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PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Employees experience firefighter training

Sharon Manning, Aviation Branch Safety Office director, attempts to carry a fire hose up a flight of stairs as part of a civilian firefighting training exercise at the Firefighter Training Facility on post. Civilians were given the opportunity to experience firefighter exercises as part of Fire Prevention Week Oct. 5.

Conference turns problems into possibilities

By Erin Murray
Army Flier Staff Writer

Last week, delegates, volunteers and subject matter experts gathered to seek solutions for problems within the Fort Rucker community and the total Army at the installation's Army Family Action Plan Conference for the 2012 fiscal year.

"The conference was only a two-day event, but the work that the conference delegates did will benefit the total Army Family for many years to come. They rolled up their sleeves, worked through complex issues and offered smart, attainable recommendations to Fort Rucker's command," said Shellie Kelley, AFAP director.

Five workgroups were assembled by AFAP to represent a cross section of the community, with active duty, retired military, spouses and Department of Defense civilians giving two days of work to research and resolve submitted issues.

During the final brief to the command group, which included Col. Jessie O. Farrington, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence

deputy commander and assistant commandant for Fort Rucker, and Col. James A. Muskopf, Fort Rucker garrison commander, the delegates presented nine resolutions from a broad spectrum of Army life issues. Additionally, two delegates from the teen AFAP conference in September also presented their two issues to the command group.

The Retail, Leisure, Family and Community workgroup presented two resolutions for issues concerning security in the child development center and the amount of time between Exceptional Family Members Program respite care requests and the delivery of care. The workgroup suggested enhancing security at the CDC and issuing an expanded protocol for EFMP requests.

The Teen AFAP workgroup had resolutions for two issues. Delegates suggested increased frequency of pesticide treatments on youth services sports fields in order to prevent allergic reactions to sports players and spectators. The second recommendation by Teen AFAP was to expand child, youth

SEE AFAP, PAGE A7



PHOTO BY ERIN MURRAY

Teen AFAP delegate Alicia Denton receives a certificate of recognition from Col. Jessie O. Farrington, USAACE and Fort Rucker deputy commander, for her service at the Fort Rucker AFAP Conference last week. Teen AFAP members joined five other panels of Fort Rucker community members in presenting their issues and resolutions to Fort Rucker commanders at the conference.



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Col. John M. Lynch, TRADOC capability manager, presents Maj. Andrew Herzberg, BOLC commander, with his Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certification during a LSS graduation ceremony at Ford Hall Oct. 6. Herzberg and 14 other Soldiers and civilians graduated from the course.

Lean Six Sigma class encourages new ideas

By Russell Sellers
Army Flier Staff Writer

"Because that's how we've always done it," is not an acceptable excuse for those who recently completed the Lean Six Sigma class here.

The Department of the Army-funded and Training and Doctrine Command-taught class began here in July with 15 students. Those 15 graduated from the course with Black Belt certification Oct. 6. This was the first time the Black Belt certification course had been taught at Fort Rucker, said Rod Norris, TRADOC LSS instructor.

All 15 are now "Black Belt" certified through the course and are ready to take the information and knowledge they've gained to their organizations and units, said Norris.

"This is all about finding broken processes in the Army and fixing them," he said. "We want to do it in a disciplined, diplomatic sort of way. That's what a (Black Belt certified) individual does."

A Black Belt certified LSS graduate uses what Norris referred to as the DMAIC system. It stands for Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve and Control, he added.

The course lasted four weeks, but was only taught for one week each

month since July, Norris said. Each student was also tasked to come up with a project to apply what they had learned in order to become certified upon graduation.

"This program has been going on since 2006," Norris said. "The Army has trained over 450 Black Belts, to which we've added 15 with this course."

Col. John M. Lynch, TRADOC capability manager, was instrumental in bringing the LSS training here, Norris added. Lynch said this class is going to be highly beneficial to Fort Rucker and the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence.

SEE IDEAS, PAGE A7

PERSPECTIVE

D6 AFAP update: Progress on top priorities

By **Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch**
*Installation Management
Command Commanding
General*

SAN ANTONIO — September's Army Family Action Plan review session showed progress on the top-priority 2011 Army AFAP Conference issues, including survivor identification cards and child care fees.

The session also identified adjustments to AFAP that will better align the process with the Army's cost culture.

Every month I meet with subject matter experts from across the Army to review the status of issues submitted through the AFAP process to determine if they are achievable. This review session focused on the 16 new issues identified by AFAP delegates during the February



Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

2011 Army AFAP Conference in Arlington, VA.

The top issue identified to senior Army leaders during this year's conference was issue No. 667, which recommended that ID cards of surviving children with an active duty sponsor annotate both active duty and survivor status.

Surviving Family members

have been required to present both an active duty ID card and survivor status documentation to receive survivor services. The requirement for additional documentation often resulted in emotional stress for survivors, as it caused them to relive their loss.

To address this concern, the Department of Defense Human Resources Activity has authorized the use of a "dual status" over-stamp on ID cards of surviving Family members. Business processes are now being put in place to ensure correct implementation throughout the Army.

