expensive it will be," said Norris.

It takes a week for orders to be completed if a customer chooses something the center has in its inventory, but can take up to two weeks if they choose something out of the catalog.

"If people choose something that is out of the catalog [people] need to expect two weeks for it to be completed. If the customer does not mind bearing the shipping cost themselves then we can get it here and done in about a week," she said.

Sublimated items make for good Christmas gifts because they are detailed, according to Norris.

"These items are much more personal and people can use the



PHOTO BY SARA E. MARTIN

Heather Norris, operations assistant at the arts and craft center, prepares a coaster to be processed in the sublimation machine at the Fort Rucker Arts and Craft Center Nov. 21.

items too. You can put a Family photo on a purse, beach bag or towel. It's a way to brag about your Family in a practical way," she said.

Some of the materials are more delicate than others.

"The fabrics can be put in the washer and dryer, but just like normal clothes will wear and tear. The cups on the other hand are fragile and the dishwasher is never gentle, so hand wash them to keep the image safe," she said.

Customers wishing to take a personal image and have it sublimated onto an item must bring the image and design on a disc to the arts and craft center. The better quality photo people bring in the better it is going to look, according to Norris.

"These images will last forever as long as people treat the gift right," she said.

Supporting the local military community is one reason to purchase gifts from the arts and craft center, said Norris.

"The money that we make goes back into the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation community, which helps keep our programs and special events running," she said, adding that the center is also nearby for convenience.

Beth O'Neill, framing and embroidery assistant at the arts

and craft center, also said that gifts purchased from the center show the gift receiver that they are cared about.

"These products make for great gifts because it shows the gift receiver that you took the time to specifically think about them. The fact that you planned ahead shows that you literally and symbolically personalized the gift. I think that, more than anything, shows a person that you care about them," she said.

The embroidery department at the art center charges a set-up fee, unlike the sublimation department.

"There is a standard stitching cost of \$1.50 per 1,000 stitches, but we have a set-up fee. The set-up fees depend on how long it takes for me to set up the design. The fee is \$10 an hour for me to do the conversions from the computer.

The better the graphic I am given, the less time I will spend in converting it. The more complicated the design or pattern, the more expensive a piece will be," said O'Neill.

Unlike sublimation purchases, people need to bring in their own merchandise.

"It can be anything from hats to towels; guidons to uniforms, we can embroider anything that is a good quality material that can stand to be punctured with a needle hundreds or thousands of times," said O'Neill.

A disc with the desired design should be brought to the center a week before the product is needed.

"I need a week, sometimes it can be shorter, but with the holidays approaching we need a week to make sure we have enough time," said O'Neill.

The center can embroider digital art, cartoons, graphics, lettering, logos or clip art onto fabrics and there are over 50 colors to choose from.

Norris and O'Neill suggest that if people want to place an order and have it in time for Christmas exodus to place their orders now.

"If you wait until the second week in December we can try our best to get it done. We are open the two weeks before Christmas if you want to place an order that late, but I do not recommend that at all," said Norris.

ON POST

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

New youth center opening

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosts the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Fort Rucker Youth Center Friday 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.

Taco Thursdays

Beginning Dec. 6, every Thursday after 5 p.m. is Taco Thursday at The Landing Zone, featuring \$1 beef or chicken tacos with shredded lettuce, tomatoes, cheese and sour cream. People can add a side of guacamole for 50 cents, or make it a meal by adding black beans and rice for \$1.95, or chips and queso for \$2. People must purchase a beverage to be eligible for dinner specials. The offer is for dine in only and is not valid with other coupons or promotions.

Rib Night

Beginning Dec. 7, every Friday beginning at 5 p.m. in The Landing Zone will be Rib Night, featuring half a rack of smoked barbecue ribs served with fries for \$7 with the purchase of a beverage. The offer is for dine in only and is not valid with any other coupons or promotions.

For more, call 598-8025.

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.

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 Tuesday to Dec. 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



FILE PHOTO

Breakfast with Santa

The Landing will host Breakfast with Santa Dec. 15 from 9 a.m. to noon. The breakfast buffet will include eggs, bacon, hash browns, pancakes, toast, ham, biscuits with gravy, assorted fruits, a cereal bar and more. The price for the breakfast will be \$10 for adults 13 and older, \$5 for children 3-12 and children 2 and younger eat for free. There will be a Family Special for \$25 for a Family of two adults and two children, 12 and younger. Children will be able to get their photos taken with Santa at the breakfast. For more, call 598-2426.

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.

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.

EFMP Information and Support Group

The Exceptional Family Member Program invites all active duty military Families that have an exceptional or special needs Family member to the EFMP Information and Support Group meeting Dec. 11 from 9–10 a.m. at The Commons in Bldg. 8950. The topic for the meeting is holiday stress – tips and techniques will be provided on how to minimize and handle holiday stress. The EFMP Information and Support Group offers camaraderie, friendship, information exchange, idea sharing, community resources, support and assistance with finding solutions, according to Army Commu-

nity Service officials.

For more, call 255-9277.

Christmas craft making

The Center Library hosts a Christmas Craft Making Activity Dec. 11 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages 3-11. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited to the first 65 children to register.

For more, call 255-3885.

Steak Night

In December, every Monday 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 598-8025.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief scholarship applications for the 2013-2014 school year are available at 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 or call (866) 878-6378.

Kids Night at The Landing Zone

Every Tuesday is Kids Night Character Dining at The Landing Zone from 5–8 p.m. Children 12 and younger eat for free from the Kids Buffet with the purchase of an adult entrée (limited to two per adult). Kids Night events will vary each week to include Kiddie Karaoke, magic shows, face painting, crafts and more. The event is open to the public.

For more, call 598-8025.

