



ARMYFLIER

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SERVING THE U.S. ARMY AVIATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE AND THE FORT RUCKER COMMUNITY SINCE 1956

VOL. 61 ■ NO. 35

FORT RUCKER ★ ALABAMA

SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

NEWSLINES

BEST IN ARMY

DFMWR program manager
earns top honors.
See Page A3.

EAGLE SCOUT

Joshua Halverson earns
prestigious scouting title while
helping community.
See Page C1.

WORKFORCE BRIEF ON ARMY BUDGET

Maj. Gen. Anthony G.
Crutchfield, U.S. Army Aviation
Center of Excellence and Fort
Rucker commanding general,
hosts town halls today at 8 a.m.
and 3 p.m. at the post theater.
The general will speak on Fort
Rucker's status as it relates to
the Army's recent decision to
reduce its civilian workforce by
8,700 Armywide.

All post employees are
encouraged to attend either
session to get updated infor-
mation. There will also be a
question and answer session at
the briefing.

For more on this topic, see
the general's and garrison com-
mander's articles on Page A2,
and, of course, attend the town
hall meetings.

TRAINING RUN ROUTE

The physical training run
route that is normally closed
on weekdays during physical
training time will be closed
on from 5:30-7 a.m. Friday, a
day of no scheduled activity,
as well. The route includes the
four-way stop by Lyster on Fifth
Avenue down to Bldg. 5700. The
road will be blocked off at side
entrances by traffic cones.

Usually, the road is open dur-
ing DONSAs, but the Warrant
Officer Career College has a
physical fitness test scheduled
for that day. As always, use
caution when driving near
where Soldiers are training.

LOST AND FOUND

The Fort Rucker Directorate
of Public Safety reminds the
community that it operates a
lost and found section
to reunite people with lost
property. For more information,
call 255-2222, or stop by the
station located in Bldg. 5001 on
Lucky Star Road.

What's Inside

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Weather 3-DAY OUTLOOK

THURSDAY

High **96**
Low **69**
Partly cloudy



FRIDAY

High **97**
Low **68**
Partly cloudy



SATURDAY

High **98**
Low **71**
Partly
cloudy



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, USAACE and Fort Rucker commanding general, speaks to recent IERW graduates about "Army Basics" during a graduation ceremony Aug. 25 at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

CG urges Soldiers to remember 'basics'

BY RUSSELL SELLERS
Army Flier Staff Writer

Graduating Soldiers of the Initial Entry Rotary Wing Aviator Course received professional counsel from their Branch commander as they prepared to embark on their new career paths.

Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, was the guest speaker for the IERW graduation

ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum Aug. 25. He said it was not part of his usual duties, but he didn't want to miss this opportunity to talk to the new Aviators about what could be ahead for them.

"As you take this major step in your Aviation careers, I'm sure you have everyone and their mother trying to give you advice," Crutchfield said. "I am going to offer you some advice today that I hope you will take with you as you put Fort Rucker in your rearview mirror. Treat others the way

you want to be treated, never lie, cheat or steal, and always say your prayers."

Though these suggestions are "basics," he added, it never hurts to be reminded of these things people know, but sometimes forget.

Following that advice, the general added some "Army basics" to help the new Aviators in their burgeoning careers.

"Be loyal — always support your chain

SEE BASICS, PAGE A5

Suicide prevention campaign focuses on techniques, education

BY NANCY RASMUSSEN
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

Fort Rucker officials welcome the community to join local icon, Sgt. Ted E. Bear, by donning the designated color of yellow to show support of the Army's September observance of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

The Army Substance Abuse Program, the Chaplain's Office and the ACS Family Advocacy Program have teamed to

sponsor various educational events throughout the month to raise awareness about the causes of suicide and suicide prevention techniques through presentations and strategically placed displays, according to ASAP officials.

ASAP will also provide yellow ribbons to Soldiers, Family members and civilians. Units and organizations should call ASAP at 255-7509 to get ribbons.

"This year's campaign theme

is 'Shoulder to Shoulder—Building Resilience in the Army Family' and officially kicks off for Soldiers Sept. 7 at 6 a.m. on Howze Field. There Maj. Gen. Anthony Crutchfield, USAACE and Fort Rucker commanding general, will offer his comments on the importance of the program to the Fort Rucker community," said Traci Dunlap, ASAP clinical case

SEE PREVENTION, PAGE A5



COURTESY PHOTO

Sgt. Ted E. Bear has a message for the community during suicide prevention month.

Aviators help Army right-size uniforms, equipment

BY ERIN MURRAY
Army Flier Staff Writer

Over the next five weeks, 1,000 Fort Rucker Aviators will contribute their body measurements for the servicewide anthropometric survey known as ANSUR II, conducted by a team from Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center.

Lt. Col. Richard Hall, military liaison officer for Natick RDEC, said ANSUR II will "re-establish who is medium-regular," by adding National Guard, Aviators and female Soldiers to the "total Army concept."

"The Army Aviation Center of Excellence asked us to come here because Aviators have some unique requirements as far as size and height," he said.

These measurements vary due to Initial Entry Rotary Wing training body size requirements, legacy airframe envelopes and demographic differences due to education requirements and volunteer rates, Hall said.

Representatives from Natick will collect 94 standardized body measurements, and 3-D body, head, neck and foot scans from

SEE AVIATORS, PAGE A5



PHOTO BY ERIN MURRAY

A contractor with Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center, right, measures the distance between the eyes of CW1 Evan Snyder.

ARMYFLIER

COMMAND

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FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

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FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

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

Perspective

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD BY WRITING AN E-MAIL TO THE ARMY FLIER AT JHUGHES@ARMYFLIER.COM.

‘USAACE, Fort Rucker faring as well as can be expected’

BY MAJ. GEN. ANTHONY G. CRUTCHFIELD
*USAACE and Fort Rucker
Commanding General*

We are in a very constrained fiscal environment right now. And I know that what's on your mind as well as mine is the impact to civilian employees across the Army and, more importantly, Fort Rucker in the near future.

As you have probably heard by now, the Army is making some tough decisions (due to lower funding levels per the Secretary of Defense and President's budget). One of those decisions is to reduce the civilian workforce by more than 8,700 civilians across the Army by the end of September 2012. Those reductions will start soon.

This will impact about 30 Army commands and agencies. The commands that will be hit the hardest are Installation Management Command, Training and Doctrine Command, Army Materiel Command, and Headquarters, Department of the Army; they will feel the weight of about 80 percent of this. These commands have about a month to come up with plans



Crutchfield

for how their personnel reductions will pan out.

The Army will focus on voluntary departures as much as possible, and there are programs and assistance plans in place to help with the transition for civilians who will be impacted by personnel reductions. Those who can take early retirement may be given incentives to do so. Folks who can be retrained and suited for other positions will do that wherever possible.

About the best I can tell you, as for how this hits us close to home, is that at this time

USAACE and Fort Rucker are faring as well as can be expected. At this time we will not see a reduction in force.

As you know, the demands for us here at the home of Army Aviation are growing. Even as Army begins to withdraw troop presence on the battlefield, the demand for Army Aviation grows stronger. We're training more with less already. Cost culture is a mindset I challenged the Branch to focus on from the time I took command here a year ago.

I'll say it again, nothing is more important than how we train and sustain the flow of highly qualified Aviation professionals to rapidly meet the demands of commanders worldwide and expertly employ the full spectrum capabilities Aviation brings to the Army and Joint Force. This is what we are all about. We must keep doing what we do every day to provide the most highly trained Aviation force to the warfight.

I've challenged all of us from day one to be a team. That doesn't just apply to the work we do together. In the future, whether hard times impact you

or your neighbor, I want all of us to do this: look around to your teammates and see who needs your help, who needs a little uplifting, and do that simple act that is within your means to do. We can't be asked to do anything more in this life than what we have in our power to do. Let's not lose sight of the Army values, those higher values that undergird us, and that includes the value of each other.

I'm grateful for the continuity you provide, your skills and knowledge. I know that showing up here at Fort Rucker every day for you is something more than a day job; I've seen it. I know many of you were prior military, or you have a spouse or Family member who serve or have served, so you're invested in the business of service to country.

Though some of you may have never worn uniform, I've seen you serve like the best Soldiers the Army has to offer. I want you to know I am committed, as is our team, to keeping everyone informed, and I want to say thank you for what you do each and every day.

Above the best!

Garrison remains committed to Soldiers, Families, workforce

BY COL. JAMES A. MUSKOPF
Fort Rucker Garrison Commander

A few weeks ago, the Army announced the need to make our Army smaller due to a challenging budget environment. While Fort Rucker is faring pretty well, we, too, will have to tighten our fiscal belts here.

The Army has been given hard targets to reduce its civilian workforce by the end of fiscal year 2012 with new staffing levels that will begin in fiscal year 2013.

This means tough choices are being made, but we are making them in a thoughtful and deliberate manner that best supports the Army's mission, and the needs of those who live and work on Fort Rucker.

I want to assure you that we are committed to manning and sustaining our services here with the resources we are given, and in a way that makes it smarter, better and more capable.

We will support all of our customers with the same professionalism and positive attitudes that we've had for the past 10



Muskopf

years of war. We owe that to our Soldiers who have been in a constant deployment cycle for 10 years, their Families that have endured their Soldier being deployed for 10 years and the workforce who has tirelessly supported both during that time.

We must continue to retain and manage the talent within the force.

The challenges of the future will require Army leaders to obtain a diversity of experience along with the adaptability to solve complex problems by

looking at them through new perspectives.

Army commands, to include Installation Management Command and the garrisons across the globe, are currently taking action to reduce civilian on-board strength to meet funded targets established by the Secretary of Defense and reflected in the President's budget.

The Army's FY 13-17 Program Objective Memorandum reflects the decisions made to achieve these targets. Accordingly, commands and agencies will begin immediately to take the necessary steps to reduce their net civilian employee on-board strength ("faces") to the funded civilian authorization ("spaces") level.

The Army's civilian reductions will be accomplished as rapidly as possible, but no later than Sept. 30, 2012, and in compliance with regulations governing employee notice periods and entitlements.

What does that mean to you and Fort Rucker? First, to the maximum extent practicable, we will rely on voluntary departures to achieve the personnel



reductions. I have asked all the garrison directors to be responsible for shaping their workforce within their allocated budget and they are doing just that.

Other things that we have the ability to use are hiring freeze, reassignments, Voluntary Early Retirement Authority, Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay, and reduction in force, although currently a RIF is not being considered locally.

And, of course, we will do what is necessary to ensure labor relations and collective bargaining obligations are fulfilled in accomplishing these reductions.


I want all of you to know that we and the Army understand the impact of our decisions on our workforce. Along with the great support of Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, we will work hard to keep you informed and updated every step of the way.

Each and every one of you is an important part of the team and together we will get through this. Thank you for your dedication to Fort Rucker and our Army.




Rotor Wash

“What are your concerns, if you have any, on the Army’s shrinking budget?”




Elsa Hodges,
military spouse

“The way that money is being spent on unnecessary things.”




Mary King,
military spouse

“I want my husband’s benefits to stay the same.”



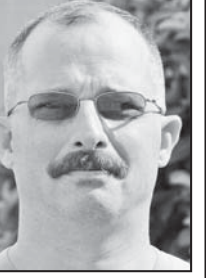
CW4 Lenny Irwin,
USACRC

“The effect on Soldier readiness.”



WO1 Alphonso White,
1st Bde.

“Promotions and benefits.”



Mark Hodges,
retired military

“It’s upsetting that they can’t handle our finances. I want to keep my benefits.”

AER implements changes

BY ERIN MURRAY
Army Flier Staff Writer

Army Emergency Relief is a private, non-profit organization that provides emergency financial assistance to active duty Soldiers, retirees, Family members, survivors, National Guard and Reserve.

Recently, a few changes have been enacted in order to provide greater flexibility for Soldiers and Families in need, said Mimi Brooks, AER Relief Officer.

Primarily, the changes in AER policy pertain to how assistance is distributed and the amount of time allowed for repayment of certain loans. One such loan is the Commander's Referral Program loan, which according to AER reports, represents approximately 29 percent of all AER assistance cases Army-wide.

As of Aug. 1, the loan's maximum amount of assistance has been raised to \$1,500 in order



to accommodate the changing financial needs of Soldiers.

"When the program began in 2005, the maximum amount of assistance was established at \$1,000. This amount was determined based upon the average

loan being around \$850. Today, the average AER assistance exceeds \$1,000," said Brooks.

The length of time allotted to repay the Commander's Referral Program loan has been extended from 12 to 15 months

in to provide an even more "reasonable monthly payment amount," she added.

Beginning today, some applications for AER assistance will also see changes. Applicants holding a rank at or above master sergeant, chief warrant officer 3, or captain will no longer be required to have their company commander or first sergeant's signatures when seeking assistance.

"AER recognizes that by virtue of a Soldier's ranks, there are certain actions they can accomplish on the installation without having their company commander or first sergeant's signatures. This change has been implemented to stay in line with this concept," said Brooks.