Another AFAP success story is the work toward resolving issue No. 671, which seeks to cap military child development program fees at 25 percent of a Family's total income. The Army Child and Youth Fee Policy will require that Families

who pay more than 25 percent of their monthly income for child-care be immediately informed of the financial hardship waiver process and provided information on how to apply at registration. The projected date for this policy change is Nov. 1.

To track this or any other issue, visit the Army One-Source website at <https://www.myarmyonesource.com/familyprogramsandservices/> and search by issue number or key word.

While we are making progress on some issues, such as 671 and 667, others are unachievable due to current fiscal constraints. As our funding shrinks, we have to be even better stewards of our resources and ask ourselves three fundamental questions: Do we really need it? Is it worth the cost? What are we willing to do without?

These questions must become part of our culture as we move forward in this period of reduced resources. Therefore, the Army now requires that new issues introduced into the process be accompanied by the estimated cost and a recommendation to offset the cost. We strongly encourage those who have suggestions for improving the quality of life for the Army community to continue to submit new issues, but with an eye towards how their suggestions can be paid for.

Our bottom line is clear: the Army's commitment to Soldiers and Families endures. How we get to that bottom line changes with our resources. AFAP continues to play a vital role in identifying what is important to the Army community, which is critical to how we decide to make the most of our resources.

Rotor Wash

“October is Energy Awareness Month.
What's your favorite tip for “going green?”



Megan Zabel,
military spouse

“Use energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs.”



Mary Cee,
military spouse

“Recycle and carpool.”



Jalyn Hamilton,
military Family member

“Don't leave the water running while brushing your teeth.”



CW4 Earl Poole,
Army Reservist
Det. 47 OSA

“Turn off and unplug electronics when they're not in use.”



Viviane Ellis,
military spouse

“Let the excess warm air out of your attic to cool your house more efficiently.”

COMMAND

Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield
FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

Col. James A. Muskopf
FORT RUCKER GARRISON COMMANDER

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FORT RUCKER PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

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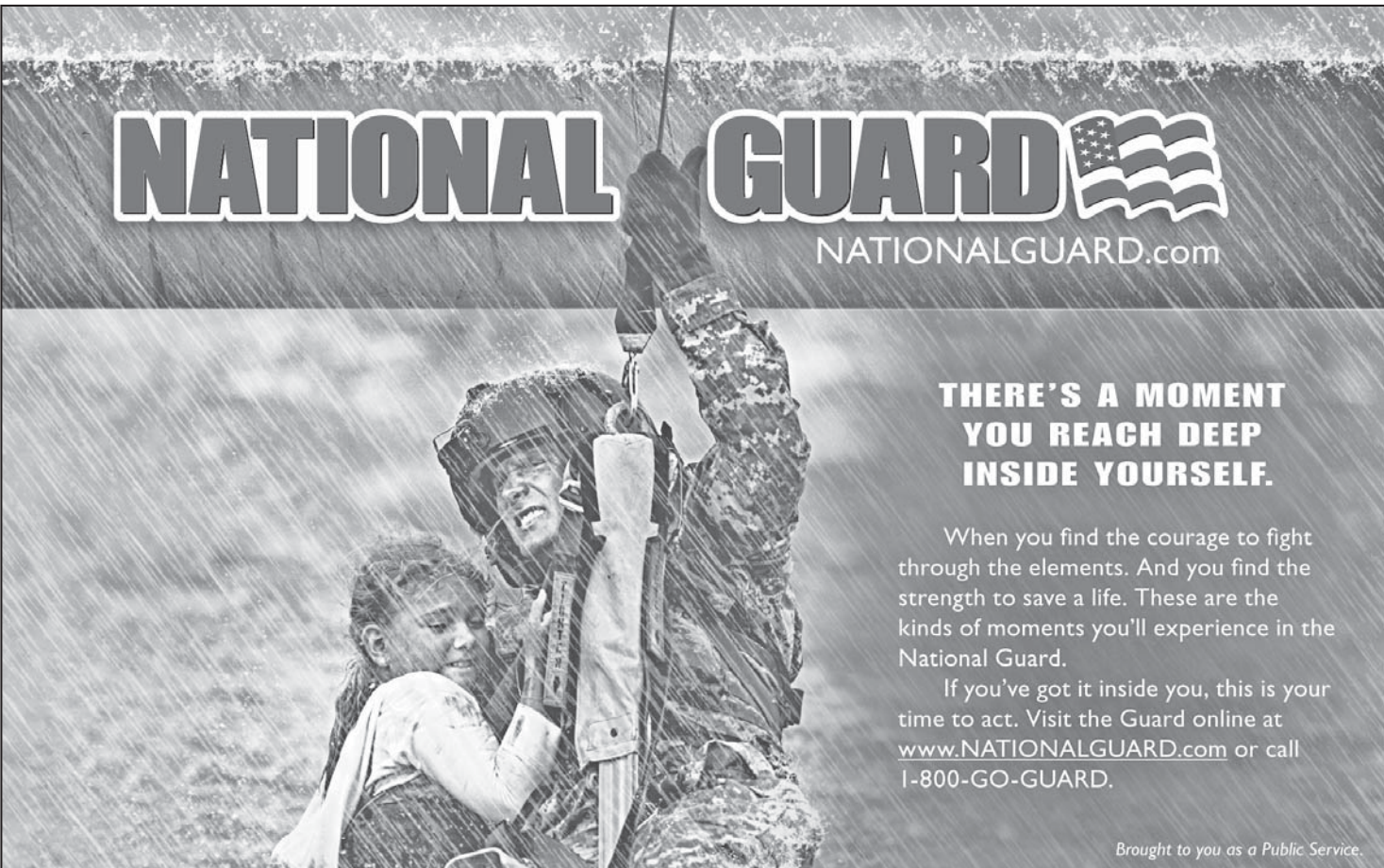
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Energy Expo offers helpful tips, items