DFMWR

Spotlight

New Youth Center

GRAND OPENING

Friday, November 30th
Bldg. 2800, 7th Ave.
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony begins at 4 p.m.

The Youth Center will house the Middle School Teen Program for youth ages 11-18 years and the Youth Sports & Fitness Program.

Following the ribbon cutting, patrons can tour the new facility which includes:

- full gymnasium with basketball court and rock climbing wall
- technology lab
- arts and crafts room
- demonstration kitchen area
- interactive physical fitness room with sports wall
- interactive impact games
- entertainment center room focusing on music, dance & song
- homework center
- teen lounge

For details call Child, Youth & School Services, 255-9638.

www.ftruckermwr.com

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR NOV. 29 - DEC. 2

Thursday, Nov. 29

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

Friday, Nov. 30

The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13)
.....7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 1

Argo (R)
.....7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 2

Argo (R)
.....7 p.m.

Chaplain: Think win-win

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

Last week I shared a Thanksgiving story in hopes that each of you would have a happy and safe holiday — I trust that you did.

Today, we continue with the series The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Families. This commentary is entitled Think Win-Win.

Think win-win means simply to think in a way that makes everybody a winner, and plan in a fashion that gives each person a sense that they are being treated fairly and getting as much as everyone else at the end of the day.

The truth is there are times when we think and plan in a way that doesn't make everybody a champion. We intentionally or unintentionally overlook things that are not important to us, but are extremely significant to others. And at the end of the day someone feels like he or she is short changed or pushed to the back burner for one reason or another.

Thinking win-win makes everyone a victor and every participant a conqueror. It says to everyone in a Family or organization that they matter, and they are just as important as anyone else. It gives everyone the assurance that their voice is heard, and their desires and requests are paramount.

For example, a few years ago I PCS'd from Fort Stewart, Ga., with orders to re-

port to Fort Sill, Okla., to be the brigade chaplain for 214th Fires Brigade. About three months before leaving Fort Stewart, I filled out a leave form and requested 45 days of vacation in order to rest and take care of some important Family business prior to moving to the new duty area.

I realized that asking for 45 days was unusual, but the Lord knows, I needed every day of that time because I was exhausted and hadn't taken much leave in three years. I worked extremely hard the entire 36 months at Fort Stewart and only took off for emergencies. There was no doubt in anybody's mind that I needed a long break ahead of moving on to another assignment.

To my surprise, the request was denied and I was floored. At first, I felt disappointed and hurt because everybody knew how hard I labored and that I needed a break. I thought to myself, this couldn't be right, haven't I at least earned a chance to go to the side and take a decent knee? Then I thought, it makes no sense to kill yourself going beyond the call of duty for God and country because nobody cares, and no one will reward you for it. You'll just end up tired, aggravated and frustrated.

You should have seen me that day — I was a basket case.

After wallowing in gloom for several days, I decided to talk to my boss and see if I could convince him to take another look at my request, and possibly approve it and

allow me to get the 45 days I so desperately needed. The conversation really turned out better than I thought it would. Actually, I thought this was going to be a rough dialogue, but it was not — it was rather a pleasant discussion.

The boss explained that he agreed with my request and truly wanted to support the appeal. However, he desperately needed me to stay a few more days and help our unit ministry team complete the redeployment briefs process that we were conducting at the time for Soldiers returning from Iraq. If I could wait 15 days it would make a world of difference for the team.

He reiterated that he knew I worked hard and that he was aware of the sacrifices I made every day without complaining. He assured me that if he could, he would give me 45 days or more because I had earned it.

When he said that, I felt a little bad because he was right — the team needed me; they needed my hand and leaving them in midstream would put an added burden on them. Of course they would do without me if they had to, but the work would be a whole lot easier with extra hands.

At that moment I realized that I was consumed with thinking about individual needs more than that of those around me. Granted, I deserved a break and I had put personal wishes on hold for a long time in order to take care of the concerns of others. But taking 30 as opposed to 45 days would

not kill me.

The boss then made a proposal. He asked if 30 days would suffice. He said that if I could settle for 30 days, he would sign the leave form and it would help the team tremendously. Although I wanted 45 days and felt that I should get it, we found a way to satisfy both our needs and make each of us happy. We were both winners.

Now, if he gave me what I asked for the first time, it would be a win-lose situation because the team would lose and I would win. That's never good or helpful. If he refused to permit me to receive enough time to take care of some of my issues and unwind before departing to the next mission, that would also be win-lose because the team would win and I would lose. Win-lose only takes care of half of the relationship — the other half takes a loss and feels insignificant or neglected.

Another side to this point is lose-lose. Although this is highly unlikely but possible, if the boss had decided to approve no more than 14 days of leave that would be lose-lose. First of all, I would feel unappreciated, and in that scenario I would not get enough vacation time nor would the UMT have a productive Soldier in the process.

So, of course, win-win is better. When we think, process and prepare in a way that takes every need into consideration and every person into account, the sky is the limit to where we can go! Think win-win!

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



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFÄU

Pick-of-the-litter

Meet General, a 6-month old male Labrador and Hound mix. He is outgoing, caring and loves to play. General is \$81 to adopt, which includes neutering, a microchip and heartworm testing. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels. Donations can be dropped off at the veterinary clinic or the commissary. Visit the Fort Rucker stray facility's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/fortruckerstrayfacility/> for constant updates on the newest animals available for adoption.