Also, calls to AER placed after business hours, or on weekends and holidays, will now be routed to the American Red Cross military call center. Red Cross representatives will be able to assist with emergency

leave situations and privation issues after hours. All other requests for assistance will still be provided by AER during normal operating hours, said Brooks, adding that the American Red Cross works under a partnership agreement with AER that allows for this opportunity.

"The American Red Cross has a long history of providing service to members of America's military and their families during conflicts, peacekeeping and humanitarian operations. This will benefit Fort Rucker AER efforts to provide applicants assistance electronically due to time constraints after duty hours," she said.

Even with these new regulations, the AER's mission to "help the Army take care of its own" remains unchanged.

For more information on AER, call 255-2341 or visit Bldg. 5700 Rm. 390. After hours calls can be made to the American Red Cross at (877) 272-7337.

DFMWR program manager wins IMCEA award

BY RUSSELL SELLERS
Army Flier Staff Writer

Turning around a failing program is no easy task, but The Landing Zone's Bingo Program manager did just that and received recognition for it.

Vicky Tonn has come a long way since she started working at The Landing two years ago, said Frank Zerbinos, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation business operations officer. Winning the International Military Community Executive Association Rubenstein Award is proof of that.

"She has just excelled in leading a program that was faltering here," Zerbinos said. "It was no longer the source of revenue that we had seen previously. (Vicky) came on originally as an operations assistant. Our (program) manager at that time went on maternity leave and I asked Vicky if she could step in at that point. For a young professional to be challenged with something as big as (that program), it was a big undertaking. She's worked hard and persevered."

Zerbinos said Bingo customers are a different type of customer than Tonn might have been used to dealing with, being younger than the typical player.

However, she put a series of controls in place to keep the flow of money tracked properly and successfully introduced new machines into the fold that, at first, customers didn't take to, but now love.

"This is the first time they've awarded the Rubenstein Award," he added. "They've given out management awards for a



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Vicky Tonn, The Landing Zone Bingo Program manager, center, poses with supervisors, Stephen Peacock, The Landing business manager, and Frank Zerbinos DFMWR business operations officer. Tonn was recently awarded the IMCEA Rubenstein Award for new managers.

long time, but this is the first time they've awarded a 'rookie manager' award."

The award is presented to the top manager across the Army who has been in management for less than two years, Tonn said. She added that getting the award came as a surprise

to her.

"I was very honored to get the nomination," she said. "It was humbling to know I had the support of my supervisors. I was so surprised. I was up against a lot of people and I'm just a newbie here."

Stephen Peacock, The

Landing business manager, said he knew early on that Tonn was the right person for the job and that she would be perfect for the award.

"I knew from day one that she puts her heart and soul into everything," he said. "I knew she'd be great.

She has high standards that she holds herself to and I knew she'd hold others to it as well."

Tonn said the program had undergone some location changes that were presenting many difficult challenges for The Landing Zone.

"At first, the program was inside The Landing Zone along with (other) operations, but it became so popular that both couldn't fit in here," she said. "It wound up being moved to The Cobra Lounge and that has worked out much better."

Army accepts voluntary branch transfers

BY 1ST LT. DESIREE PAVLICK
U.S. Army Human Resources Command

FORT KNOX, Ky. — The department of the Army is seeking applications, until Sept. 9, from all eligible officers for all branches and functional areas through the Voluntary Transfer Incentive Program, or VTIP.

This program is the primary means of balancing branches and functional areas within the Army.

Because it is better able to take into consideration special skills not in an officer's performance file, VTIP has suspended the use of the traditional Functional Designation Board. The application process gives officers the opportunity to advertise themselves and vie for the branch or functional area of their own choosing.

"This program has shown to be mutually beneficial to the Army and the individual officer. It boosts retention and

affords the officer choices in their career," said Lt. Col. Dameion Logan of the Leadership Development Division under the Officer Personnel Management Directorate.

When officers apply and are chosen for their preferred reassignments, they sign a contract for an additional active-duty service obligation of three years.

Officers in year groups 1997 through 2008 are eligible for the program. Currently, the VTIP board is urging officers in the year group 2004 to submit packets for this board or for next quarter's board. By self-identifying, the year group can "right-size" itself and eliminate the need for a Functional Designation Board.

The Army is especially interested in qualified individuals to operate in the following functional areas: fields: electronic warfare, information operations, operations research/systems analysis, force management, and simulation operations.

The board will convene Oct. 11-13. Results are expected by the end of October. Historically, the board meets quarterly and the process takes three months from start to finish.

"Through VTIP, the Army has been able to exercise talent management and give officers hope," said Bob Peterson, of the Leadership Development Division. "This program provides hope for officers who are possibly unhappy with their current career. They have the ability to get into a career field of their choice rather than just get out of the Army."

Like any program, VTIP has continued to grow and hit milestones. The program is dynamic in nature and is adjusted every board in order to fill the needs of the Army and balance expectation management.

"We are seeing more and more balancing across branches and functional areas, which means branches and func-

tional areas are better able to lose and gain officers to and from other areas. This creates opportunity for those applying for transfer," Peterson said.

Also, VTIP has expanded to look at 11-year groups. The board is accepting applications from first lieutenant promotable to officers with 14 years of service.

Once received, applications are vetted through the losing branch and gaining branch. Along the way, subject-matter experts within each field are better able to gauge if the applicant is well-suited for the change. The end state is to place a qualified officer into the right fit and avert them from risk (of not being promoted or progressing with peers).

For more information on VTIP, refer to MILPER Message 11-227 4th QTR, FY 2011 Voluntary Transfer Incentive Program or view the MILPER at: <https://perscomnd04.army.mil/milpermsgns.nsf/>.

Opportunity Knocks

>>Employment Forum<<

The Department of the Army has the following vacancies. For announcements and application information, call 255-9015 or visit www.armycivilianservice.com

INTERNAL	Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Dothan)
Electrical Engineer GS-0850-12 SCEG11860840R Closing Date: Sept. 1	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS04D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Enterprise)
Safety and Occupational Health Specialist GS-0018-12 SCEG11265367 Closing Date: Sept. 1	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS05D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Gadsden)
IT Specialist (INFOSEC) GS-2210-11 SCEG11264531 Closing Date: Sept. 6	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS06D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Jasper)
Memorial Affairs Coordinator GS-0301-09 SCEG11271192 Closing Date: Sept. 6 (TERM NTE 36 MTHS)	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS07D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Mobile)
Safety and Occupational Health Specialist GS-0018-12 SCEG11265367 Closing Date: Sept. 6	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS08D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Northport)
General Engineer GS-0801-12 SCEG11178778R Closing Date: Sept. 8	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS09D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Opelika)
Logistics Management Specialist GS-0346-09 SCEG11265032 Closing Date: Sept. 9	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS10D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Oxford)
Lead Resource Management Analyst GS-0501-23 SCEG11272425 Closing Date: Sept. 9	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS11D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Crestview, Fla.)
Contract Administrator GS-1102-12 SCEG11285301 Closing Date: Sept. 9	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS12D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Panama City, Fla.)
EXTERNAL	
Electrical Engineer GS-0850-12 SCEG11860840DR Closing Date: Sept. 1	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS13D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Crestview, Fla.)
IT Specialist (INFOSEC) GS-2210-11 SCEG11264531D Closing Date: Sept. 6	Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS12D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Pensacola, Fla.)
OPEN CONTINUOUS	
Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS01D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Birmingham)	Helicopter Flight Instructor GS-2181-13 SCEG11849767 Closing Date: Dec. 31
Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS02D Closing Date: Sept. 30 (DUTY LOC: Demopolis)	Helicopter Flight Instructor GS-2181-13 SCEG11912814 Closing Date: Dec. 31
Test Administrator GS-0303-04 SCEG11MEPS03D Closing Date:	

New capabilities enhance Guard response to Hurricane Irene

BY STAFF SGT. JIM GREENHILL
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. — About 7,675 National Guard troops from 18 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico responded over the weekend to civil authorities tackling Hurricane Irene and its aftermath. Three capabilities enhanced the National Guard's contribution: the new National Guard Coordination Center, dual-status commanders and the deployment of strategically placed force packages ahead of the storm.

The National Guard Bureau's new 24-hour, 365-day coordination center in Arlington boosted coordination and communication between the Army and Air National Guard and local, state and federal partners, Guard officials said.

The appointment of dual-status commanders to lead state National Guard and federal forces sped up response, and the deployment of strategically-placed force packages increased readiness, officials said.

The NGCC, dual-status commanders and pre-placed force packages are relatively new capabilities born from lessons learned from past natural and man-made disasters. What individual Guard members were doing on the ground and in the air contributing to the whole-of-government response came from the almost 375-year-old tradition born when New England farmers set down their plows and picked up their muskets before independence.

According to NGCC reports:

- Guard members cleared debris and performed high-water search and rescue missions in Connecticut. They helped transportation officials control traffic in the District of Columbia. They handed out cots and supplies in Delaware. They flew helicopters from Alaska, Florida, Mississippi, New Mexico and Ohio to standby in the affected region for search and rescue, damage assessment, transportation or other missions.
- Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen provided command and control support in Maine; filled sandbags and assessed damage in Massachusetts; performed search and res-



PHOTO BY MAJ. RICK BREITENFELDT

Maryland National Guard Soldiers cross a flooded area in Salisbury, Md., Sunday, as they provide support to civilian law-enforcement and firefighting agencies following Hurricane Irene.

cue, and provided security and transportation in North Carolina; and provided shelter in New Jersey.

- The National Guard provided maritime transportation to the islands of Vieques and Culebra in Puerto Rico; they supported communications in Rhode Island; they provided engineers to local authorities in Virginia.

- Throughout the Eastern Seaboard, Guard members helped neighbors hit by Irene — such as the 129 New York Guard members sent in speed boats to help rescue 21 people stranded by floodwaters in an upstate New York hotel Sunday afternoon. About 101,000 Guard members were available in the affected region, the Department of Defense reported, and the NGCC worked with the states and other federal agencies to ensure the right numbers reached the right places at the right time. "As Irene approached the United States, our NGCC was coordinating with the states, territories and the District of Columbia; the Federal Emergency Management Agency and U.S. Northern Command to ensure the most effective National Guard support to civil authorities and enable us to bring the full benefit of our size, skills, training, experience, command and communications infrastructure and legal flexibility to the whole-of-government response to the storm," said Air Force Gen. Craig McKinley, the chief of the National Guard Bureau.

"Hurricane Irene demonstrated the vital importance of our new National Guard Coordination Center, which enables us to work seamlessly with our state and federal partners at the first warning of potential disaster," he said. Among assets coordinated and monitored by the NGCC were force packages that allow Guard officials to strategically position assets to respond to any additional needs states may have. One example: In Eastover, S.C., the Guard stood up an aerial force package of 17 aircraft — including CH-47 Chinooks, UH-60 Black Hawks, UH-72 Lakotas, OH-58 Kiowas and C-27 Spartans — with about 100 Guard members. "Assembling and pre-staging ground and air force packages — drawn from Army and Air National Guard assets contributed by multiple states — in strategic locations out of harm's way but near potentially affected areas meant the National Guard stood ready to respond faster than ever to civil authorities' critical needs that might arise in the storm's aftermath," McKinley said. Finally, the appointment of four dual-status commanders in support of relief efforts, reported by the Defense Department marked the first time the dual-commander concept had been so widely implemented in support of a natural disaster.

According to the Defense Department:

- When agreed upon by the secretary of Defense and the governor of an affected state, dual-status

commanders can direct both federal active-duty forces and state National Guard forces in response to domestic incidents. The concept is intended to foster greater cooperation among federal and state assets during a disaster.

- The nation's governors led the creation of this new opportunity for collaboration.
- Dual-status commanders ensure that state and federal military forces will work effectively together when states request federal forces through the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"This storm also demonstrated how dual-status combatant commanders who can direct both state National Guard and federal forces in response to domestic incidents increases collaboration, communication and coordination between federal and state assets, improves leadership, avoids duplication of effort and enhances the team response," McKinley said.

In March, the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security and the bipartisan 10-member Council of Governors adopted the "Joint Action Plan for Unity of Effort," strengthening support to governors when they request military assistance for disaster response.

"Monitoring our response to Irene, I have been deeply proud of the sacrifices of our citizen-Soldiers and Airmen, more than 7,000 of whom once again set aside their civilian lives and took on their military roles at a moment's notice to help their neighbors and communities, with tens of thousands more at the ready if needed," McKinley said.



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To apply, contact a local CID office today, or go to www.cid.army.mil for additional information.

APPLE VERSION OF ATN2GO ARMY TRAINING APP REQUIRES NEW DOWNLOAD

FORT LEAVENWORTH, Kan. — The Apple version of the U.S. Army's popular Army Training Network 2GO, or ATN2GO, training app expired Aug. 25. Apple users will need to download and install the updated software, which is available from the Army Training Network.

While the Army Training Network originally was created as a resource for Army trainers and educators, it's developed into a centralized location for training management tools, videos and models, manuals and other training tools that Soldiers, commanders and others across the Army can use. And new content is being added every day — both by the Army and by individual trainers.

To learn more about the Combined Arms Center-Training, visit <http://usacac.army.mil/cac2/cac-t/>, www.facebook.com/usacactraining or www.twitter.com/usacactraining.