By Russell Sellers
Army Flier Staff Writer

There are many different ways to save energy at Fort Rucker, according to Directorate of Public Works officials.

That’s where the first-ever Fort Rucker Energy Expo comes in, said Tony King, DPW Engineering Division resource efficiency manager. Those who attend the event Oct. 20 at the Fort Rucker festival fields will find out a lot of useful information and learn about new items available to them that can save money in energy costs.

“It’s about energy and resources,” he said. “You can do all the right things with equipment, but if people don’t know how to use that equipment right, then it can be less effective.”

The event will also have several exhibitors who will display some new and widely-available technology that can help consumers save on energy costs, he added.

“We’re going to have a Tesla Roadster and a Chevy Volt on display and demonstrated,” he said. “Both of these cars are completely electric and have a great range and speed. Those are in addition to a wide variety of energy exhibits available throughout the event. We’ll also have giveaways and prizes throughout the expo. There’s going to be plenty of pretty neat eye-candy.”

The people part of the Energy Expo is the key to success for the event. The expo will help show people how they can save at home and at work, said Buddy Coleman, Fort Rucker energy engineer.

“October is Energy Awareness Month, so we’re putting on an energy expo to get people to think about energy,” he said. “We’ll be showing them energy efficient lighting, automobiles, how to save on resources like water and gas. It’s really going to be a great source of information.”

Some of the event vendors who will be demonstrating products and techniques for energy savings include Siemens, South



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Buddy Coleman, Fort Rucker energy engineer, adjusts a digital thermostat at the DPW building to save energy. Coleman is helping with the organization of the first-ever Energy Expo to be held at the Fort Rucker Festival Fields Oct. 20.

Alabama Electric, Alabama Power, Mayer Electric, Bondy’s Toyota and Sam Boswell Honda, King said.

“This is aimed at making people more aware,” he said. “It’s going to be a great day, and we hope people will come out and experience what we’ll have to offer.”

The event is free and open to the public.

There will be food available for a cost, he added.

All exhibitors will also have free information packets to give away to the public, Coleman added.

Pam Smith, DPW utilities specialist, said that this is the first time anything like this expo has ever happened at Fort Rucker

and she hopes it won’t be last.

“We’re hoping this will grow each year,” she said. “Everybody’s trying to save energy right now and this is going to give people a lot of good ideas on how to do that.”

For more information on the expo, call 255-0494.

AAFES rewards students for ‘making the grade’

Fort Rucker AAFES
Press Release

In a recent editorial, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Robert L. Gordon III wrote “a high-quality education is consistently ranked as one of the top priorities for military Families with school-aged children.”

Understanding the value Families at Fort Rucker place on education, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service offers a unique rewards program that continues to receive high marks from students and parents alike.

Now in its 11th consecutive year, “You Made the Grade”

recognizes students who achieve a B average or better with a benefits-filled booklet. Exclusive offers include a free Burger King Kids meal, video rental and \$2 off any new release DVD at the PowerZone, to name a few.

Students who made the grade can also register for a drawing to win a savings bond worth up to \$5,000 by filling out and mailing an included entry form.

“It is important to recognize Fort Rucker’s superior students,” said the local exchange store manager, Joe Escobar. “To be able to maintain academic excellence despite adversities such as moving regularly or having a parent

deployed shows the resolve of these students as well as the quality of their teachers.”

To receive a “You Made the Grade” booklet, students simply present a valid military ID card and proof of an overall B or better average at the Fort Rucker Exchange. Students may receive one coupon package for every qualifying report card, but may enter the savings bond drawing only once per calendar year. Coupon booklets are available at the exchange’s customer service counter.

Fort Rucker Families can contact the exchange at 503-9044, Ext. 211 for more information about “You Made the Grade.”



PHOTO BY LISA EICH-HORN

USAACE places 3rd

The Fort Rucker and U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence Army 10-Miler team poses for a photo with Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, USAACE and Fort Rucker commanding general, shortly after the team earned third place honors in its category at the annual event in Washington, D.C., Sunday.

News Briefs

Retiree Health Fair

The annual Retiree Health Fair takes place Oct. 28 from 8 a.m. to noon at The Landing on post. Lyster Army Health Clinic staff will be on hand to provide influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations, blood pressure checks, health and disease management information, and classes on nutrition, exercise, tobacco cessation and depression.