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Lajoyce Flagg
Lajoyce Flagg

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☪ Wednesday Evenings – 7 PM
☪ Nursery – Children – Youth
† Office: 334 347 5044
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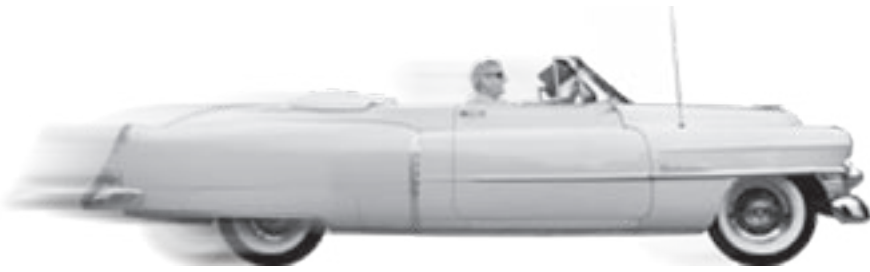
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WHICH ONE ARE YOU GONNA TAKE?

Eufaula: Picture-perfect, pilgrimage-ready

By Marilyn Jones Stamps
Alabama Tourism Department

If you're looking for the warmest hospitality and a unique collection of Italianate architecture, head to Eufaula. The southeastern Alabama town on the west bank of the Chattahoochee River is one of the most picturesque and historic in the South. It's no wonder that Eufaula boasts the state's oldest and largest tour of homes, the Eufaula Pilgrimage, each spring. The pilgrimage features some of the South's grandest structures in the Seth Lore-Irwinton Historic District.

For a breathtaking view of the town, plan your visit in late March and early April to coincide with the annual Eufaula Pilgrimage (687-3793). This is when colorful red and pink azaleas blanket the area and Southern belles in hoop skirts and white bonnets turn out to welcome you and hundreds of other visitors to their historic hometown.

You'll know you have arrived in Eufaula when you drive down beautiful Eufaula Avenue. This street is perhaps as pretty as any street anywhere. Lined with dogwoods and magnolias, it is flanked by gracious antebellum mansions that "rise like ornate wedding cakes," as described by Lee Sentell, author of *The Best of Alabama*.

During your nostalgic return to the Old South, you are invited to step inside grand structures built by 19th-century planters and merchants that still house period heirlooms and Family treasures. Sit and enjoy an afternoon tea on the front porch of one of the grand mansions in the Seth Lore-Irwinton Historic District. At an old cemetery, listen to stories about Eufaula's former residents as told by local tour guides. And explore treasures of the past at the Eufaula Pilgrimage Antique Show.

Most of the homes on tour are private

residences, open only during the annual Pilgrimage. As you stroll from Greek Revival cottages to Italianate showplaces, enjoying tours by daylight and candlelight, you'll find yourself spellbound by Eufaula's colorful trail of floral beauty and the warm hospitality of the people you meet along the way.

Where to begin — Shorter Mansion

Begin your Pilgrimage experience at Shorter Mansion (340 N. Eufaula Ave.; 687-3793). By far one of Eufaula's finest homes, this 1906 Classical Revival-style house museum serves as the town's welcome center and is headquarters for the annual tour of homes weekend.

Shorter Mansion, located in the Seth Lore Historic District, is graced with bold Corinthian columns that support an entablature extending around three sides of the structure. It was originally built in 1884 by Eli Sims Shorter II, a wealthy cotton planter, and his wife, a Georgia-born heiress to the SSS Tonic fortune. When the mansion was put up for auction by the builder's granddaughter in 1965, it was purchased by a group of civic-minded citizens who organized the Eufaula Heritage Association. They held the first pilgrimage in 1966. Now, decades later, the Pilgrimage continues to be the No. 1 drawing card for Eufaula each spring.

Tickets, maps and brochures about the Pilgrimage can be purchased in advance at Shorter Mansion or at a designated location during the event. They can also be purchased at <https://shop.eufaulapilgrimage.com>.

Explore the Seth Lore-Irwinton Historic District

The Seth Lore-Irwinton Historic District, the largest historic district in east Alabama and one of the largest in the state, encom-

passes much of the oldest part of Eufaula. In 1834, Capt. Seth Lore and others founded what is today known as the downtown area. They named the four main avenues Livingston, Orange, Randolph and Eufaula. The first letter of each avenue together spelled the captain's last name. Many of the historic homes and buildings in the district can be found along these streets. In addition to Shorter Mansion, where scenes from the movie *Sweet Home Alabama* were filmed, the district — listed in the National Registry of Historic Places — showcases more than 700 significant sites, including an extensive collection of domestic Italianate architecture and other homes and churches built between 1834 and 1915.

Maps for self-guided walking or driving tours of the district, as well as information on other attractions in the county, are available at the Eufaula Chamber of Commerce (333 E. Broad St.; 687-6664). The chamber is located in the James S. Clark Center, which was built in 1892 as a Central of Georgia freight train depot.

Fendall Hall (917 Barbour St.; 687-8469), also located in the Seth Lore-Irwinton Historic District, is a state-owned house museum and one of Alabama's outstanding Italianate houses. Crowned by a cupola and aptly nicknamed the "groom's cake" because of its Victorian chocolate-and-tan color scheme, the heavily detailed house was completed in 1860 by Edward and Anna Young and was home to five generations of the Young Family. Among its many treasures are family and period furnishings, marble mantles, and a black and white marble tiled entry. In 1973, it was purchased by the Alabama Historical Commission and later restored for preservation as a house museum.

The Hart House (211 N. Eufaula Ave.; 687-9755), built by John Hart around 1850, is recognized as an outstanding example of

pure Greek Revival architecture. It features Doric columns, an entablature with dentils, and a center doorway with sidelights and transom. It was purchased by the Historic Chattahoochee Commission in 1985 for use as its headquarters.

Following a preplanned driving route, you can see many other structures and sites that are part of the Seth Lore-Irwinton Historic District, including Shorter Cemetery where Alabama Gov. John Gill Shorter and his family are buried, the 1869 First Presbyterian Church, featuring a gothic vaulted ceiling made of brick from Holland and fashioned after English parish churches, and historic Fairview Cemetery, where many of Eufaula's black citizens were interred until 1870. In addition to the "Old Negro Cemetery," there are at least five other graveyards, including the Jewish, Presbyterian, Masonic, Odd Fellows and Public sites, which are part of present-day Fairview Cemetery. During the Pilgrimage weekend, live performances of *Tales from the Tomb* take place here.