MEDICAL INITIATIVE TO SAVE ESTIMATED \$254 MILLION

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — A new initiative Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support Medical is participating in could realize \$254.1 million in savings to customers over five years, while improving support to warfighters.

Nancy Richardson, of the DLA Troop Support Medical forward cell at Fort Detrick, Md., leads a joint working group that includes representatives from DLA, each of the services' medical logistics field agencies and commands, and the Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support program office. The group is sponsored by the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Richardson said the initiative focuses on the Department of Defense substantially reducing the costs of medical material by educating customers on the best sourcing options and providing the business intelligence tools to help them make the best decisions.

The initiative identifies the extent and cause of DOD customers purchasing medical material from sub-optimal and expensive sources like local vendors or credit card buys and redirects sales to optimal e-commerce sources like prime vendor or electronic catalog.

Eyes in the sky



PHOTO BY SPC. TOBEY WHITE

"Shadow," an unmanned aircraft system, launches at FOB Sharana in Afghanistan, Aug. 26, by BCo., STB, 3rd BCT, 1st Inf. Div., TF Duke. The Shadow offers commanders intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities.

UAS team supports TF Duke operations

BY SPC. TOBEY WHITE

3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division

KHOWST PROVINCE, Afghanistan — "We have reports of the Afghan National Army sitting on an improvised explosive device at this location," says a voice over the radio in a cramped control shelter Aug. 25. "Can you give me an ETA?"

"Roger," replies one of the unmanned aircraft system, or UAS, operators listening in. "We're 22 kilometers out. It'll be 10 mikes."

That conversation wouldn't be out of place in a fast-paced spy thriller. But for the UAS Platoon of B Company, Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Task Force Duke, a conversation such as this, between UAS operators and their

SEE EYES, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ERIC HARRIS

VIBRANT RESPONSE

Soldiers from the 7th Bn., 158th Avn. Regt., secure a UH-60 Black Hawk using tie-down straps during Exercise Vibrant Response at Camp Atterbury, Ind., recently. Vibrant Response is the largest chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear response exercise designed to prepare expeditionary units focused on responding to domestic CBRN incidents.

TF Guns descends on Afghanistan

BY STAFF SGT. JOE ARMAS
Press Release

CAMP KUNDUZ, Afghanistan — They started from scratch. Arriving at Camp Kunduz in mid May, Soldiers from Task Force Guns, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, had their work cut out for them.

The Soldiers were tasked to convert an area of operations that was suited for a small platoon-sized element into one in which a battalion-sized element could thrive in.

"We anticipated austere conditions prior to getting out here, and austere conditions are exactly what we found," said Lt. Col. Jeff White, commander, TF Guns, 1st ACB, originally from Boston.

Despite the challenging conditions and lack of amenities, Task Force Guns hit the ground running. The task force assumed responsibility for its combat mission almost immediately after touching ground, providing ground elements with air weapon teams, air medical evacuation



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. JOE ARMAS

One UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter assigned to the 1st ACB, 1st Cav. Div., lands at Camp Kunduz, Afghanistan, as another Black Hawk prepares to touch down, Aug. 1.

and air assault capabilities.

The command placed key emphasis, White said, on establishing sound relationships and a high level of trust and confidence with the ground forces, recognizing that supporting those forces is TF Guns' primary

objective in Regional Command North.

The demand for that support is constant in Kunduz. Day and night, seven days a week, TF Guns' aircraft take to the skies, providing air assets wherever needed.

Moreover, building up the area of operations and sustaining combat operations simultaneously has proven to be quite the balancing act, added White.

The brigade commander,

SEE GUNS, PAGE B4

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OPELIKA-AUBURN NEWS

Eyes: System leads ground troops to targets

Continued from Page B1

crew chief, happens on a regular basis at Forward Operating Base Sharana.

The UAS Shadow is a remotely controlled aircraft with a camera attached that provides commanders with reconnaissance and surveillance without putting any Soldiers in harm's way, said CW2 Percell Hunter, the UAS platoon leader for B Co., STB.

In addition to its reconnaissance capabilities, the system can also point out targets to ground troops with a laser, and carry a communications relay package that allows two groups who are out of line-of-sight of each other to communicate, an ability of great importance in the mountains of eastern Afghanistan, where TF Duke is operating. It does this by flying between the two groups and bouncing the transmission from the first group to the Shadow to the other group, Hunter said.

"It (also) gives commanders a chance to see what they normally can't," said Staff Sgt. Michael Mikrut, the UAS platoon sergeant. "The UAS Shadow provides them with a situational awareness they would not normally have."

Being part of the UAS crew means having to juggle a lot of different tasks. For that reason, operators have to be able to multitask, explained Sgt. Alex Keehn, a UAS operator with the Brigade STB, 1st Bde., 34th Inf. Div. of the Minnesota National Guard.

"There is so much you have to be aware of when you fly a UAS," Keehn said. "You have to be aware of wind speed, temperature, humidity and other aircraft in the area."

Keehn's unit deployed in July to augment the TF Duke UAS team, he said.

Communication plays a big part in the completion of successful UAS missions, said Sgt. Bill Parris, a UAS maintainer with B Co., STB.



PHOTO BY SPC. TOBEY WHITE

Pfc. Brandon McElhinney, an unmanned aircraft systems maintainer with B Co., STB, 3rd BCT, 1st Inf. Div., TF Duke, repairs a rudder on a "Shadow," a UAS, before a launch at FOB Sharana in Afghanistan Aug. 24.

UAS maintainers are responsible for performing maintenance and pre-flight checks on the aircraft, and help the operators when the UAS is airborne.

"You have to have situational awareness of air traffic or changes in wind speed because the UAS operators can't see everything," he explained.

For Parris, the conversation between operator and maintainer is like a ping pong game.

With helicopters and other aircraft using the same air space, the maintainer-operator conversation isn't the only important one, said Mikrut.

"There are a lot of airspace communications," Mikrut said. "Sometimes the air-space you are flying in gets taken away

because another aircraft needs it more. You have to be quick to respond in those situations."

To prepare for deployment, the UAS team undertook several flight operations training exercises, Hunter said. In these operations they endeavored to prepare their maintainers, who work on the aircraft, and operators, who fly the aircraft, to do their job without needing someone looking over their shoulder.

The training they received at their home-base of Fort Knox has benefited them in Afghanistan, Parris said. However, they have received several new Soldiers, since arriving in country, who did not have the chance to train with the unit.

"It's kind of a trial by fire (when new

Soldiers arrive during deployment.)" Parris said. "They just have to get in there and do it. While deployed they have plenty of opportunity to train and learn their job."

The environment of eastern Afghanistan has many differences compared to Fort Knox that the crew has to be aware of when flying, Mikrut said. For starters, they are at an altitude of 7,300 feet and the air density is different than it would be at sea level, or even Fort Knox. This makes take-offs and landings more complicated.

Being aware of these differences is important and knowing what to do in any conditions can mean the difference between landing a bird safely or losing it, Mikrut said.

Guns: Soldiers attack difficult mission with positive attitude

Continued from Page B1

Col. John Novalis, credits the task force's motivated Soldiers and engaged leadership with taking initiative and going above and beyond their normal duties to continuously support the combat mission and work to improve living and working conditions at the same time.

The hard work is paying off, as improvements in force protection and living conditions are becoming more evident each and every day, added White.

Furthermore, TF Guns Soldiers are not only contributing to the overall mission success of RC North. Troopers from the task force can also be found flying over the skies of Regional Command South.

Guns' element in the south is current-

ly attached to the 159th Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

White touched on what Guns' element in the south has accomplished so far.

"Our team in the south is primarily supporting special operations forces and has already executed a considerable amount of successful combat missions to this point," said White.

Finally, a recurring theme from both commanders is that the mentality and demeanor of the Soldiers from TF Guns have been key elements to the overall success of the task force in Afghanistan.

"The Soldiers (from TF Guns) attacked their difficult mission from the beginning with a positive attitude, passion and discipline that has exceeded my expectations," said Novalis.

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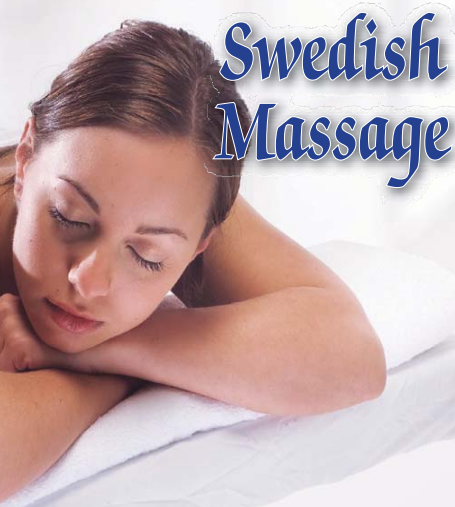


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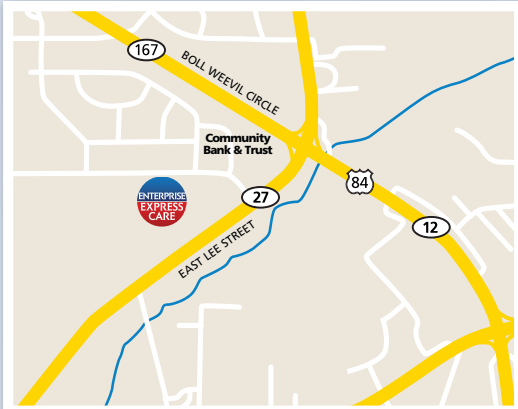
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Story on Page C3

COMMUNITY

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ARMYFLIER★COM

SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

STRESS

Workshop helps Soldiers, Families cope with stressors

BY ERIN MURRAY
Army Flier Staff Writer

Army Community Service's Family Advocacy Program staff wants to help the people of Fort Rucker identify, treat and prevent stress at its quarterly stress management workshop Tuesday from 9-11 a.m. at the Early Childhood Activity Center.

Whether it's caused by work, financial concerns or other triggers, uncontrolled stress can produce many physical and emotional effects that FAP's workshop will aim to prevent, said Twanna Johnson, who conducts the quarterly workshop.

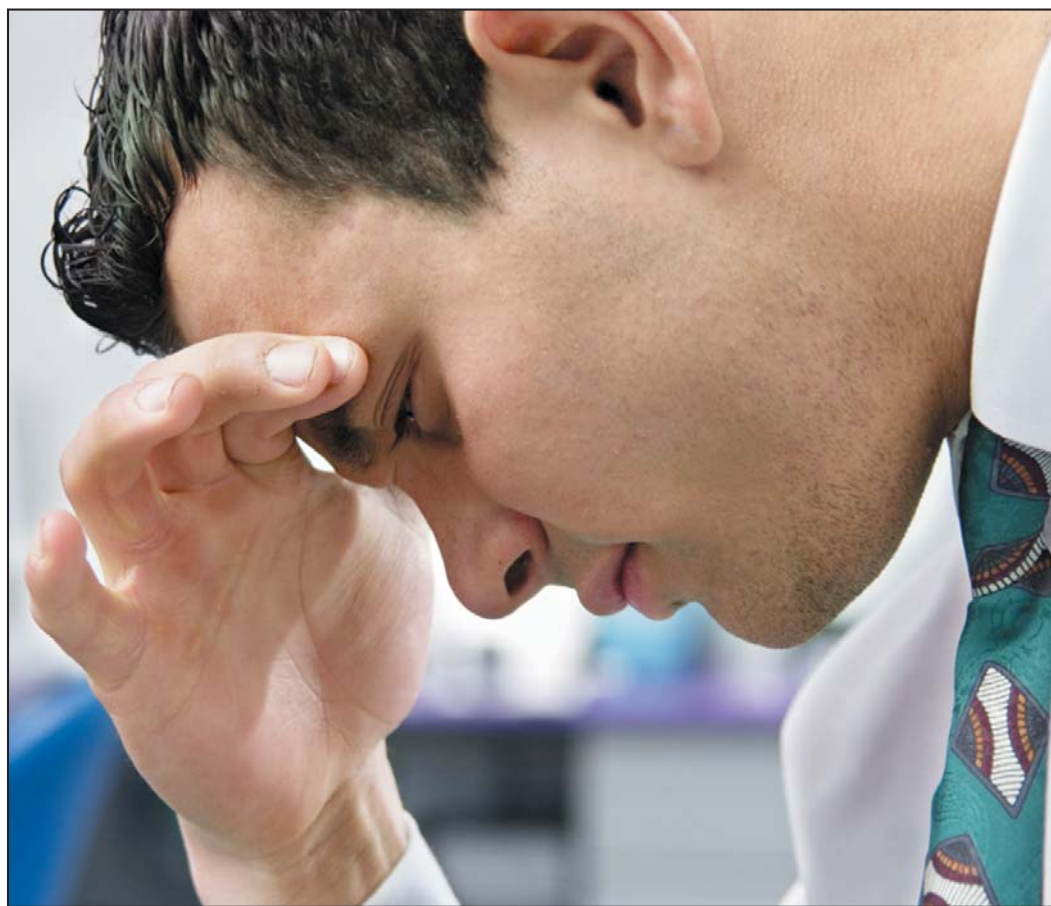
She added that having the workshop over the course of several hours allows her to get to know the class and help develop personal stress management plans for each person. "By planning for the situations that can happen, you can reduce the stress," she said.