Fort Rucker will also have representatives providing information on legal matters, Army Community Service, Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation and other agencies.

There will also be vendors with educational material at the fair.

CFC update

The Fort Rucker Combined Federal Campaign has raised \$313,680 as of Tuesday, which is 28 percent of the drive’s goal of \$1,125,000, report local CFC officials.

To contribute to CFC, visit <http://www.heartofalabamacfc.org/> or visit Bldg 5700 Rm. 280.

For more information on the CFC, call 255-9261.

Stop Loss pay deadline

WASHINGTON — Only a few days remains for eligible service members, veterans and their beneficiaries to apply for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay.

Officials extended a previous deadline to Oct. 21 to allow more time for eligible people to apply.

The special retroactive pay was established to compensate for the hardships military members encountered when their service was involuntarily extended under Stop Loss authority between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009, officials said. Eligible members or their beneficiaries may submit a claim to their respective military service to receive the benefit of \$500 for each full or partial month served in a Stop Loss status.

To apply, or for more information — including submission requirements and service-specific links — go to <http://www.defense.gov/stoploss>.

Army bracing for more budget cuts

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The potential of the Department of Defense facing additional budget cuts of \$500-600 billion over the next 10 years keeps him “up at night,” said Secretary of the Army John McHugh.

The Department of Defense is already looking at budget cuts meant to save the federal government \$450 billion over 10 years. In addition, lawmakers who are part of the “super committee” are looking to find an additional \$1.2 trillion in savings over the same period. If they fail to do so, as much as half of that amount could automatically be taken from DOD through “sequestration,” McHugh said.

“I think we’re in a positive position to accommodate at least the \$450 billion or so in cuts that have been scheduled against the DOD to this point,” McHugh told a panel of journalists during the opening hours of the 2011 Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C., Monday.

“Additional cuts coming out of that process, particularly the potential of sequestration, and the \$500-\$600 billion or so of additional cuts that would likely (be brought) against the Defense Department, I would think it is fair to say it [would be] catastrophic,” McHugh said, “certainly to the Army and certainly to our national defense posture.”

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond Odierno said that the potential of a “hollow force” would not come to fruition, however. Instead, he said, a ready and capable force would exist — though size might be affected.

“No matter what happens, we are not going to have a hollow force,” Odierno said. “We are go-



PHOTO BY C. TODD LOPEZ

During the opening ceremony of the 2011 Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C., Secretary of the Army John McHugh pointed out that the Army provides 50 to 70 percent of deployable forces. Additionally, he said, the Army represents about half of America's entire fighting force, yet consumes only a quarter to 30 percent of the entire defense budget.

ing to have a force that is a certain size — that has the modernization and readiness necessary to be quality.”

The general said that, despite the quality of such a force, and it’s readiness to deploy and fight, it would be questionable what could be done with it.

Both McHugh and Odierno agreed that cuts to the DOD would likely be shared equally across the three military departments — the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. The Marine Corps falls under the department of the Navy.

Earlier, at the opening ceremony of the 2011 AUSA event, McHugh addressed a room of more than 3,000 guests — including Soldiers, civilian employees and defense contractors.

During his opening remarks there, the secretary pointed out that while all services contribute to the fight, it is the Army that carries the brunt of the mission in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

“There’s no getting around the fact that it is the Army that has been saddled with much of the burden these past years, provid-

ing between 50 to 70 percent of our deployable forces,” McHugh said, addressing an audience that was likely half Soldiers. “While I am loathed to view our men and women in uniform as mere budgetary statistics, I think it is important to remind people that while the U.S. Army represents half of our nation’s entire force, we consume only a quarter to 30 percent of the entire defense budget.”

The secretary said that decision makers often fail to correctly predict the nature of future conflicts and that following conflicts like World War I, World War II and Korea, for instance, budget decisions were made based on the notion that ground forces were no longer relevant — those decisions ended up depleting Army forces and reducing quality of life for Soldiers and their Families.

This time, he said, the Army has seen the economic downturn in advance as well as the impending budget cuts.

“Unlike in the past, this time we have seen this downturn coming for some time,” he said. “We have been analyzing the best ways

to meet these challenges, and as such I can tell you we are better positioned than at any time in our nation’s history to deal with the fiscal realities and do it in a way that truly makes sense.”

Part of dealing with fiscal realities, he said, is cuts to end strength — the total number of men and women in uniform. The end strength will eventually “look different” than it does now, he said. And with the drawdowns in Iraq and Afghanistan, he said he thinks the Army can handle the challenge of end-strength reductions.

But he was cautious to hope that cuts don’t come too quick or too clumsy.

“But what is critically important, is that no matter what the force ultimately looks like, we have sufficient time to ramp down to ensure we do it in a balanced way and that we have what is necessary for training and equipment and reset,” McHugh said.

Another concern for McHugh, he said, are suggestions that “some of the services recover at the sacrifices of others. That the United States probably doesn’t need a strong and decisive standing Army — the future to them looks more like ‘Transformers’ than ‘Saving Private Ryan.’ History looms before us once again.”