From "wedding cake" houses to antiques

In addition to the homes tour, you can also enjoy the Eufaula Athenaeum Tour of a private collection featuring items of historic significance to Barbour County and relics associated with the American Revolution, early presidents and founding fathers; Civil War reenactments; Civil War period music; professional and children's art exhibits; garden tours; and carriage rides, as well as the annual antique show and sale. Held at the Eufaula Chamber of Commerce, the Eufaula Pilgrimage Antique Show (333 E. Broad St.; 687-6664) is one of the most prestigious in the Southeast. Dealers offer linens, silver, china, furniture, glassware and collectibles for show and sale throughout the weekend.

WIREFLIER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ANDALUSIA

ONGOING — The American Legion Post No. 80 regular meetings are the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Legion Hall. For more information, call 222-7131 or visit www.andalusialegionpost80.org.

DALEVILLE

FRIDAY — 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.

SATURDAY — The Daleville F.A.I.T.H. Riders Motorcycle Ministry is collecting food donations to help fill the Food Pantries of the community in the first "Fill The Pantry" benefit ride. Ride cost \$15 or \$15 in canned food items. Ride out at 9:30 a.m. at the Daleville Baptist Church. Food and refreshments at the end of ride. For more information, call 333-2313 or 598-4530.

DOTHAN

SATURDAY — The 7th annual Downtown Christmas will take place on North Foster Street from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is free. There will be snow activities and traditional Christmas elements such as caroling, visits with Santa, marshmallow roasting and cookie decorating. Many vendors will be set up selling items and giving attendees ideas for Christmas shopping. For more information, call 793-3097.

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. 3-7, 10-14, 17-21 — Landmark Park hosts its Christmas Past Seasonal for students in preschool through sixth grade in either a morning session from 9:30-11 a.m. or an afternoon session from 11:30 a.m. to 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.

ENTERPRISE

SATURDAY — 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.

DEC. 6 — The City of Enterprise Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will be at 6 p.m. at Johnny Henderson Park on Highway 167 North.

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 free of charge.

For more information, call Chuck Lobdell at 718-5707.

OZARK

TODAY — The city Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Rose Garden in downtown.

DEC. 6 — The Vivian B. Adams School hosts the 40th annual Christmas Bazaar at 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Crafts, raffles, baked goods and more are available for purchase. Raffle drawings is Dec. 7 at 1:15 p.m.

DEC. 6 — The 98th Silver Wings Army Band performs a Christmas Concert at the

Flowers Center for the Performing Arts at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

PINCKARD

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

SAMSON

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

TROY

FRIDAY — Troy Arts Council presents Shelia Jackson - Holiday Concert at the Crosby Theatre at Troy University at 7:30 p.m. Patrons can enjoy the voice of Troy's own Sheila Fayson Jackson as she joins with a host of other local vocalists, dancers, and musicians to present her annual Holiday Spectacular. Admission charged. For more information, call 670-3593 or go to www.troyartscouncil.com.

WIREFLIER AREA

SUNDAY AND DEC. 7-8 — The Southeast Alabama Dance Company presents *The Nutcracker*. SEADAC's annual performance of the holiday classic is a treasured area holiday tradition and continues to delight audiences of all ages. Performances will be held at the Dothan Civic Center and the Enterprise High School Performing Arts Center. Admission charged. For more information, call 702-7139 or visit www.southeastalabamadancecompany.org.

Beyond Briefs

9th annual Festival of Trees

The Festival of Trees takes patrons back to post-war 1940s now through Saturday 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 and are available at the door. For more information, call (850) 481-1093.

Mobile Mystery Dinners

The Mobile Mystery Dinners holds its performance at Mobile's Carnival Museum now through Wednesday. Cost is \$55 per person. Tickets include a tour of the museum, a full catered meal by Pillars Restaurant and 2 1/2 hours of "who did it." Guests can sort through clues from persuasive suspects and find the culprit. Prizes given out for best detective. For reservations or more information, call (251) 479-3212 or go to www.mobilemysterydinners.com.

That Mancini Magic!

Mac Frampton & The Moon River Orchestra, featuring Cecil Welch, will play at Elba High School Tuesday 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," "Hawaii," "Charade" and more.

For more information or tickets, call 406-2787 or visit www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com.

IMCOM commander completes weeklong visit to Korea, Japan

Installation Management Command
Public Affairs

The completion of an aerial tour of the Sagami General Depot, Hardy Barracks and the Sagami Family Housing Area in Japan Saturday brought to an end a trip to the U.S. Army garrisons in Korea and Japan for the commander of Installation Management Command, Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter.

Escorted by the Pacific Region Director, Debra Zedalis, IMCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Rice and Pacific Region Command Sgt. Maj. Karl Schmidt, Ferriter's weeklong visit started in Yongsan, South Korea Nov. 19.

The primary focus of the commander's visit was on addressing Ready and Resilience programs; specifically, placing emphasis on sponsorship, the Sexual Harassment and Assault Response Prevention Program, substance abuse, suicide prevention, transition and intramurals.

It was also important to connect with senior leaders, and during his visit to Korea, as Ferriter met with Gen. James D. Thurman, commander of U.S. Forces Korea, and Lt. Gen. John D. Johnson, commander of 8th U.S. Army.

Throughout the week, Ferriter scheduled lunches with Soldiers, visited numerous IMCOM facilities and met with the IMCOM workforce whenever possible. He also participated in such events as a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Commiskey Community Activity Center in Yongsan, the Thanksgiving Day meal at Camp Red Cloud and a Soldier combative training session at Camp Humphreys.