If stress is not handled properly, people can suffer side effects ranging from high blood pressure to cold and flu symptoms. Stress can even turn into depression or exacerbate seemingly unrelated health problems, said Johnson.

The workshop will outline the many causes of stress, paying close attention to the unique stressors that exist in the military lifestyle. She explained that many things can cause stress on every member of a military Family, especially money troubles and multiple deployments.

"With the economy, financial stress is way high," said Johnson, who acknowledged that deployments can often add to the financial burden.

For those who cannot attend or want to begin relieving their stress today, Johnson offers a few tips.



COURTESY PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

First, identify the cause of stress. Then, develop a plan of action for managing it.

"Set a goal, get a plan of action for it and have a target date — take control of your life," she said.

Johnson also emphasized the importance of exercise and meditation, explaining that everyone has to find what fits their lifestyle. When prevention techniques are not enough, Johnson can offer referrals to other Fort Rucker services.

"We have so many programs that can help Families dealing with stress. This is a friendly environment, where we want you to seek services," said Johnson.

Johnson encourages anyone who is interested to find out how they can attend this workshop or host their own stress management class.

For more information or to register for the stress management workshop, call 255-3898.

Eagle Scout helps Fort Rucker community

BY ERIN MURRAY
Army Flier Staff Writer

Joshua Halverson is described as trustworthy, helpful and determined, just a few of the qualities that are necessary to reach the Boy Scouts of America's Eagle Scout rank.

With the help of his Family, troop and the Fort Rucker community, Halverson reached Eagle rank and was recognized Sunday at a court of honor at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

Mitch Darley, Halverson's mentor in the Scouts, explained that along with earning 21 merit badges and being evaluated by a board of review, Halverson was required to plan and supervise an Eagle Scout project.

For his project, Halverson built shelves for the Fort Rucker Thrift Shop using pieces of shelves left over from the post library's renovation. He also helped clean and organize two of the thrift shop's storage spaces.

Halverson and his team spent 196 hours completing the project. The shelves he constructed are now used for the displays at the thrift shop's new location.

Halverson became involved with scouting as a young child when his Family was stationed in Germany. His father, Lt. Col. Scott Halverson, 1st Battalion 14th Aviation Regiment, achieved the rank of Life Scout during his scouting career; one



PHOTO BY ERIN MURRAY

Joshua Halverson, standing in front of the podium, joins the ranks of fellow Eagle Scouts by reciting the Eagle Scout oath at his court of honor Sunday.

step below the rare Eagle rank. He was proud to see Joshua not only follow in his footsteps, but go beyond.

"He's really had the spirit of scouting ever since he joined," he said.

The elder Halverson explained that one benefit of scouting is the many parallels between scouting and the military lifestyle.

"When I was growing up, I didn't

know what military values were, but I lived them anyway because I was a Scout," he said.

Karyn Halverson, Joshua's mother, is also proud of her son's achievements, explaining that his determination from a young age was what helped him climb the scouting ranks.

"It's been a team, but Joshua's been the motivator. We always say he's tenacious.

He doesn't give up if he wants something done. He's so excited about scouting. We're really proud of him and who he is," she said.

Joshua was eager to say that he did not earn Eagle Scout status alone. He thanked his fellow Scouts, volunteers, counselors and Family in his remarks at the ceremony.

This achievement, said Joshua, is just the beginning of a lifelong experience.

"I've worked hard for this, but I feel like I can still keep going. In scouting, there really isn't a highest point. It's all about leadership and trying to teach the younger kids. I want to be a leader," he said.

After he finishes high school, Joshua hopes to study nuclear physics, a field he became passionate about after pursuing a physics merit badge for his Eagle rank.

"I realized that was something I was interested in. I'm hoping I could get a job at the CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research) particle accelerator [or] maybe get a contract with the military," said Joshua.

Brian Jenne, Joshua's church leader and fellow Eagle Scout, explained how Joshua had earned the honor in a speech at the court of honor.

"Being an Eagle Scout means he shows great character. He's honest, trustworthy, and loyal to his God and his country. He's courageous. He's cheerful. I'm grateful for Josh and for his efforts."

On Post

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO FORT RUCKER EVENTS , SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Lost and found

The Fort Rucker Directorate of Public Safety reminds the community that it operates a lost and found section to reunite people with lost property. People who've recently lost or had items taken on post should contact the Community Police Station at 255-2222, or stop by the station located in Bldg. 5001 on Luck Star Road, to see if the item is at the lost and found.

The lost and found section currently has items such as bikes and jewelry that need to be returned to their owners.

DEADLINE
for **On Post**
is noon Thursday
for the following
week's edition.
E-mail submissions
to Jim Hughes at
jhughes@armyflyer.com.

press' dining area is closed because of renovations to the Fort Rucker Mini Mall Express.

Store hours will remain the same, but patrons will have to make their orders to go. Customers are welcome to dine in the newly renovated Burger King at Bldg. 4300.

Resilience Training

Army Community Service staff hosts resilience training today from 5-8 p.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950.

The workshop is designed to help service members and their families learn how to not just bounce back from life's challenges, but learn to thrive.

For more information, call 255-3643 or 255-3735.

Becoming a Love and Logic Parent Workshop

Army Community Service's Family Advocacy Program's Becoming a Love and Logic Parent classes are Thursdays now through Sept. 15 from 9-11 a.m. at the Early Childhood Activity Center.

Topics include raising responsible children, instilling values, problem solving and using natural consequences as a discipline technique. This workshop is a seven part series.

Participants must attend all classes in order to receive a certificate of completion. This workshop is open to active duty, retired military, civilian employees and Family.

For more information, call 255-3898.

Mini Mall Express renovations

The Burger King Ex-

Center.

Topics include identifying causes of stress, symptoms of stress, techniques on how to manage stress and developing a stress management plan. Registration is required.

This workshop is open to active duty and retired military, government civilians and their Family members.

For program and child care information, call 255-3898.

Labor Day Pool Party

The Splash! Labor Day pool party is Monday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at The Landing.

The event features live music by Sons of Summer from noon to 4 p.m. Splash! Pool is open to authorized patrons only. Normal pool entry fees apply.

For more information, call 255-9162.

FRG Forum

The FRG Forum is Thursday from 8-11 a.m. at Bldg. 8950. This is an opportunity to provide FRG Leaders with Rucker specific information to promote FRG success.

Some of the topics covered include proper food handling, fundraising information and rules, childcare for FRG meetings or activities, volunteer recognition and an interactive element — "plan a FRG meeting."

For more information, call 255-9578.

BOSS Fishing Hearts Apart/SOS

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers fourth annual Hearts Apart and Survivor Outreach day of fishing for Hearts Apart members and SOS is Sept. 10 from 9-11:30 a.m. at Buckhorn Lake.

This event gives single Soldiers the opportunity to mentor and lend a helping hand to the children of deployed or deceased service members from the ages of 3 to 18.

Soldiers or Family members that would like to volunteer and/or mentor from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. are asked to sign up by calling 379-4594 or 255-9810.

Divorce/Separation Co-Parenting Workshop

Army Community Service's Family Advocacy Program holds a Divorce/Separation Co-Parenting Workshop Sept. 12 and 19 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Early Childhood Activity Center.

Topics include commitment to staying child focused, effective communication and negotiation skills, reducing parental conflict, and understanding children's needs during and following divorce. This workshop is a two-part series.

Participants must attend all classes in order to receive a certificate of completion. Registration is required.

This workshop is open to active duty, retired military, civilian employees and Family.

For more information, call 255-3898.

DFMWR Spotlight

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PHOTO BY ERIN MURRAY

Pick-of-the-litter

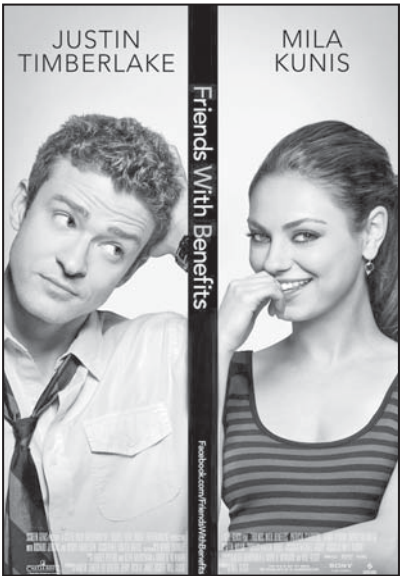
Meet Freud, an 11-week-old male domestic shorthair available for adoption at the Fort Rucker stray facility. He is loving and feisty, happy to play or cuddle with anyone he meets. It costs \$81 to adopt Freud and other animals at the facility, which includes all up-to-date shots, microchip and neutering. 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.

FORT RUCKER Movie Schedule for September 1 - 4

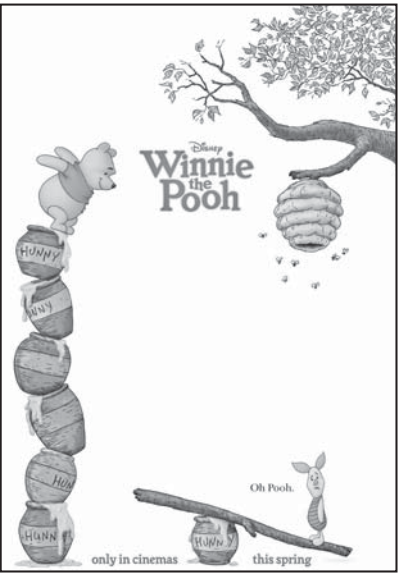
See you at the movies



THURSDAY, SEPT. 1
Zookeeper (PG) 7 p.m.



FRIDAY, SEPT. 2
Friends with Benefits (R) 7 p.m.



SATURDAY, SEPT. 3 & SUNDAY, SEPT. 3
Winnie the Pooh (G) 7 p.m.

Soldiers’ best friend reports for duty

BY JENNIFER M. CAPRIOLI
Fort Drum Public Affairs Office

FORT DRUM, N.Y. — As they adjust his collar, he fidgets, slightly uncomfortable with the attention he’s receiving. They tell him to sit up straight and look at the camera. He deliberately turns his head away, as if to say, “We’re doing this on my terms.”

Finally, with a little coaxing, he looks deep into the lens and gives a toothy, lopsided grin. Those standing around him clap at the sight of his cooperation, and a few bystanders even wrap their arms around his neck, telling him what a great job he did.

Arnold gives another infectious smile, rolls over on his back, and prepares for his reward of belly rubs and behind-the-ear scratches.

He’s made paw prints in four branches of the armed forces, has a canine and human following on Facebook, and logs entries in his own blog.

As a 200-pound English Mastiff, Arnold has spent the past five years populating his resume with therapy hours and hospital visits. His resume now lists him as the newest member of Fort Drum’s Army Substance Abuse Program, where on Aug. 5 he received his government ID card.

In 2007, a then 2-year-old Arnold was adopted by Jon Fishman and his wife, Linda.

“If he’s given the chance to play, he won’t even chase a ball. He wants to interact with people,” explained Fishman, ASAP prevention coordinator.

These atypical canine attributes convinced Fishman that there was more to Arnold than met the eye.

So, the couple enrolled Arnold in good citizenship training, a program that would teach their pup basic obedience and prepare him for therapy dog work.

“Research has shown (therapy dogs) reduce stress and anxiety, and increases patience in just about everybody,” Fishman explained.

He also noted that studies show patients’ blood pressure can be lowered about 15 points when interacting with therapy dogs.

While enrolled in good canine citizenship training, Arnold learned typical commands, such as “come,” “sit” and “stay,” and how to walk on a leash. The therapy dog portion of the training involved socializing Arnold with people and other animals and getting him used to being in a hospital setting.

After he completed the course, Arnold was put to the test.

His evaluation included everything from testing Arnold’s tolerance level to his reaction to noise.

“He’s had about half a dozen kids on top of him, pulling his ears, playing with his tail, and he just rolls over and lets them rub his belly,” said Fishman, who also trained and was certified with Arnold as his handler.

Instructors dropped books on the ground and rolled carts into walls, testing Arnold’s reaction to noise, to en-



PHOTO BY JENNIFER M. CAPRIOLI

Arnold, a 200-pound English Mastiff, works as a therapy dog with Fort Drum’s Army Substance Abuse Program.

sure he wasn’t skittish or jumpy. They also assessed Arnold’s threshold for agitation by doing things like touching his feet and gently tugging on his tail.

“About 70 percent of a dog’s ability to be a therapy dog is their temperament,” Fishman said. “The other 30 percent is training.”

Arnold is certified through Therapy Dogs International, which lists him as a registered therapy dog. He carries an ID card, and he must recertify annually. The recertification relies heavily on Fishman’s report of how Arnold has performed during the past year, and the dog’s health.

Arnold’s first gig was with the Marine Corps, where he did therapy dog work around a U.S. Navy hospital.

At his next job, while working with the Air Force, Arnold was part of a traumatic stress response team. There, he was trained to tolerate loud noises, such as si-

rens and explosions.