McHugh said air power and technology are critical, but that America’s enemies don’t often fight the way Americans predicts they will. Boots on the ground, he said, are critical for the nation’s defense.

“No major conflict has ever been won without boots on the ground,” he said. “And accordingly, our national interests demand that while we set about the task of reshaping this Army for the years ahead, we remain steadfast and continue to support this, the greatest land force the world

has ever known.”

Efforts to help the Army find ways to save money, to be able to absorb looming budget cuts, are already underway, McHugh said.

The service is removing redundancies and overlap in research, for instance. Additionally, McHugh has asked that that Army look into the multiple and expensive temporary task forces that have become “permanent.” Also under way are efforts to streamline the requirements process, reforms to the Installation Management Command and “sweeping changes” to human capital management.

McHugh said changes will be made to find cost savings within the Army Service Acquisition program, where \$243 billion was spent in 2010 — including \$140 billion on contracts, where more than half was spent on services.

A McHugh-issued directive will create a new government structure that will consolidate about 45 percent of service obligations into six portfolio management centers, he said. Those include facility support services, medical services, transportation services, electronics and communications, equipment related services, and knowledge-based services.

“This will, I believe, improve oversight effectiveness, while helping us tailor and apply and monitor the results of better buying practices for improved acquisition, as well as leveraging portfolio demand for better prices,” he said.

Those types of actions, he said, will help the Army deal with the budgets that will be made for the service by others. He told Soldiers he will help guide the Army to make it through the budget crisis, and will keep them in mind when doing so.

“We can, we must — and I promise you — we will do better,” he said.



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Army launches new accident reporting software program

By Art Powell

Strategic Communication Directorate
U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

The Army released a new Web-based tool Oct. 3 that is designed to be more accurate, timely and complete by combining several existing Army accident reporting systems.

The streamlined program, tested at selected Army installations, including Fort Benning, Ga.; Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Sill, Okla.; and the Army National Guard, Washington, D.C., will assist leaders in monitoring accident data and identifying trends across the force.

"This tool will give our leaders, at all levels, a better picture of the Army accident landscape," said Brig. Gen. William T. Wolf, director of Army safety and commander of the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center at Fort Rucker. "It empowers them to better understand the types and circumstances surrounding accidents so that they can develop preventative measures."

Prompt accident reporting is critical in order for Army Leaders to promptly address accident trends that may develop anywhere in the world, and take steps to address them.

"ReportIt is designed to be more accurate than previous systems, and provides more timely and complete reporting," said Rae McInnis, director, G3, current operations, USACR/Safety Center. "It will provide Army Leaders with a better picture of the types of accidents we experience and the circumstances surrounding them, and that capability will guide their responses for taking corrective action."

ReportIt now contains modules to address Aviation and ground accidents. Future modules will guide initial notification actions, unmanned aircraft systems accidents, civilian reporting, smartphone applications and offline capability, among others.

"We've tested ReportIt at selected bases because, like any new software system, we wanted to work out the bugs and get user feedback so we could address known problems before going Armywide," added McInnis. "And we expect to address issues that may arise in the future as this software program evolves and makes a huge footprint across our Army."



ReportIt provides reserve components of the Army with improved accident reporting/analysis capabilities, as well.

"For the Army National Guard, ReportIt is the welcomed next evolution in the mishap reporting conduit," said CW5 Mark Grapin, Aviation and ground safety specialist, National Guard Bureau, Army National Guard Directorate, Washington, D.C. "The development and implementation team has been sensitive to the statutory reporting criteria for the Guard, which should reduce our learning curve and growth pains. ReportIt is akin to a credit card swipe machine at the grocery store counter: a simplified conduit to the army accident database of record with 'TurboTax'-style prompting tools that largely take the pain out of the reporting process. As a result, we expect increased accuracy and decreased span-times between event and archive."

Army ReportIt developers strived to ensure that the it would not only be quicker and easier to use than those systems it replaced, but provide quicker user feed-back.

"ReportIt is easier to use than the systems it replaced," said Melissa Johnson, director, G6, support operations, USACR/Safety Center, "because we designed a very user-centric, familiar, web-based interface. We are developing ReportIt on the .NET platform using Agile methodology to enable us to respond quickly to user feedback. And, of course, we are vigilant to maintain Army information assurance standards as well as Privacy Act requirements."

To see or use ReportIt, go to <https://safety.army.mil> and click on the ReportIt icon.



Opportunity Knocks

>>>Employment Forum<<<

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36101)

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SCEG11849767
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Providing shelter for Soldiers

By Bob Reinert
Army News Service

NATICK, Mass. — What fits into one C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, will be used by as many as 150 Soldiers, and can be set up and fully operational in as little as 3 1/2 hours?

Everything one would need to set up an entire base camp, and it all came about as a result of Army shelters used and judged inadequate during Operation Desert Storm.

"It goes back to 1991," said Mike Hope, Combat Field Service Equipment Team leader for Project Manager Force Sustainment Systems at Natick Soldier Systems Center. "General (Gordon R.) Sullivan, who was the chief of staff of the Army during Desert Storm, looked on one side and saw the Air Force living in (comfortable) air-conditioned tents, and the Army on the other side not doing so well. So he directed the development of Force Provider."