"The Korea trip included visits to garrisons Yongsan, Humphreys, Daegu (including camps Walker, Carroll, and George), and camps Red Cloud and Casey. While at the garrisons, we conducted employee Town Hall meetings and took the opportunity to recognize select employees for their outstanding achievements and performance," said Ferriter. "On Thanksgiving Day, we had the opportunity to serve the Thanksgiving meal to and dine with the great Soldiers of the 2d Infantry Division at Camp Red Cloud. We also had the opportunity to visit the DMZ and view the Joint Se-



PHOTO BY TETSUO NAKAHARA

Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Rice, command sergeant major of U.S. Army Installation Management Command, and Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter, commanding general of U.S. Army IMCOM, talk to Robert Santana, director of Camp Zama Youth Sports at the Camp Zama Youth Center Saturday.

curity Area."

Ferriter and his team left the land of the Morning Calm Friday and later that day arrived in Japan, the land of the Rising Sun.

While in Japan, the group met with Maj. Gen. Michael Harrison, commander of U.S. Army Japan and I Corps (Forward), and visited Garrison Torii Station in Okinawa where they toured the 1st Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group Barracks and visited Garrison Japan at Camp Zama and toured the Sagami Family Housing Area.

"Overall, it was a great trip! A worthwhile opportunity to meet with the United States Forces Korea, 8th Army, and

United States Army Japan leadership and address concerns and also an exceptional opportunity to meet with and address the outstanding Soldiers serving our country in Korea and Japan," said Ferriter. "What

an outstanding group of dedicated Soldiers we have at these garrisons, and I was impressed by the senior commander and garrison commander teams at each of the locations we visited."



MEANS STOP!


Motorists are reminded to obey all traffic signs.

Fort Rucker Family & MWR



Fort Rucker FMWR

www.ftruckerfmwr.com




STAND-UP COMEDY LINE AT RUCKER

DEC. 7TH

THE LANDING BALLROOM
DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM
COMEDY SHOW 8 - 9:45 PM
TICKETS: \$10 ADVANCE, \$15 DOOR

\$10 ADVANCE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW THRU 2 PM, DEC. 7TH AT THE LANDING ZONE, 598-8025. \$15 TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR. FOOD AND BEVERAGES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

Featuring Comedians Mike Winfield & Jarrod Harris



FOR DETAILS CALL 255-9810 OR THE LANDING ZONE AT 598-8025.

BIG BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

DEC. 15TH
9 AM - 12 PM

Breakfast buffet to include:

- Eggs
- Bacon
- Sausage
- Hash Browns
- Pancakes
- Toast
- Ham
- Biscuits w/ gravy
- Assorted Fruits & other breakfast items

Adults ages 13+: \$10
Children ages 3-12: \$5
Children 2 & under: FREE
Family Price: \$25
(2 adults & up to 2 children ages 12 & under)

The Landing, 598-2426.



Kids get your picture taken with Santa!

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Dec. 6th
Howze Field
5 - 6 pm

- Caroling
- Hot chocolate
- Lighting of the post Christmas Tree
- Special visitor from the North Pole
- Complimentary photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus at The Landing



Special Events, 255-1749

Spaghetti Dinner

6 - 8 pm, The Landing

Following the Christmas Tree Lighting enjoy a Spaghetti Dinner to include: choice of pasta and sauce, salad bar, garlic bread, assorted cookies, tea & coffee.

Prices are as follows:
Adults ages 13 & over: \$10
Children ages 3-12: \$5
Children ages 2 & under FREE
Family Special: \$25
(2 adults & up to 2 children 12 & under)



The Landing, 598-2426

Warrior Transition Command launches Hire a Veteran campaign

By J.D. Leipold
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army's Warrior Transition Command unveiled its three-pronged Hire a Veteran education campaign plan Nov. 19.

The plan aims to help employers understand that wounded warriors can bring a wealth of leadership experience and skills to the table and to their bottom line.

"This campaign is about setting conditions, not just preparing our Soldiers for a new career as a veteran, but also preparing employers about this unique population who has so much to offer," said Brig. Gen. David J. Bishop, WTC commander, in kicking off Warrior Care Month at the National Press Club.

"Our goal for this campaign is for employers to gain clarity on how well military skills translate to civilian employment and that post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, known as PTSD and TBI, are treatable conditions, which are not unique to the military, and most individuals affected go on to lead successful productive lives," he said.

Bishop also noted that the campaign also hopes to get across to would-be employers that, "reasonable accommodation for wounded warriors is not difficult, not expensive, nor a burden when compared to the incredible value our wounded warriors bring to the civilian workforce given their unique training and experience."

To get those messages across to the civilian workforce, the WTC formed a partnership with The Society for Human Resource Management, the world's largest association devoted to human resource management, and Orion International, the country's largest military recruiting firm, to produce a 10-minute video that addresses these top three misperception, the obstacles and solutions.

The video and an online toolkit are available for download and distribution to HR professionals and employers at www.WTC.Army.mil.

"Hire a Veteran — Obstacles and Solutions" features the stories of Soldiers who spent more than six months with a Warrior Transition Unit recovering from severe wounds, illness or injuries and how they pulled themselves up and out into the ci-

vilian workforce.

One of those Soldiers, medically retired Staff Sgt. Paul "Rob" Roberts, suffered second and third degree burns, and other severe injuries including TBI from an improvised explosive device that destroyed his vehicle and killed two Soldiers and an Afghan interpreter in June 2009.

While he was recovering in a Warrior Transition Battalion he worked on his resume with the Soldier Family Assistance Center, eventually securing an internship with the Drug Enforcement Administration where he worked until he was medically retired from the Army in January 2012.