“Most people are stunned (when they see Arnold) — not just to see a dog in the building, but also a dog this size,” Fishman said. “I don’t know how many times I’ve (been asked) if I have a saddle for him.”

Fishman said Arnold’s temperament makes him the ideal type of dog for therapy.

“Particularly with the Mastiffs, they’re such a calm breed and they’re so gentle,” he said.

At another job, Arnold

worked with Soldiers from an explosive ordnance disposal unit who were diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder. He worked his magic by sitting with the Soldiers and allowing them to pet him.

Fishman said he believes Arnold is a good candidate to help, because he doesn’t ask questions or require anything of the Soldiers.

“Dogs have been used in the treatment of PTSD and acute stress disorders,” Fishman said. “Peo-

ple more readily open up to a dog because he’s just going to listen.”

While at Fort Drum, Arnold will provide a means for Soldier and civilian stress reduction and motivation.

Fishman also plans on bringing Arnold to unit briefings, because “you never know when someone is having a problem and needs to relax.”

“By just being there, just his presence alone, he gets through to people, where another person doesn’t,” he said.



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ONGOING — Andalusia Public Library offers free practice tests. Patrons can choose from more than 300 online tests based on official exams such as the ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, firefighter, police officer, paramedic, U.S. citizenship and many more.

Patrons may select to take a test and receive immediate scoring. Test results are stored in personalized individual accounts, accessible only to patrons. Call 222-6612 for more information.

DALEVILLE

ONGOING — The Fort Rucker chapter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. Meetings are in the Daleville VFW Post Ballroom.

SEPT. 10 — The 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment and City of Daleville host a 9/11 commemorative poker run. Registration is 9-10 a.m. at the Daleville Chamber of Commerce. The poker run travels through Enterprise, Troy and Ozark. It concludes at the Old Homestead in Level Plains. For more information, call 598-6331.

DOTHAN

ONGOING — The Wiregrass Museum of Art hosts a free Family Day the first Saturday of every month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. The workshops are designed for elementary-age children and Families elementary-aged. All supplies are provided. For more information, visit <http://wiregrassmuseum.com>.

ONGOING — Daleville Chamber of Commerce meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce office in the Daleville Cultural and Convention Center. For more information, call 598-6331.

ENTERPRISE

SEP. 24 — Enterprise Aviation Expo is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Enterprise Municipal Airport. Admission is \$5, free for children 12 and under. There are still several slots open for food and craft vendors as well as event sponsors. For more information, call Tara Emmett at 348-2603 or email Tarae1@cityofenterprise.net. \$\$\$

ONGOING — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6683, John Wiley Brock Post membership meetings are at the post headquarters, located on County Road 537, every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call Connie Hudson at 406-3077, Randy Black at 389-0738 or Bob Cooper 347-7076, or visit the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6683 on *Facebook*.

Beyond Briefs

St. William Seafood Festival

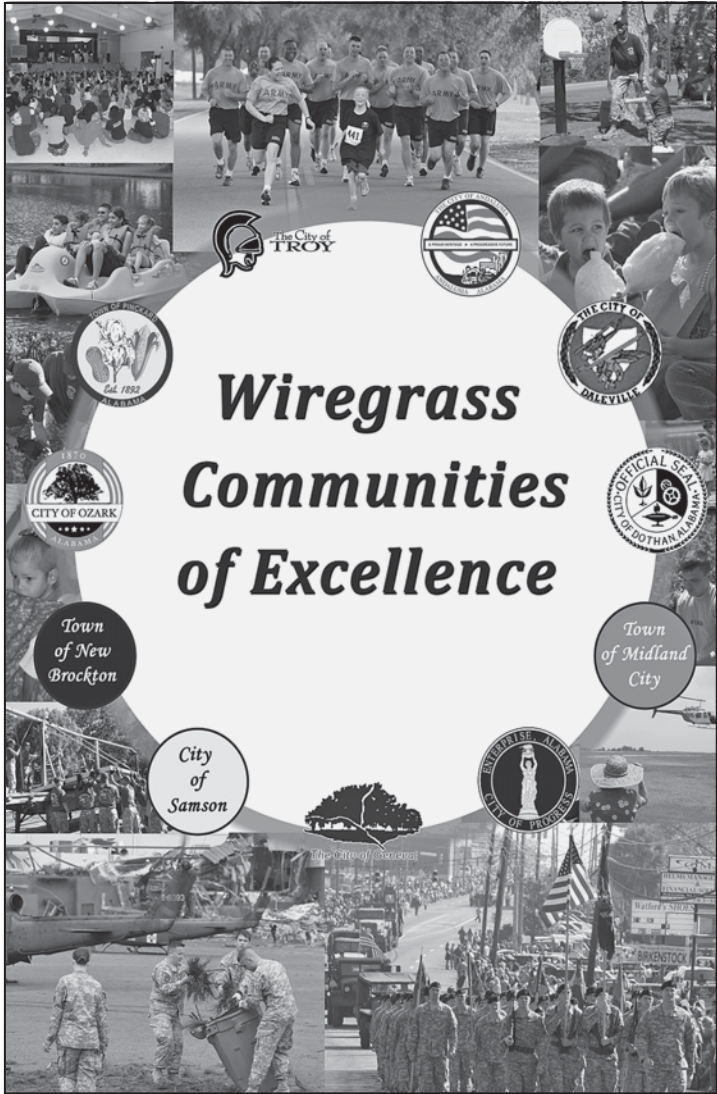
St. William Catholic Church in Guntersville will have its 41st Seafood Festival Sunday starting at 10:30 a.m. in Civitan park. Come enjoy a variety of seafood dishes, including gumbo and low country boil. For more information, call (256) 455-4133 or visit www.stwil-liamchurch.com.

World's Largest Peanut Boil Festival

The Luverne Shiner's club will host World's Largest Peanut Boil Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. More than 17 tons of peanuts will be used in the boil, which has been considered the world's largest for over 30 years. There will also be a 5K run, car show and golf tournament. For more information, call 335-4468 or visit <http://www.crenshawcochamber.com/peanutboil/index.html>.

Nature Programs at Oak Mountain State Park

Oak Mountain State Park in Pelham hosts nature programs that cover various topics. People can join the natural-



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 — Adult education classes are offered in Rm. 12 at New Brockton High School, 210 South Tyler St., Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m. All classes are free for individuals 16 years old or older who are not enrolled in public school.

Individuals must take an assessment test prior to attending class. Call 894-2350 for more information.

OZARK

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 23 — The Dale

County Council of Arts and Humanities hosts the 11th annual Regional Juried Art Exhibition at the Ann Rudd Art Center/Dowling Museum.

The council is now accepting entries from artists who wish to participate. Contestants are allowed three entries, with the first entry costing \$25 and \$5 for each additional entry.

All entries must be submitted at the Rudd Art Center by 4 p.m. Saturday. An open reception and award presentation will be held Saturday from 7-9 p.m. For more information, visit www.ruddartcenter.org. \$\$\$

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 30 — Men and women, boys and girls (5 years of age and older) are invited to apply to be models for the Fashion Revival show in Ozark on March 31, 2012.

Applications are available at the Dale County Salvation Army Family Store at Martindale Plaza, the Ozark-Dale County Humane Society's "New Leash on Life" Thrift Shop on South Union Avenue. This fundraiser fashion show will benefit both these organizations.

Applications should include a full body photo and must be received at the Salvation Army Family Store, or the "New Leash on Life" Thrift Shop by Sept. 30.

Applicants will be reviewed by a panel and those selected will be noti-

fied by Nov. 30.

ONGOING — Dale County Council of Arts and Humanities is looking for artists to participate in its Back Street Art at Claybank Jamboree outdoor art show.

In conjunction with the Ozark Chamber of Commerce and the Potting Shed, the Back Street Art show is the first outdoor art show held at annual Claybank celebration in many years.

This show will be juried and cash awards will be presented the day of the show.

For more information and an entry form, visit www.ruddartcenter.org. Complete the entry form and return the last page to: backstreetart2011@gmail.com or mail to DCCAH, ATTN: Back Street Art, 144 E. Broad St., Ozark AL 36360.

Entry fee and form must be received not later than Sept. 14. Call Denise Reyes at (334) 618-3006 with questions or for more information.

For more information, call 445-3070.

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 — The Samson City Council meets monthly on the first and third Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. at the Samson Community Center.

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

TROY

SATURDAY — Many dogs are up for adoption at the Troy Pike Animal Shelter Bow-Wow Pow-Wow adoption event at Tractor Supply Co. from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

These dogs need forever homes as soon as possible. For more information, call 808-8898 or visit www.pikeanimals.org.

WEDNESDAY — Troy University hosts a volunteer fair on the Troy campus from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The deadline to register for the fair is Friday. For more information, contact Jonathan Cellon at 808-6394.

ONGOING — Troy Bank and Trust Company sponsors senior dance nights every Saturday night from 7-10 p.m. at the J.O. Colley Senior Complex.

The complex is transformed into a dance hall and features music from the 40s, 50s, and 60s, finger foods and refreshments. For more information, call Janet Motes at 808-8500.

\$\$\$ indicates a charge for the event

ist for a hike at the newly opened lake trail Monday at 10 a.m.

Then, people can spend the day enjoying over 50 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails and the 9,940-acre park. Admission to Oak Mountain State Park is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children and seniors.

Nature programs are free with admission. For more information, visit www.alapark.com/oakmountain/.

Athens Cruise In

Downtown Athens hosts its monthly antique vehicle Cruise In and swap meet the first Saturday every month until October from 3-9 p.m. Stores and restaurants stay open late and a DJ will play oldies at this free Family-friendly event. For more information, call (256) 603-1227 or visit <http://www.athens-plus.com>.

Bruce Phillips "Different Perspectives" Exhibit

Troy University's Rosa Parks Museum showcases the work of Tuskegee University professor and artist Bruce Phillips until Oct. 14 in the museum's exhibit hall. A lecture on the work will be held Sept. 10 at 11 a.m.

The museum is free and open 9 a.m.

to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. For more information call curator, Viola Moten at 241-8701.

Main Street Alexander City Farmer's Market

Local growers will exhibit and sell their fruits, vegetables, plants, specialty products and baked goods at the Broad Street Shopping Plaza in Alexander City on Saturdays now through Oct. 28, from 7-11:30 a.m.

For more information, call (256) 329-9227 or www.mainstreetac.org.

Eclectic Trade Days Second Saturday

Local vendors will sell antiques, artwork, clothing, baked goods, and farm fresh produce on the second Saturday of every month through December at The Warehouse in Eclectic from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Throughout the day, activities such as music, contests, educational displays and Family activities will accompany the trading. For more information, call 541-2148.

German Sausage Festival

Visit Elberta Town Park for the

biannual German Sausage Festival Oct. 29 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. This fundraiser benefits the Elberta Volunteer Fire Department. The fire department sells nearly 7,000 pounds of sausage and boasts nearly 30,000 visitors each festival. For more information, call (251) 974-1510 or visit <http://sausagefest.elbertafire.com/>.

Jazz in the Park

Free and open to the public, Jazz in the Park Birmingham features performances by local jazz enthusiasts and takes place each Sunday from 8-10 p.m.

Visit www.magiccitysmoothjazz.com for details and complete list of locations and performers or call (205) 616-1735.

Green and Gray Saturday

Curious about eco-friendly living? The National Park Service hosts a free green living program on the second Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. at Little River Canyon National Preserve in Fort Payne. Dates through the rest of the year are Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 11 and Dec. 10.

For more information, call (256) 845-9605 or visit www.nps.gov/liri.

Obama: Unite in spirit of service on Sept. 11

BY CHERYL PELLERIN
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Saturday called on the American people to come together in the spirit of service and remembrance as the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks approaches.

“In just two weeks, we’ll come together as a nation to mark the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks,” the president said in his weekly address. “We’ll remember the innocent lives we lost. We’ll stand with the Families who loved them. We’ll honor the heroic first responders who rushed to the scene and saved so many. And we’ll pay tribute to our troops and military Families, and all those who have served over the past 10 years, to keep us safe and strong.”

The worst terrorist attack in American history brought out the best in the American people, he said. Ameri-



UNITED WE STAND

cans lined up to give blood, volunteers drove across the country to lend a hand, schoolchildren donated their savings, and communities, faith groups and businesses collected food and clothing.

“We were united, and the outpouring of generosity and compassion reminded us that in times of challenge, we Americans move forward together, as one people,” the president said.

On Sept. 11, the president and First Lady Michelle Obama will join the com-

memorations at ground zero, in Shanksville, Pa., and at the Pentagon.

Even Americans who can’t be in New York, Pennsylvania or Virginia, he said, can be part of the commemoration by participating in the Sept. 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance.

“In the days and weeks ahead,” Obama said, “folks across the country in all 50 states will come together in their communities and neighborhoods to honor the victims of 9/11 and to reaf-

firm the strength of our nation with acts of service and charity.”