The Force Provider system furnishes everything those 150 Soldiers need: climate-controlled billeting, shower, latrine, kitchen, power distribution, and even morale, welfare and recreation facilities.

"All you have to bring is the fuel and water, and it will run," said Luz Diaz, a Force Provider project manager. "It's the Army's premier base camp for Soldiers."

At the beginning, Force Provider was designed as a 600-Soldier camp. According to Hope, 9/11 changed all that. Eight Force Provider modules were flown to Afghanistan in November 2001.

"We had them right over there," Hope said. "The first thing the commanders wanted to do was break them apart to support smaller forward missions."

Hope's team got right to work reconfiguring Force Provider for the smaller units deployed to Afghanistan.

"We packaged it so it was much more flexible," Hope said. "You can put them anywhere you want. You can send them down-range to the smallest FOB (forward operating base) — wherever you need (them)."

"The 150-man package is kind of tailored around a leg company, so a battalion commander doesn't have to put all his people in one place," said Lee O'Donovan, Hope's systems acquisition manager. "He can have them in four different places and they're self-sustaining."

That 150-man camp can be established much more quickly than any other shelter systems of the past. In less than four hours, eight people can have it up and fully operational. Hope said the use of Natick-developed inflatable air beams in the tents streamlined the process.

"The set-up time was reduced dramatically," Hope said. "It used to take us seven to 10 days to house 600 Soldiers. We can do it in one day because of that air-beam technology."

O'Donovan pointed out that not much can keep Force Provider down.

"You can actually unroll the air-beam tent, put the four big stakes in the ground and blow it up in a sandstorm," O'Donovan said. "It's been done. You can't do that with a temper or a frame tent."

And what about that sandstorm? Well, it would stay outside, where it be-



ARMY PHOTO

Each Force Provider base camp comes with everything 150 Soldiers need, including a kitchen.

longs.

"This thing is like a cocoon," O'Donovan said. "It's really nice."

A diesel compressor can inflate the four air beams of a 32-by-20-foot shelter in 10 minutes.

"Once you get it to 60 (pounds per square inch), you take (the compressor) away," Hope said. "That's it. You never come back and put air in it."

"The nice thing about that tent, though, is everything's integrated inside so it doesn't beat the Soldier up for another hour to go back in and outfit the inside of the tent."

What happens if an air beam is pierced by a bullet?

"They don't explode," Hope said. "They would leak like a tire and just deflate. It's very, very reliable." And an air beam can be replaced in minutes.

Hope said Force Provider, 50 of which are deployed to Afghanistan, can be set up just about anywhere. "The nice thing about it is it's so flexible that we could probably set it up in a hundred different configurations," Hope added.

Soldier feedback from the field over the years has spurred improvements to Force Provider.

"We're passionate about the Force Provider System, because we get to see what it does. We design

it, we build it, we field it, and we get to see the looks on their faces. We didn't do anything scientific. We just listened to what the Soldier had to say."

A constant goal of Force Provider is to decrease the amount of fuel and water used in basing, thereby reducing the number of costly and sometimes dangerous resupply missions to those forward bases. A new shower-water reuse system with Force Provider captures and reuses 75 percent of gray water.

"If you look at a typical 600-man camp, you use about 4.4 million gallons a year if you had 600 living there for an entire year," Hope said. "That little box

will capture 3.3 million gallons of that. And if you look at the cost of water in Afghanistan right now, it could range anywhere from \$15 to \$30 a gallon. So it pays for itself in or about the sixth day."

The Force Provider team took its development efforts a step further this year with the establishment of a systems integration laboratory on a 10-acre site at nearby Fort Devens, Mass., where the team set up two 150-man camps. One mirrors those currently deployed to Afghanistan; the other is designed to collect data and test new technologies in such areas as micro-grid, insulation materials,

lighting, gray/black water treatment and renewable energy.

Data collected and new technologies tested at the Devens site will lead to future improvements in the shelter system, which has already received high marks over the years from deployed Soldiers.

"The modular capability that it provides has proven to be a force enabler from the battalion down to the company level. It takes care of our deployed service members by providing for a one-stop sleep, feed, entertainment and exercise capability that means so much to each and every task force member," Lt. Col. Michael C. Lopez of Headquarters, Combined/Joint Task Force-82, Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, wrote in a Nov. 9, 2009, letter to Kevin Fahy, program executive officer, Combat Support, Combat Service Support.

"This Force Provider System is unlike any base camp system we have in the area of operations; specifically, the hygiene systems provide a like-home environment that increases morale more than you will ever know. Once again, thank you (from) all of us for ensuring our warfighters have the best equipment and for providing a piece of garrison while we are deployed."

That's just the kind of response that Hope likes to hear.

"Force Provider: It's all about providing that slice of home to those troops," Hope said. "That's exactly what General Sullivan's vision was, and that's exactly what it's doing today."



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AFAP: ‘There are many more good ideas’

Continued from Page A1

and school services membership to civilian children in order to increase participation and strengthen relationships with surrounding communities.