"The internship with the DEA taught me that even though I'm a little bit slower, I'm still a valued part of the team. My experience in the Army is what makes me valuable, and I still have the ability and desire to learn," he said.

After attending several job fairs at Fort Belvoir, Va., Roberts received several job offers, but took a position with the FBI.

"I can't really give details on my new job, but I can tell you that the skills I learned in the Army such as leadership, situational awareness, analysis and attention to detail transition perfectly into my new job," he said.

Tim Isacco, Orion chief operating officer said his organization since its founding in 1991 has found careers for more than 17,000 former enlisted service members and an additional 12,000 officers.

"Of the nearly 100 data points we track on every veteran job seeker, we have never kept record of whether or not our veterans are disabled," he said. "Why? It's never been relevant. Our clients appreciate the true value a veteran brings to their workforce, regardless of the presence or absence of a disability."

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2D** 9:15 Everyday

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Mon - Fri 7:00 & 9:30 • \$ 8.5 2:00, 7:00 & 9:30

RISE OF THE GUARDIANS - PG
Mon - Fri 7:10 & 9:10 • \$ 5.5 2:10, 7:10 & 9:10

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NOVEMBER 29, 2012

Bama Bombers advance to final

By Nathan Pfau
Army Flier Staff Writer

As rain fell on the field, the D Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment Bama Bombers took on the U.S. Army Aviation Research Laboratory's Double Tap during an intramural football playoff game at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility Monday.

The game started with no clear advantage from either team, but the Bama Bombers came out on top to beat Double Tap 24-6.

"It was good all-around playing by both [teams]," said 2nd Lt. Mark Dube, player for the Bama Bombers. "I thought we had good communication, and our defense and offense were clicking really well."

Double Tap received the opening kick and managed a short return to start the game, but their opponents defense were hard at work and were able to keep them at bay early in the game and force a punt.

As D Co. took possession, they were at an advantage starting at the 50-yard line, but Double Tap's defense mirrored their opponent's and kept them from a first down. The Bama Bombers had other plans, however, as they managed to get past USAARL's defense for a first down, bringing them within 20 yards of the goal line. Their offense continued to push past Double Tap and get within yards of the goal line.

With pressure to keep their opponents out of the end zone, Double Tap brought back an aggressive defense to hold the Bama Bombers back and force a turnover at the one-yard line.

USAARL had their work cut out to bring the ball downfield, but a 20-yard pass pulled them away from their end zone.

Play after play, Double Tap managed to push their opponents back and advance downfield, but the Bama Bombers were able to stop the USAARL team and take possession of the ball.

It seemed anybody's game as possession continually changed hands while neither team was able to score with only minutes remaining in the first half. Bama Bombers took possession of the ball, determined to make up some ground against their opponents, and pushed aggressively toward the end zone. They finally managed the first touchdown of the game with a 45-yard play with four minutes remaining in the first half.

Double Tap took possession and pushed hard downfield to try and stay in the game, but the Bama Bombers seemed to have found their momentum and forced their opponents to punt.



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

First Lt. David Geib, D Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment and player for the Bama Bombers, evades a USAARL Double Tap player during an intramural football game at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility Monday. The Bama Bombers came out on top, winning 24-6, advancing them to the final game.

D Company managed a 40-yard punt return to keep pressure on the USAARL team, who couldn't seem to find their footing at this point in the game. As Double Tap's defense slipped, the Bama Bombers scored their second touchdown and extra point to bring the score to 14-0.

Double Tap took their last possession of the half and managed to get within 10 yards of the opposing end zone, but an interception dashed all hopes of a score as the half ended.

At the return from halftime, Bama Bombers received the kick and were able to get to the 50-yard line. Their momentum didn't seem to wane during halftime as they pushed farther downfield, getting past their opponents' defense to score their third touchdown minutes into the second half.

Double Tap had their work cut out for them with their first possession of the half, but D Company's defense kept them from advancing and they were forced to punt again.

Bama Bomber's superior defense was only matched by their offense as they threw pass after pass to again bring them

within yards of the goal line, but Double Tap managed to hold them back and force a field goal to bring the score to 24-0.

Time was running out for Double Tap, but they proved to still have some fight left in them as they took possession and ran a 60-yard play to score their first touchdown. They decided to go for the two-point conversion, but were unsuccessful and the Bama Bombers took possession.

D Company's offensive superiority seemed to diminish and Double Tap was able to hold the Bama Bombers back, and even pick off a pass to retake possession with less than 2 minutes left in the game.

Although the Bama Bombers' offense seemed to fizzle toward the end, their defense remained strong to hold off their opponents, allowing the clock to wind down for the win and advance them to the final game.

"This game advances us to the final and I feel confident," said 1st Lt. Sean Boniface, captain for the Bama Bombers. "If we can win the final game, we will win the tournament."



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Turkey Trot 5K, 10K

More than 200 people participated in the 2012 Turkey Trot with 268 running in the 5k and 94 in the 10k at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility Nov. 17. People participated individually and in teams for each race. The individual winners were: Dan Nix, 5k overall male, with a time of 16:08; Jen Zanghi, 5k overall female, with a time of 20:49; David Seymour, 10k overall male, with a time of 36:14; and Penny Proctor, 10k overall female, with a time of 40:33. The team winners were All In, for the 5k, and 1st WOCCs, for the 10k.

PIGSKIN PICKS



New Orleans
vs. Atlanta

Minnesota
vs. Green Bay

Seattle vs.
Chicago

Tampa Bay
vs. Denver

Pittsburgh
vs. Baltimore

Philadelphia
vs. Dallas

N.Y. Giants
vs. Washington

<div>Jim Hughes Public Affairs (52-32)</div>							
<div>Brian Jackson DFMWR (39-45)</div>							
<div>John McGee CDID (52-32)</div>							
<div>Capt. Mike Simmons Directorate of Public Safety (48-36)</div>							
<div>Sharon Storti Network Enterprise Center (48-36)</div>							

DOWN TIME

Our Story So Far...