In Minneapolis, volunteers will help restore a community center, the president said. In Winston-Salem, N.C., they’ll hammer shingles and lay floors to give Families a new home. In Tallahassee, Fla., they’ll assemble care packages for U.S. troops overseas and their Families at home. In Orange County, Calif., they’ll renovate homes for veterans.

Obama and the first lady also will join a local service project, he said. Those who wish to participate can learn more about local opportunities at the serve.gov website.

“Even the smallest act of service, the simplest act of kindness, is a way to honor those we lost – a way to reclaim that spirit of unity that followed 9/11,” the president said.

On this 10th anniversary, he said, the nation faces great

challenges.

“We’re emerging from the worst economic crisis in our lifetimes. We’re taking the fight to al-Qaida, ending the war in Iraq and starting to bring our troops home from Afghanistan. And we’re working to rebuild the foundation of our national strength here at home,” Obama said.

None of the challenges will be easy, he said, and it can’t be the work of government alone.

“As we saw after 9/11,” Obama said, “the strength of America has always been the character and compassion of our people.”

The president called on Americans to mark this solemn anniversary by summoning the same spirit shown 10 years ago on Sept. 11.

“And let’s show that the sense of common purpose that we need in America doesn’t have to be a fleeting moment,” Obama said. “It can be a lasting virtue – not just on one day, but every day.”

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Money, player injuries most interesting parts of preseason
Story on Page D3

SPORTS

VOL. 61 ■ NO. 35

ARMYFLIER★COM

SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

SPORTS SHORTS

NASCAR TICKETS OFFERED AT LEISURE TRAVEL

The Fort Rucker Leisure Travel Office offers Atlanta Motor Speedway tickets for the NASCAR race Saturday and Sunday. The prices are \$75 per person for both days and \$45 for Sunday only. Seating is general admission for Sept. 3 and Upper Elliot reserved for Sept. 4. For more information, call 255-9517.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Ultimate Frisbee pick-up games are every Wednesday and Friday morning at 6 a.m. behind the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility on the soccer field. All skill levels and athletic abilities are welcome. Cleats and water are highly recommended. For more information, call 255-0870.

SILVER WINGS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

The SWGC club championship is Sept. 10 and 11. Tee Times are from 7-9 a.m. with a 45-hole Individual Stroke Play. Entry fee is \$45, plus cart fees, unless walking. All participants must register by noon Sept. 8. A sign-up sheet is located in the golf shop. Gift certificates will be awarded to gross and net winners. Lunch will be provided Sept. 11 following play. For more information, call 598-2449.

BOWLING INTRAMURALS

Fall Intramurals begin Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m. There will be a one-time fee of \$10 to cover buffet the last night of league play. All servicemembers, civilian employees and Family members are eligible to play. Family members must be at least 19 years old. For more information, call 255-9503.

TAOIST TAI CHI SOCIETY

The Enterprise YMCA staff hosts two beginner's classes in the Taoist Tai Chi Society arts of health. Classes are offered Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 10-11:30 a.m. The beginner's class covers all 108 moves of the Tai Chi set. Taoist Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese exercise that promotes health and relaxation. It is suitable for all ages and physical conditions.

SEE SHORTS, PAGE D4

GRIDIRON CORNER

Week 1 — Not just for cupcakes

BY DAVID C. AGAN JR.
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

The 2011 college football season is finally upon us. In years past, the first week of the season didn't offer much in the way of excitement. It was usually a Saturday full of elite programs facing directionally-named schools like Eastern-whoever or North-Central-"insert state here" that were lucky to be carried on a network that wasn't pay-per-view. Fortunately, those days are over. Certainly, there are still a lot of cupcakes scheduled in the first couple of weeks but there are also more than a few opportunities to watch big name schools face off in games that carry implications for the entire season.

(3) OREGON vs. (4) LSU

The season hasn't even started and LSU has been forced to deal with some off-the-field malfeasance that could cost the Tigers dearly in Week 1 when they face the Oregon Ducks at the Cowboys Classic in Arlington, Texas. With the felony arrest and subsequent suspension of LSU's senior quarterback Jordan Jefferson following a bar fight Aug. 19, to say things don't look good for the Tigers is an understatement. Somewhat hazier are the reasons behind the loss of LSU's top receiver Russell Shepard to suspension. Or is he ineligible? Regardless, he won't be playing in Arlington, which doesn't bode well for LSU. The Oregon Ducks, on the other hand, are dealing with some malfeasance of their own. Junior cornerback Cliff Harris has been suspended indefinitely by head coach Chip Kelly after being arrested for driving 118 mph with a suspended license. Harris is also one of the better kick returners in college football with four punts returned for scores last season. The only thing that can be said for certain in Saturday's prime-time matchup at Cowboys Stadium is that the contest has lost some of its luster due to issues that happened away from the gridiron. In the end, however, you can bet that Jefferson's absence will be felt far more than that of Harris. Expect the Ducks to win this one.

(5) BOISE STATE vs. (19) GEORGIA

Boise State and Georgia go head-to-head in the non-conference, neutral-site Chick-fil-A Kickoff game in Atlanta, Ga., and it carries big implications for both teams. The Boise State Broncos are ranked preseason No. 5 and have a lot riding on this one. Their goal for the season is nothing less than a trip to the Bowl Championship Series championship game and a win against the Georgia Bulldogs in front of millions of television viewers, not to mention pollsters, will go a long way towards that goal as long as they can stay undefeated. Boise State's defense, with 10 seniors, is one of the most experienced in the country. They've opened with big, nationally televised games before, defeating then-ranked No. 10 Virginia Tech at the start of last season. Their Heisman finalist quarterback Kellen Moore is a subdued and experienced field general who knows how to win games. The Georgia Bulldogs come into Atlanta as a slight underdog. Sophomore quarterback Aaron Murray might be the best returning quarterback in the Southeastern Conference. Georgia turned in a measly 6-7 record in 2010, but Murray threw for over 2,800 yards and 24 touchdowns. It will be interesting to see how well UGA's offensive line holds up against the experienced Boise State defense. Boise State needs to win if they want to play for the BCS national championship. If Georgia wins they could be vaulted into the top 10. It's no exaggeration to say there is a lot on the line in this one. At the end of the day, look for Georgia to pull this one out. ARMY vs. NORTHERN ILLINOIS

The Black Knights travel to DeKalb, Ill., to face the Northern Illinois Huskies. It could be a long day defensively for Army, who gave up 4.2 rushing yards per carry last year. The Huskies are returning most of the offense that led them to a school record 11 wins in 2010; an offense that averaged 38 points per game and 42 touchdowns on the ground for the season. So not only should Army have trouble con-

taining the Huskies' ground attack, they'll most likely find it difficult to get through the line and pressure quarterback Chandler Harnish. Army has a much more experienced offensive line than Northern Illinois, which should allow running back Jared Hassin to put on a show against a Huskies defense that gave up over 300 yards per game last year. Combined with Army intangibles like discipline and tenacity, this will not be a walk in the park for Northern Illinois. The Huskies are favored but look for Army to upset. TROY vs. CLEMSON

This week, the Troy Trojans travel to South Carolina to take on the Clemson Tigers. Every year, the Trojans' schedule is peppered with a few brutal games on the road. They fill the role of sacrificial lamb to big time programs like the Florida Gators or the Oklahoma Sooners. They play like they have nothing to lose. They put up a fight early and, hopefully, manage to put a few points on the board before the game is over. Then they play out the rest of the season and, usually, win the Sun Belt Conference. The Trojans have a talented quarterback in sophomore Corey Robinson, who threw for an impressive 3,726 yards last season. However, the Trojans are looking to replace most of the production they had at wide receiver in 2010. With receivers Chip Reeves and Jamel Johnson being declared academically ineligible for the 2011 season, they're going to have to look pretty hard. Clemson has a lot of offensive weapons and expectations are high for quarterback Tajh Boyd. He's got plenty of options at wide receiver, including 5-star recruit Sammy Watkins. Their running back corps, led by junior Andre Ellington and top recruit Mike Bellamy, should be more than serviceable. If Clemson can manage to keep their offensive and defensive starters on the field it could be a long day for the Trojans. Depth is a problem for the Tigers on both sides of the ball. If the Clemson defense can keep pressure on Robinson he should make enough mistakes for the Tigers to start their season off with a win.

PIGSKIN PICKS

	Troy vs. Clemson	Minnesota vs. USC	Brigham Young vs. Ole Miss	Army vs. Northern Illinois	Boise State (5) vs. Georgia (19)	Oregon (3) vs. LSU (4)	Tulsa vs. Oklahoma (1)
 David C. Agan, Jr. Fort Rucker Public Affairs (0-0)							
 Kent Anger, Chemical, Biological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosives (0-0)							
 Maj. Michael R. Ivey, 1-13th Avn. Regt. XO (0-0)							
 Shane Jones, Network Enterprise Center (0-0)							
 Capt. Paul McKinney, B Co., 1-13th (0-0)							

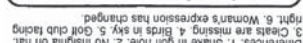


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TRIVIA

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Kid's Corner



Money, player injuries most interesting parts of preseason

BY RUSSELL SELLERS
Army Flier Staff Writer

So what if we spent nearly half of 2011 wondering if there was going to be a National Football League season? The pads are on now and it's time for some football! Well, almost.

Will this preseason nonsense ever end? The only thing that takes longer to happen other than the NFL regular season is Christmas. One day, they might even trade places.

Oh well, I guess for those desperate enough for some pro-level games, you've got them right now — sort of.

Are any of these teams actually playing to their highest capabilities?

Philadelphia is touting itself as having "the dream team," but so far it's looked more like a nightmare.

How many times did quarterback Michael Vick have to scramble away or wind up getting run over when the Eagles played the Cleveland Browns last week?

It probably doesn't matter much to Vick now since he just signed a \$100 million contract with the Eagles. Last season, he played like one of the best QBs in the business, now he's going to be paid like one. My final question for Philadelphia is: what good is spending all that money if his offensive line can't protect him?

The Eagles still won that game, 24-14, but that's mostly due to how terrible Cleveland is on offense. Colt McCoy just isn't there yet as NFL QBs go, but he's got the talent to get there in a couple of years.

Looking at last year's Super Bowl champs, the Green Bay Packers, is kind of like staring into the sun. Their future looks so bright, we need to wear shades.

Despite losing Ryan Grant, Atari Bigby, Jermichael Finley, Nick Barnett and Morgan Burnett during the regular season last year, the team went on to win it all. This season, the team is bringing back most of what made it successful last year, including receiver James Jones.

Yeah, Green Bay dropped one preseason game so far to Cleveland, possibly one of the worst teams out there right now, but just remember this: it's preseason.

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The addition of Reggie Bush at running back really doesn't mean much for the Dolphins considering all the problems the offensive line is having (seems like the trend for several teams this preseason).

Coach Tony Sparano has been more than dismissive about the obvious problems, but the team's 17-13 loss to Tampa last week speaks for itself.

Looking to the AFC South, it's still all about Indianapolis, though it may not be if Peyton Manning isn't completely healed after a May surgery to fix a nerve in his neck. He suited up Monday after being activated by the Colts, but his future is uncertain. Will he make the Sept. 11 opener against



Houston?

Rest assured, the Texans won't be taking things lightly this season and rightly so, as this could be the last chance for coach Gary Kubiak and general manager Rick Smith to prove they know what they're doing. The Texans' defense is changing things up by going to a 3-4 defense, which could turn things around. The team also picked up new free agent cornerback and former Cincinnati Bengal Johnathan Joseph, and four defensive rookies in the draft. It's obvious what the team is trying to build on coming into the season, and it's not a bad strategy.

Hang on a second, sports fans, the Colts might still have a few tricks up their sleeves.

While Texans fans are probably excited about the possibilities, until Houston can bring down the Colts, it's a little early for celebration.

Indianapolis also gets another season with running back Joseph Addai. If Manning proves healthy, that's a pretty deadly combo for any defense looking to make a name for itself. Houston and the rest of the AFC South are going to have their hands full, again.

In the NFC South, it's all about Atlanta this year.

Don't let these early losses fool you, it's preseason. Starting quarterback Matt Ryan only played for the first half against Jacksonville last week

and the team was ahead 10-3 at the half. There's something to be said for leadership on the field and Ryan has proven to be a great field general. Having weapons like newly-drafted wide receiver Julio Jones doesn't hurt either. The Falcons also debuted the use of a no-huddle offense against Pittsburgh and, while it only resulted in field goals, it still put points on the board. This high-tempo shift could be just what Atlanta needs to take its conference.

Another team that seems to have a lot going for it, except for an offensive line, is Baltimore.

It takes on Atlanta in its final preseason game tonight, but it has to do so in Atlanta. This doesn't bode well for the Ravens.

Atlanta may have struggled up to this point, but Baltimore has proven to have difficulties on the road.

While the team eventually looked great against Washington last week, its offensive line looked sloppy, at best, during the first half. Again, with no protection, even the best QBs will fall.

Speaking of talented QBs surrounded by mediocrity, Cam Newton is now the starting QB for Carolina.