Delegates from the Entitlement and Force Support workgroup contributed two recommendations to the command group, the first dealing with availability of casualty assistance officers to survivors. The primary concern of the issue was the inability to contact a CAO on a personal phone line in times of need. In their presentation, the workgroup noted the need for CAOs to be readily available because “Families need to feel supported during the grieving process and may feel neglected by the Army or CAO if they are unable to reach them at the time they need assistance.” They proposed seeking highly-motivated CAOs and allowing access to government cell phones.

The Entitlement and Force Support workgroup also requested that DOD civilians and non-appropriated funds personnel be granted commissary and post exchange privileges.

Members of the Military Retiree/Survivor group handled three retirement benefits issues. They proposed that retirees who served and subsequently retired from September 2001 to August 2009 be allowed to transfer Post 9-11 GI Bill education benefits

to dependents. The workgroup’s presentation stated that “the person who retired prior to August 2009 made the same sacrifices as the person who retired after August 2009. This gross oversight in the law is unfair to our honored servicemembers who were not awarded this benefit.”

The workgroup also recommended a guaranteed retirement system to Soldiers upon enlisting and introducing a Web-based benefits tool to aid survivors from “losing benefits over misunderstood or inaccessible expiration dates [that cause] undue frustration, stress and potential financial burden.”

Medical and Dental delegates handled two issues involving benefits and programs for Soldiers and retirees. According to the delegates, many TRICARE beneficiaries will no longer have access to 24-hour pharmacies, due to a national pharmacy opting out of the TRICARE system. The proposed resolution asks TRICARE and Army medical facilities to inform beneficiaries of the changes in providers, publish a list of eligible pharmacies and establish a contingency plan for emergency prescriptions.

The other Medical and Dental resolution involved better integration of National Guard Soldiers and Families into EFMP services by providing screenings and better accommodating National Guard Families upon activation.



Col. James A. Muskopf, Fort Rucker garrison commander, addresses the crowd last week during the installation’s Army Family Action Plan Conference for the 2012 fiscal year.

Participants and commanders were eager to praise the benefits of the AFAP conference on a local and Armywide level.

“It’s a very beneficial process that benefits everyone involved in the military system. All of our team members were very supportive of each other and the issues,” said Gretchen Levine, a member of the AFAP support staff and re-

corder for the Medical and Dental workgroup.

When Sgt. Christopher Fuchs, A Company, 1st Battalion, 11th Aviation Regiment, was selected as a delegate, he was not sure what AFAP really did, but after the conference, he said that he could see the benefits.

“There’s value in it, and it was informative. It makes me want to

be a better Soldier and serve the Fort Rucker community,” he said.

After the closing briefing, Farrington thanked the delegates and support staff for contributing their time and thoughts to the Army.

“There are many more good ideas out there that can help our Soldiers and our Families. We see the tangible benefits from the work you have done,” he said.

Ideas: Class brings unique problem solving approach

Continued from Page A1

“These graduates are going to take these skills back to their organizations and it’s going to wind up cutting costs in the long run,” he said. “They’ll also be able to develop new projects in the future now that they can put these concepts into practice. It’s much like the Leading Change concept here.”

Lynch told the graduates they have accomplished something that only a few

have, and that they should take their skills and use them to their full advantage.

“What a great opportunity that has been presented to your commands,” he said. “I commend them for allowing them to take advantage of this. It’s both good for the individual and the Army.”

While the class mostly consisted of civilians, there were some Soldiers who took part as well, including Maj. Andrew Herzberg, Basic Officer Leadership Course commander.

“LSS brings an interesting approach for problem solving,” he said. “I liked it because I found it challenging and it exposed me to forms of thought I hadn’t previously seen. The Army has its way of solving problems and this has its own way.”

Herzberg said he isn’t sure how BOLC will be affected just yet, but he’s sure the training he’s picked up here will definitely affect decision making and organizing in the future.

“The different approaches to thinking I learned here can be broadly applied to what my company does in terms of the mission,” he said. “We can find better ways of doing things that we do every day, like processing leave forms, we can find better ways of doing things like that. It’s all about taking a high-quality product, and making it better. This class is very learner centric. It’s more of a collaborative process between instructor and student.”

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XM25 feedback shows lethality

By Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Piper
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Feedback from warfighters in Afghanistan testing the XM25 highlights the lethal effects of the counter-defilade weapon.

“We are getting great feedback from the Soldiers in the field on this weapon. The Soldiers are really excited to keep the weapon system and have requested to keep it longer than we had initially decided to leave those prototypes in theater,” said Col. Scott Armstrong, the program manager for Soldier weapons at Program Executive Office Soldier.

During a round table session with PEO Soldier Oct. 6, Armstrong provided an update on the XM25, as well as information on the progress of the individual carbine competition and updates for the M4 carbine to the A1 configuration.

Much of the data collected from the field is anecdotal, providing insight into the Soldier’s experience with the weapon rather than battle damage assessment.