HELD CAPTIVE IN A TOP-SECRET GOVERNMENT INSTALLATION, DALE ARDEN IS FREED BY MEMBERS OF AN ELITE ORGANIZATION...

FLASH GORDON

BY JIM KEEFE

THE I.I.I. HAS AN AUTONOMY FREE OF THE BUREAU'S RED TAPE. MISS ARDEN, IF NOT FOR THEM YOU'D STILL BE A PRISONER...

...BUT THIS MISSION IS FAR FROM OVER. THE SPACE PORTAL STILL POSES A THREAT TO OUR GLOBAL SECURITY. IF PHASE TWO IS UNSUCCESSFUL, WE'LL BE ON THE BRINK OF ARMAGEDDON!

GOOD LUCK, TEAM. SIGNING OFF...?CLICK?

"PHASE TWO"...

DON'T WORRY, IT'S NOT YOUR CONCERN FOR THE MOMENT.

YOU HAVE A PENCHANT FOR KEEPING ME IN THE DARK, MR. "DEXTER"? PERHAPS, AT THE VERY LEAST, YOU COULD CLUE ME IN ON YOUR REAL NAME.

FREE-MAR FOUR

INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS INSTITUTE

AGENT CORRIGAN, BUT MY FRIENDS CALL ME PHIL.

THEN CORRIGAN IT IS.

NINA, I THINK WE'VE FOUND A KINDRED SPIRIT.

CATCH YOUR BREATH WHILE YOU CAN, READER...

NEXT WEEK: FLASH JOURNEYS TO THE CITY OF THE HAWKPEOPLE AS WE RETURN TO MONGO!

DON'T MISS IT!

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

I GUESS I SHOULD REALLY RAKE FASTER OR BETTER YET PACE MYSELF AND HOPE FOR MORE SNOW.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

Super Crossword LONG IN THE PAST

ACROSS

1 Not quite direct, as a flight

8 Stallions, e.g.

14 Trees of Lebanon

20 Inhale and exhale

21 It's aimed at

22 Mountain ridge east of Jerusalem

23 Retail VIP conked on the head?

25 Words after "Frankly"

26 Like lemons

27 Furry friend

28 Hurts badly

30 Nutrition std.

31 Good for something

34 Group of five people drunk on sherry?

38 Not connected to the Internet

41 Covered the feet of

42 Rebuff rudely

43 Steinway with a wood finish?

45 1965 hit for the Yardbirds

49 Former Disney chief Michael

50 Klee's output

51 Wall St. debuts

54 Done in the manner of

55 "Cómo — usted?" (Sp. greeting)

56 Rte. with tolls

58 Shop that only sells filleted meat?

62 With 63-Across, what a sailor breathes in

63 See 62-Across

64 Vital blood lines

65 "Hasta —!" (Sp. sign-off)

66 Barnes & Noble that's too small for its flow of customers?

71 Owl's claw

73 Cleans with elbow grease

74 Stockholm's land: Abbr.

75 Orange tuber

78 Cash shown in film shots?

80 "Dies —" (Lat. hymn)

82 Utah lily

83 "Chances —..."

84 Old U.S. gas name

85 Major-league

86 Sups at home

88 Gives back

91 Sentry covered with smudges?

94 "Veni, vidi, —"

96 Uncovers

97 Somewhat

98 Critters using highway divisions?

102 English river

103 Siouan people

104 Pulitzer category

105 Years on end

106 "Baby Spice" Buntun

110 Opening play

112 Recalled events shared during a call?

118 Bully's final words

119 Alleviating

120 Yields

121 Jazz chords

122 Tristan's lady

123 Least happy

3 Jacob's brother

4 Blue-green algae variety

5 With 6-Down, source of element #50

6 See 5-Down

7 Hawked

8 All-male

9 Copper-hued

10 Special time

11 It has a yolk

12 Considered

13 Fine fiddle

14 Stalin's doctrine

15 Blissful place

16 Carried out

17 Turn away

18 Aptly named novelist Charles

19 Fender guitar, familiarly

24 Curly slapper

29 Mensa figs.

32 Spork prong

33 Lethargy

34 "Say again?"

35 Na+, for one

36 Prefix with noir

37 Nuggets' org.

38 S-curves

39 Bichon — (dog breed)

40 In dreamland

41 Royal title

44 Islamabad's land: Abbr.

46 Ogle

47 "Shake —!"

48 Large mil. alliance

51 Taken with

52 Apex

53 West Texas city

57 Spectrum producers

58 Hockey's Orr

59 Top Olympic medals, in Madrid

60 Hand lotion additive

61 Classic Karel Capek play

63 Secretary of education Duncan

64 Together, in music

67 Cargo unit

68 M.Sgt. and T.Sgt.

69 Cubic Rubik

70 Sing shrilly

71 Pre-World War I ruler

72 Back 40 unit

76 "It's —!" (delivery room cry)

77 Haut — (high society)

79 "I think, therefore I am" thinker

80 The lens is behind it

81 Pitcher Darling

82 Talked like Porky Pig

85 Skillets and woks

87 Opposed to, in the sticks

89 One of 17 in Monopoly: Abbr.

90 Like "oy vey"

91 Place to get a massage

92 Contact no.

93 Bread makers

95 Put — good word for

96 Siouan people

98 Access the Internet

99 Old arcade game maker

100 Baby shower rule, perhaps

101 JFK Library architect

102 Singer Jones

105 Periphery

107 Coal pit, e.g.

108 "Miracle" ball team

109 Secy., e.g.

111 Classic diner sandwich

113 Bear, in Peru

114 Nothing at all

115 Call a halt to

116 "— culpa"