The unfortunate problem with the Panthers is that the offensive strategy is clearly to make Newton into a pocket-passer, which is totally against

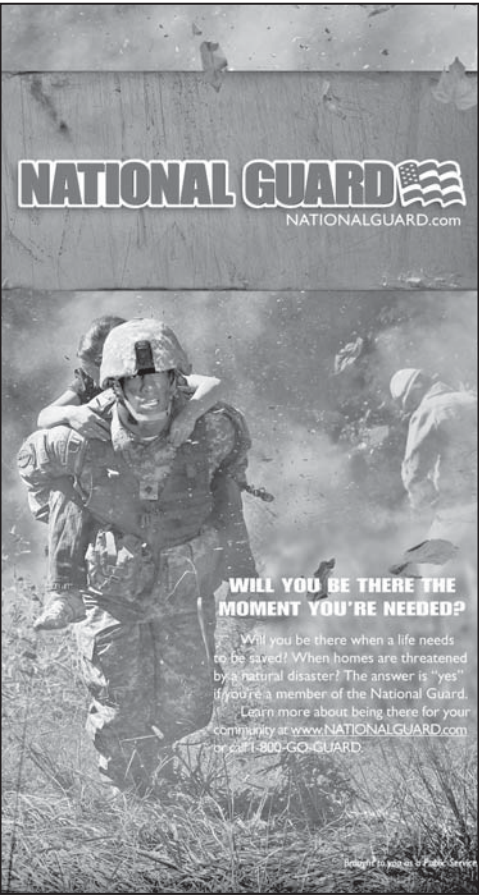
his nature. Makes one wonder if the Carolina coaching staff even bothered to watch the guy's highlight tapes.

Newton struggled against Cincinnati last week and will have even more to look forward to in tonight's game against Pittsburgh. He's not comfortable enough yet to simply sit in the pocket. Once again, there's not enough offensive line protection to use this strategy, especially for a rookie QB.

Speaking of stupid moves, how about Dallas cutting center Andre Gurode? The team has been in overhaul mode lately, but this is just about as dumb a move as can be made by any team. The guy is a proven, five-time pro bowler and one of the most effective offensive linemen the team has ever seen and they couldn't come to some form of compromise to keep him. Once again, offensive line failure will be the death knell for more than one team this season.

After tonight, maybe we can all take a more realistic look at what the actual season has in store for all of our favorite teams.

If the adage proves true that your performance in preseason is the opposite of your actual season, then maybe there's hope yet for some, even the Dallas Cowboys. Oh, wait, sorry, they actually put up a couple of wins this preseason.



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— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

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

TRIVIA

Answers

1. The Greeks (Achaeans) and Troy
2. Poland
3. Gerald Ford
4. Bill Haley & His Comets
5. Pamela Lyndon Travers
6. 1945
7. England
8. Ballet
9. Theo
10. 100

PUZZLE ANSWERS

— Super Crossword —

Answers

T	I	S		D	A	B		S	R	O		Y	M	A		A	D	A	M			
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SPORTS SHORTS

Continued from Page D1

Comfortable, loose clothing and flat-soled shoes are recommended attire. All classes are taught by accredited volunteer instructors. For more information, call 348-9008 or 347-4663.

BURGER AND BOWL

Rucker Lanes staff offers a daily "Burger and Bowl" special for \$7. The special includes a cheeseburger, fries, soda, shoe rental and two games of bowling.

EXTREME BOWLING

Extreme Bowling at Rucker Lanes is Saturdays from 8-11 p.m. for \$10 and features unlimited bowling with lights, music and glow-in-the-dark balls and shoes. For more information, call 255-9503.

ARCHERY SHOOTS

Fort Rucker Archery Club members conduct weekly shoots at the club's range, located off Whittaker Road. Shoots are Thursdays at 4 p.m., and members take aim at a 20- to 60-yard practice range, 28 3-D targets along a walking trail or a 10-target area. Annual membership costs \$20. For more information, call 389-6135.

BATTING CAGES HOURS

The child, youth and school services batting cages are open Mondays-Fridays from 4-7 p.m., Saturdays from 2-6 p.m. and are closed Sundays. They are located in the Youth Sports Complex on Fifth Avenue between the post office and the youth football field. For more information, call 255-9105.

RIDING STABLES RULES

Riding stables staff reminds community members that letting horses out of their stalls can be dangerous to the horses and motorists. Visitors are also reminded to stay on the main roadways, do not approach any of the horses without owners' permission, stay out of the pastures and obey the speed limit of 10 mph at all times. For more information, call 598-3384.

Video Game Spotlight >>

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



COURTESY SCREENSHOT

Madden NFL 12 impresses

BY JIM VAN SLYKE
Contributing Writer

For a while there, during the NFL players strike, it looked like Madden NFL 12 might be the only professional football to light up our televisions this season. But thankfully cooler heads prevailed and the money was divided up to the satisfaction of the owners and players and we'll have real professional football beginning Sept. 8.

But that shouldn't take anything away from Madden NFL 12. The only professional football video game in town is back for another season.

While its detractors say it doesn't change much from year to year and that it still throws too many interceptions, the truth is that it's the best game in town — even if it's the only game in town.

As one would expect, this year's model has all the teams, stadiums and favorite players. There's a new collision system with more than 100 new tackle animations, including 40 gang tackles. A player's momentum is a bigger consideration this year. There have been more than 100 defensive AI



enhancements that have become part of toughest Madden defense ever. The players are programmed to react more like real players, and to do things like break out of defensive assignments when they recognize the offense has a play that is strong against the called defense.

Gamers can create their own playbooks, a nice feature for those who really like to dive into the details of running a football team.

The game on the field has an improved look that has the feel of a real NFL broadcast. Each team has a run out that begins their home

Publisher
Electronic Arts
Rated
Everyone
Systems
Multiple
Cost
\$60
Overall
3 out of 4

game and there are more than 500 dynamic broadcast cameras, including "real" on-field cameras shot by expert NFL Films camera-men. The details — everything from helmet stickers to pylon physics — are evident throughout the game.


The "Build a Franchise" and "Be a Superstar" modes have been improved with things like player hot and cold streaks that impact not just their own stats, but those of their teammates as well. Build a Franchise got the most attention; gamers who enjoy running their own team will appreciate the im-

provements. It's still not enough, but there's always next year.


However, it all boils down to whether or not Madden NFL 12 is a drastic improvement over last year's model. Gamers want to know if they are shelling out their cash for just a roster update or if it's truly a new game. Well, Madden NFL 12 isn't a new game, but like its cover boy, Peyton Hillis, it works hard for extra yardage (although, like Hillis, it's prone to fumbling at inopportune times). Even though there have been improvements, players sometimes still react illogically. They may also do things like drop multiple passes in a row because they are not a top wide receiver even if the ball was passed right into their hands. Drops happen, sure, but any receiver who has made a team in the NFL can catch a ball thrown right at them.

Still, this is the best NFL game in town and the online play is a blast. Building a franchise is fun, too. It's not perfect, but neither are the teams in the NFL — at least not since the '72 Miami Dolphins.

Reviewed on the Xbox 360



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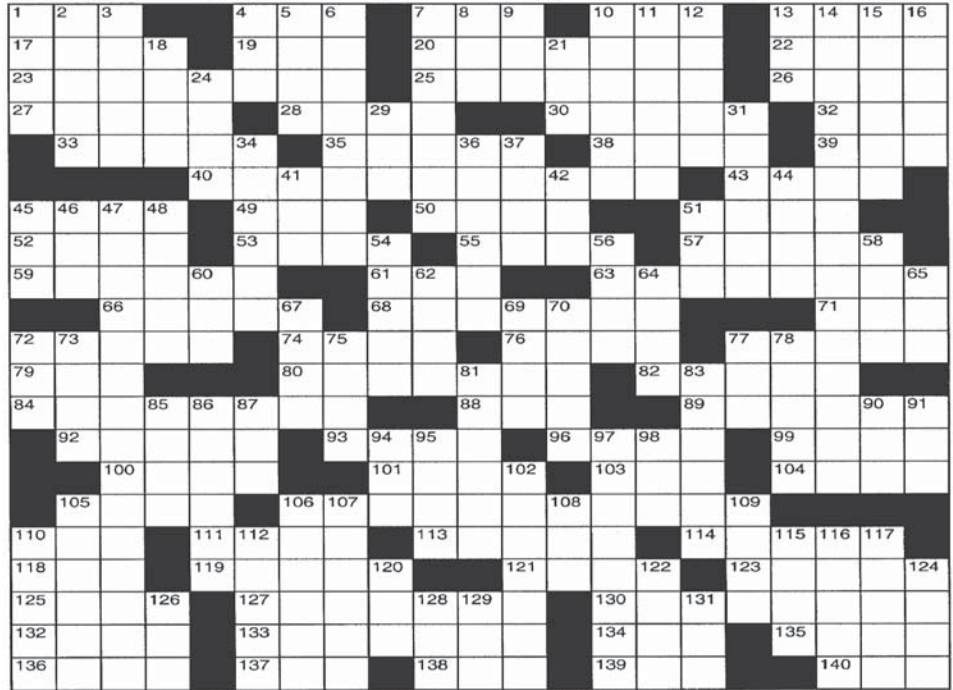
PensacolaMarathon.com • [Facebook.com/PensacolaMarathon](https://www.facebook.com/PensacolaMarathon)

Down Time



Super Crossword WORD PLAY

- ACROSS**
- 1 My country, — of these ...
4 Apply gently
7 Theater sign
10 Singer Sumac
13 West or Faith
17 Audiophiles' equipment
19 Drop a brick
20 Israeli city
22 Seedy spot
23 —TBALL
25 Varnish ingredient
26 On a cruise
27 Flynn of films
28 Port —, Egypt
30 Harden
32 Jillian of "It's a Living"
33 Dubuque denizen
35 Checker move?
38 Famed loch
39 Set
40 PL—
41 ARIUM
43 Tipple
45 Conserva-tive skirt
49 Raven maven?
- 50 Burrowing critter
51 Bound bundle
52 Gray or Moran
53 It'll curl your hair
55 Salamander
57 Bodybuilder Charles
59 Actor Howard
61 Scrape by, with "out"
63 Investigate
66 Baseball's Martinez
68 BRAN—
71 Debtor's letters
72 — Dawn" ('73 song)
74 Shrimpton or Stapleton
76 Help a
77 Poet Rossetti
79 "Baby — Want You" ('71 hit)
80 SC—ION
82 For — (cheaply)
84 Albert's wife
88 — NM
89 Standardize
92 Bathrobe fabric
93 "La Boheme" seamstress
- 96 Reverberate
99 "Orinoco Flow" singer
100 — "Dinah" ('58 tune)
101 Broad bean
103 Corn portion
104 Read quickly
105 "The Three Musketeers" prop
106 BOBO—
110 HST's successor
111 — "patriae"
113 Katey of "Married ... with Children"
114 Couches
118 Above, to Arnold
119 Toll
121 "Topaz" author
123 Proboscises
125 — Major
127 Word with oil or water
130 CAR—URE
132 Coalition
133 Morgiana's master
134 Indian export
135 "Rosanna" rockers
136 Nomad pad
137 Wine word
138 Part of MPH
- 139 Sneak a peek
140 Apex
- DOWN**
- 1 Use the VCR
2 Japanese porcelain
3 Richard's veep
4 Strauss' — "Rosen-kavalier"
5 Son of Zeus
6 Rest
7 Arena
8 — room
9 Seville shout
10 DeCarlo of "The Munsters"
11 Stately dance of tennis
12 Maintains
13 Orthodon-tists' org.
14 ST—WEED
15 Main drag
16 Intended
18 Singer Phoebe
21 Consumed a knish
24 Defect
29 — Jima
31 Grace/and, for one
34 Lad
36 The Rolling —
37 Story
- 41 Sock part
42 Modern
44 — podrida
45 Blanc or Brooks
46 Fury
47 SU—IC
48 Small bay
51 — -relief
54 Olympic award
56 Actual
58 James Herriot, for one
60 Journalist Tarbell
62 Spooky Stephen
64 Sundance's sweetie
65 Color
67 California resort
69 Mandlikova of tennis
70 Stout
72 Financial abbr.
73 Give off
75 Jack of "Rio Lobo"
77 "Da — Ron Ron" ('63 hit)
78 Llama turf
81 Actress Hussey
83 Disdains
85 Family —
86 Dental appointment, e.g.
87 Bread or booze
90 Memo letters
91 Tasty tuber
94 "No —, and, ..."
95 Bulk
97 Orchestra members
98 "Bali —"
102 Bony
105 Swimmer Gertrude
106 Portable
107 Paradoxical
108 Predatory fish
109 Hawaiian coffee
110 Reservation
112 Michelle and Cass
115 Racing legend
116 English course?
117 Cold-war assn.
120 CSA soldier
122 How-to part
124 Word in an octagon
126 Make believe
128 Seance sound
129 Lyman or Lincoln
131 Bit of sunshine



See Page D3 for this week's answers.

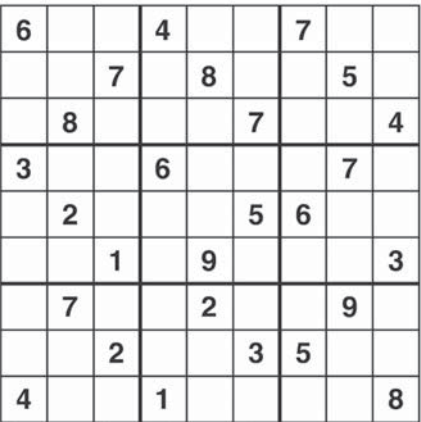
TRIVIA

1. ANCIENT HISTORY: Who were the opponents in the Trojan War?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Which nation's most important river is the Vistula?
3. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president was the target of an attempted assassination in Sacramento, Calif.?
4. MUSIC: What was the full name of Bill Haley's band, which recorded the hit "Rock Around the Clock"?
5. LITERATURE: Who wrote the book "Mary Poppins"?
6. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: When did the war crimes trials at Nuremberg, Germany, begin?
7. FORMER NAMES: Where was the ancient kingdom of Cumbria located?
8. THE ARTS: Which one of the arts was Rudolf Nureyev's claim to fame?
9. TELEVISION: What was the first name of TV detective Kojak?
10. MEASUREMENTS: How many hectares are in 1 square kilometer?

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Kid's Corner



CODE BREAKING 101! See if you can spy the next two letters in this coded transmission problem.

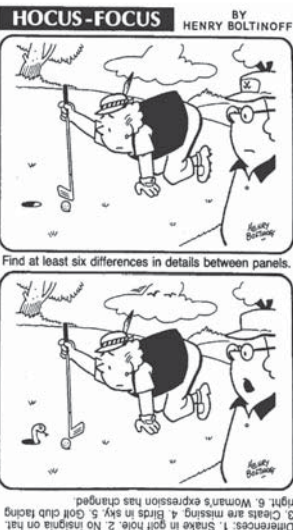
August
DEJ AFEM AAPMA JUJU

Answers: The next two letters are the month of August.

THE "H" PYRAMID! As you move down the word pyramid shown here, each word contains the same letters as the word above it, plus a new letter. We give you all the H's. Here are some hints, from the top down.

1. Symbol for hydrogen.
2. Expression of wonder.
3. Possessed at one time.
4. To move with haste.
5. Where no one wants to go.
6. Keeps out the sun.
7. Stored away.
8. Found on old radios.

Answers: The words are H, ha, had, dash, heads, heads, shaded, heads.



Money, player injuries most interesting parts of preseason

BY RUSSELL SELLERS
Army Flier Staff Writer

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Looking to the AFC South, it's still all about Indianapolis, though it may not be if Peyton Manning isn't completely healed after a May surgery to fix a nerve in his neck. He suited up Monday after being activated by the Colts, but his future is uncertain. Will he make the Sept. 11 opener against



Houston?

Rest assured, the Texans won't be taking things lightly this season and rightly so, as this could be the last chance for coach Gary Kubiak and general manager Rick Smith to prove they know what they're doing. The Texans' defense is changing things up by going to a 3-4 defense, which could turn things around. The team also picked up new free agent cornerback and former Cincinnati Bengal Johnathan Joseph, and four defensive rookies in the draft. It's obvious what the team is trying to build on coming into the season, and it's not a bad strategy.

Hang on a second, sports fans, the Colts might still have a few tricks up their sleeves.

While Texans fans are probably excited about the possibilities, until Houston can bring down the Colts, it's a little early for celebration.

Indianapolis also gets another season with running back Joseph Addai. If Manning proves healthy, that's a pretty deadly combo for any defense looking to make a name for itself. Houston and the rest of the AFC South are going to have their hands full, again.

In the NFC South, it's all about Atlanta this year.

Don't let these early losses fool you, it's preseason. Starting quarterback Matt Ryan only played for the first half against Jacksonville last week

and the team was ahead 10-3 at the half. There's something to be said for leadership on the field and Ryan has proven to be a great field general. Having weapons like newly-drafted wide receiver Julio Jones doesn't hurt either. The Falcons also debuted the use of a no-huddle offense against Pittsburgh and, while it only resulted in field goals, it still put points on the board. This high-tempo shift could be just what Atlanta needs to take its conference.

Another team that seems to have a lot going for it, except for an offensive line, is Baltimore.

It takes on Atlanta in its final preseason game tonight, but it has to do so in Atlanta. This doesn't bode well for the Ravens.

Atlanta may have struggled up to this point, but Baltimore has proven to have difficulties on the road.

While the team eventually looked great against Washington last week, its offensive line looked sloppy, at best, during the first half. Again, with no protection, even the best QBs will fall.

Speaking of talented QBs surrounded by mediocrity, Cam Newton is now the starting QB for Carolina.

The unfortunate problem with the Panthers is that the offensive strategy is clearly to make Newton into a pocket-passer, which is totally against

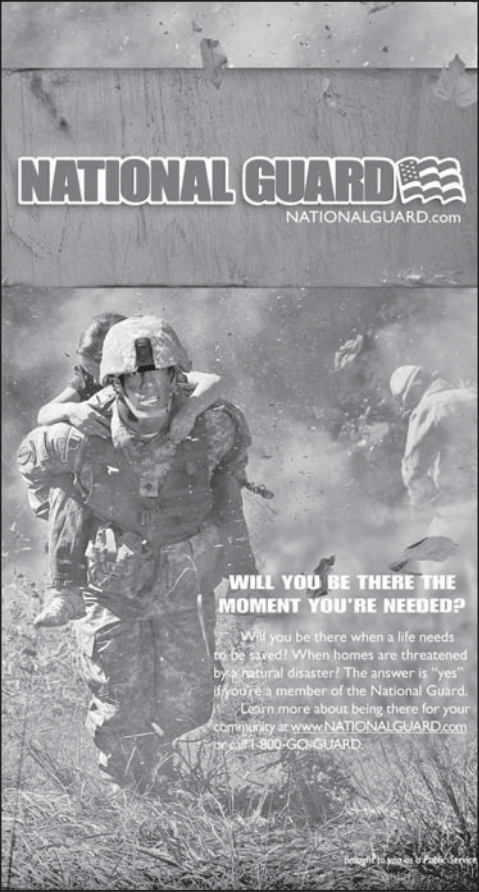
his nature. Makes one wonder if the Carolina coaching staff even bothered to watch the guy's highlight tapes.

Newton struggled against Cincinnati last week and will have even more to look forward to in tonight's game against Pittsburgh. He's not comfortable enough yet to simply sit in the pocket. Once again, there's not enough offensive line protection to use this strategy, especially for a rookie QB.

Speaking of stupid moves, how about Dallas cutting center Andre Gurode? The team has been in overhaul mode lately, but this is just about as dumb a move as can be made by any team. The guy is a proven, five-time pro bowler and one of the most effective offensive linemen the team has ever seen and they couldn't come to some form of compromise to keep him. Once again, offensive line failure will be the death knell for more than one team this season.

After tonight, maybe we can all take a more realistic look at what the actual season has in store for all of our favorite teams.

If the adage proves true that your performance in preseason is the opposite of your actual season, then maybe there's hope yet for some, even the Dallas Cowboys. Oh, wait, sorry, they actually put up a couple of wins this preseason.



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— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

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

TRIVIA

Answers

1. The Greeks (Achaeans) and Troy
2. Poland
3. Gerald Ford
4. Bill Haley & His Comets
5. Pamela Lyndon Travers
6. 1945
7. England
8. Ballet
9. Theo
10. 100

PUZZLE ANSWERS

— Super Crossword —

Answers

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SPORTS SHORTS

Continued from Page D1

Comfortable, loose clothing and flat-soled shoes are recommended attire. All classes are taught by accredited volunteer instructors. For more information, call 348-9008 or 347-4663.

BURGER AND BOWL

Rucker Lanes staff offers a daily "Burger and Bowl" special for \$7. The special includes a cheeseburger, fries, soda, shoe rental and two games of bowling.

EXTREME BOWLING

Extreme Bowling at Rucker Lanes is Saturdays from 8-11 p.m. for \$10 and features unlimited bowling with lights, music and glow-in-the-dark balls and shoes. For more information, call 255-9503.

ARCHERY SHOOTS

Fort Rucker Archery Club members conduct weekly shoots at the club's range, located off Whittaker Road. Shoots are Thursdays at 4 p.m., and members take aim at a 20- to 60-yard practice range, 28 3-D targets along a walking trail or a 10-target area. Annual membership costs \$20. For more information, call 389-6135.

BATTING CAGES HOURS

The child, youth and school services batting cages are open Mondays-Fridays from 4-7 p.m., Saturdays from 2-6 p.m. and are closed Sundays. They are located in the Youth Sports Complex on Fifth Avenue between the post office and the youth football field. For more information, call 255-9105.

RIDING STABLES RULES

Riding stables staff reminds community members that letting horses out of their stalls can be dangerous to the horses and motorists. Visitors are also reminded to stay on the main roadways, do not approach any of the horses without owners' permission, stay out of the pastures and obey the speed limit of 10 mph at all times. For more information, call 598-3384.

Video Game Spotlight >>

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



COURTESY SCREENSHOT

Madden NFL 12 impresses

BY JIM VAN SLYKE
Contributing Writer

For a while there, during the NFL players strike, it looked like Madden NFL 12 might be the only professional football to light up our televisions this season. But thankfully cooler heads prevailed and the money was divided up to the satisfaction of the owners and players and we'll have real professional football beginning Sept. 8.

But that shouldn't take anything away from Madden NFL 12. The only professional football video game in town is back for another season.

While its detractors say it doesn't change much from year to year and that it still throws too many interceptions, the truth is that it's the best game in town — even if it's the only game in town.

As one would expect, this year's model has all the teams, stadiums and favorite players. There's a new collision system with more than 100 new tackle animations, including 40 gang tackles. A player's momentum is a bigger consideration this year. There have been more than 100 defensive AI



enhancements that have become part of toughest Madden defense ever. The players are programmed to react more like real players, and to do things like break out of defensive assignments when they recognize the offense has a play that is strong against the called defense.

Gamers can create their own playbooks, a nice feature for those who really like to dive into the details of running a football team.

The game on the field has an improved look that has the feel of a real NFL broadcast. Each team has a run out that begins their home

Publisher
Electronic Arts
Rated
Everyone
Systems
Multiple
Cost
\$60
Overall
3 out of 4

game and there are more than 500 dynamic broadcast cameras, including "real" on-field cameras shot by expert NFL Films camera-men. The details — everything from helmet stickers to pylon physics — are evident throughout the game.

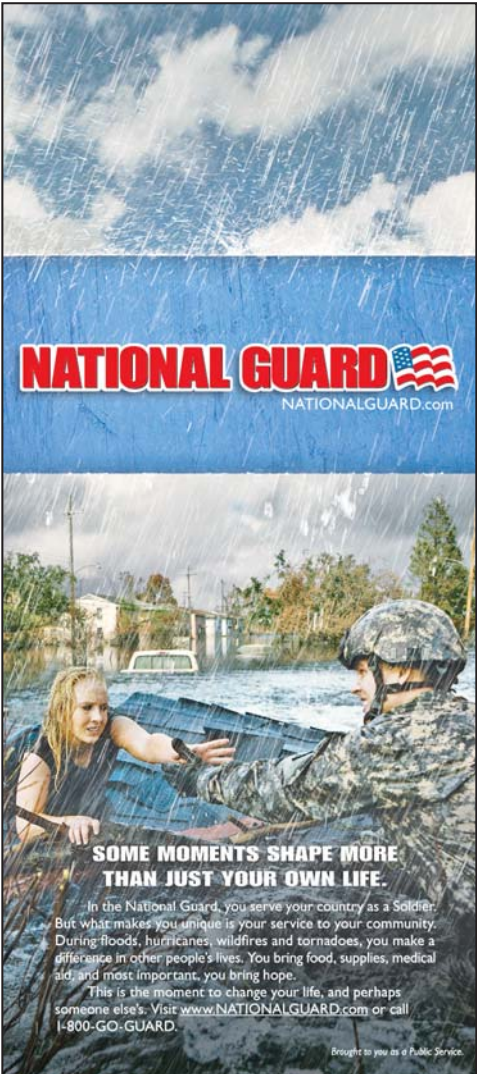
The "Build a Franchise" and "Be a Superstar" modes have been improved with things like player hot and cold streaks that impact not just their own stats, but those of their teammates as well. Build a Franchise got the most attention; gamers who enjoy running their own team will appreciate the im-

provements. It's still not enough, but there's always next year.

However, it all boils down to whether or not Madden NFL 12 is a drastic improvement over last year's model. Gamers want to know if they are shelling out their cash for just a roster update or if it's truly a new game. Well, Madden NFL 12 isn't a new game, but like its cover boy, Peyton Hillis, it works hard for extra yardage (although, like Hillis, it's prone to fumbling at inopportune times). Even though there have been improvements, players sometimes still react illogically. They may also do things like drop multiple passes in a row because they are not a top wide receiver even if the ball was passed right into their hands. Drops happen, sure, but any receiver who has made a team in the NFL can catch a ball thrown right at them.

Still, this is the best NFL game in town and the online play is a blast. Building a franchise is fun, too. It's not perfect, but neither are the teams in the NFL — at least not since the '72 Miami Dolphins.

Reviewed on the Xbox 360



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