117 Gray-headed

TRIVIA

1. TELEVISION: What famous politician did Alex P. Keaton idolize on the show "Family Ties"?
2. MUSIC: Which 1970s song featured the line, "Jeremiah was a bullfrog"?
3. LITERATURE: What literary figure had a loyal companion named Sancho Panza?
4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Iowa?
5. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are omnivores?
6. LANGUAGE: How many letters are in the Greek alphabet?
7. ANATOMY: How many pairs of ribs does a human body normally have?
8. HISTORY: In which year did the U.S. space shuttle first fly into orbit?
9. FOOD: What kind of food is mortadella?
11. GAMES: What is the movable device used in the game Ouija to spell out messages?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID's CORNER

Junior Whirl by Hal Kaufman

SANTA'S AMAZING GIFT LIST

THIS IS only a game, of course, but let's suppose that Santa will make available the gifts named below to anyone who finds them in this letter maze. How many can you puzzle out?

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

Pogs Books Ties Watch Ball Drum Belt Boat Knife

Paints Balloon Tenpins Camera Gloves Trumpet Skates Film Engine

Horse Pen Train Jacks Bat Oboe Gum Mug Sled

Connect adjacent letters horizontally, vertically or diagonally to spell names. Perhaps you can find others.

Wishing Well

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

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

YULETIDE RING! Will she or will she not get that Yuletide ring? Pick line 1, 2, 3, or 4 and trace it through.

BORN WINNER! Devilish Dan will wager that he was born in 1842. Take him up on his bet and you will discover it's a bet he can't lose. Why is that?

SUM NUMBER! Get out your calculator for this. It seems the prime number 37 has a rather unusual characteristic. Multiply it by 3 and the result is 111. Multiply it by 6 and the result is 222. Multiply it by 9 and the result is 333. Now then, multiply 37 by continuing step-ups of three: 12, 15, 18, 21, 24 and 27, and see if the three-digit pattern continues, or if there's a break in the spell. Just for fun, indeed, see what happens when you multiply by 30.

37

Wishing Well

Find at least 6 differences between panels.

Video Game Spotlight >>

Hitman: Absolution provides solid challenge

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.)

This fall there have been plenty of video games that reward gamers who like to “run and gun,” but what about gamers who prefer to take things a little slow? What if we’d rather play a game where it’s more important to be stealthy than have a big machine gun?

“Hitman: Absolution” makes that possible. It’s a game that rewards gamers for being silent, but deadly. In further contrast to the “Halo 4s” of the world, “Hitman Absolution” can be conquered by the best video game assassins without even firing a gun — almost.

That’s because this first-person game encourages creative kills. It’s much better to find and use something from the environment than to just put a bullet in the back of a target’s head. The more creative and sneaky a player is, the more points they will earn. “Hitman: Absolution” actually encourages gamers to use their imagination.

This game is the sequel to “Hitman: Blood Money,” a game that was released nearly seven years ago. The good news is “Blood Money” was a cult favorite and many of its fans will likely swoop in and pick up “Hitman: Absolution.” Everything has been improved for the 2012 model and there are plenty of new challenges. The



COURTESY SCREENSHOT

story isn’t anything new — Agent 47 is betrayed and the police are after him, etc. — but the 20 levels in the game are broken up nicely into stages. Some stages require trying to avoid enemies, while others might require multiple assassinations.

The story mode is too short, but the Contracts mode will keep gamers involved. It allows them to create their own custom hits within the game’s levels using a clever cre-

ate system. By mixing in different weapons, disguises and more, gamers can challenge their friends in each level to see who has the fastest time.

Definitely a game that requires a little more thought and a stomach for violence, “Hitman: Absolution” will be a lot of fun for gamers who like to have a plan of attack.

Reviewed on Xbox 360



Publisher
Square Enix
Rated
Mature
Systems
Multiple
Cost
\$50-60
Overall
3 out of 4

PIGSKIN PICKS



Louisville
vs. Rutgers

UCLA vs.
Stanford

Texas vs.
Kansas State

Oklahoma
vs. TCU

Alabama
vs. Georgia

Florida State
vs. Georgia Tech

Nebraska
vs. Wisconsin

 <div>David C. Agan Jr, <i>Fort Rucker Public Affairs</i> (56-35)</div>							
 <div>Kent Anger, <i>Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security</i> (62-29)</div>							
 <div>Benjamin Conner, <i>Directorate of Public Safety</i> (53-38)</div>							
 <div>Wes Hamilton, <i>Network Enterprise Center</i> (62-29)</div>							
 <div>Tish Williamson, <i>USAACE</i> (54-37)</div>							

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Super Crossword
Answers



TRIVIA

- Answers
- Richard Nixon
 - “Joy to the World,” by Three Dog Night
 - Don Quixote
 - Des Moines
 - Animals that eat meat and vegetables
 - 24
 - 12
 - 1981
 - Italian sausage
 - A planchette

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

SPORTS BRIEFS

Open-water diver course

Fort Rucker Aquatics hosts an open-water diver course Tuesdays and Wednesdays from Tuesday through Dec. 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.

Mistletoe 5K

The Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Facility hosts the annual Mistletoe 5k and 1 Mile Fun Run Dec. 8 from 9 –11 a.m. Registration on the day of the event will begin at 7:30 a.m. and end at 8:45 a.m. at the Fortenberry-Colton PFF. Participants are encouraged to pre-register for the event. The 1-mile fun run is free and open to all children. It will begin after the 5k is completed. Each fun run participant will receive a medal. Cost for the run is \$20 with a shirt until Saturday with shirt, \$25 with a shirt after Saturday, \$12 without a shirt and \$100 per team of eight.

For more, call 255-2296.

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