“Operationally there is some very specific feedback that we have been receiving from Soldiers on the capability in the field,” said PEO Soldier Command Sgt. Maj. Bernard C. McPherson. “Rifle-to-rifle contacts where the XM25 is employed are very short. “

The XM25 has been renamed the Individual Semiautomatic Air Burst System

SEE XM25, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS RAYMOND PIPER

Congress has approved an additional \$24.7 million in funding for 36 new prototype XM25s. Currently, there are five prototypes being tested by Soldiers in Afghanistan

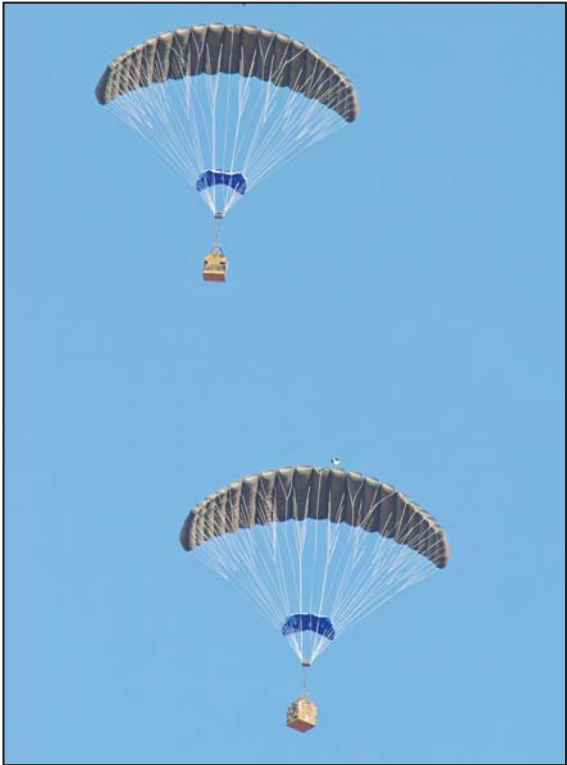


PHOTO BY PMFSS CARGO AIRDROP JPADS TEAM

A Joint Precision Airdrop System 2K drifts toward earth above Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz.

Sky’s the limit for airdrops

By Bob Reinert
Army Press Release

NATICK, Mass — Solutions to problems don’t usually fall from the sky.

Exceptions to this rule come in the form of good ideas generated by the airdrop professionals at Natick Soldier Systems Center in Massachusetts, whose best answers to tough questions normally float gently to earth. With Soldiers fighting in remote areas of Afghanistan where resupply often must come from the air, that won’t change any time soon.

“If you’re going by helicopter to resupply, it’s very easy for the enemy to try and shoot you down,” said Andrew Meloni of the Airdrop Technology Team. “So the only means of resupply for some of these bases is airdrop.”

In 2010, the Air Force alone airdropped 60.4 million pounds of supplies in Afghanistan, up

from 2 million pounds in 2005. “In theater right now, they’ve been doubling airdrops every year,” said Rich Benney, division leader, Aerial Delivery Equipment and Systems Division.

Terrain and wind present further challenges, however. Supplies dropped by conventional means can drift off course or roll down mountainsides and out of safe reach. And when isolated Soldiers don’t receive their supplies, lives can be at risk.

“For that kind of high-priority situation, we’ve developed what we’ll call smart airdrop or precision airdrop, which is guided the entire way down,” said Chris Ormonde of ATT.

The Joint Precision Airdrop System, or JPADS, uses a GPS, avionics and motors to guide steerable parachutes to one or more landing zones simultaneously with the kind of precision made necessary by the rugged terrain of Afghanistan. Though

it has accounted for less than 1 percent of all airdrops, JPADS has proved invaluable since its debut there in August 2006. The number of precision deliveries coming down will only increase.

“Right now, there are more than a hundred JPADS 2K systems in theater,” Benney said. “It takes a while to get these back after a drop. You’re clearly not using a lot of them. Most drop zones can utilize fielded one-time-use, unguided parachute systems. But the JPADS can get supplies into really tight and challenging terrain areas.”

“We just basically program in the landing coordinate — latitude, longitude and elevation — throw it out, and the system will steer itself, completely autonomously, to the target,” Meloni said.

That puts Soldiers at less risk when retrieving supplies. The

SEE AIRDROPS, PAGE B4

Army campaign seeks to lower prescription drug abuse

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The number of Soldiers abusing prescription drugs is low — very low. And the Army just signed a contract to develop a marketing campaign to help keep that number low.

In September, the Army signed a contract to develop a marketing campaign to educate Soldiers, leadership and Family members about the addictive nature of prescription drugs such oxycodone. The measure is preventative in nature and the first wave of campaign material should appear in January 2013.

“We see an ever increasing threat, from a national level, of the potential for abuse of prescription drugs,” said Dr. Les McFarling, director of the Army Substance Abuse Program. “We’ve seen the abuse of pain killers, oxycodone for example, and that’s something that’s rising very fast in the national scene.”

McFarling said some consider drugs like oxycodone “a medical miracle” due

to its speed and effectiveness in relieving pain. At the same time, he said, there’s the potential that once a Soldier starts taking such a drug, he might not stop.

“It doesn’t take much,” McFarling said. “These are very, very dangerous drugs, in terms of their addictive quality.”

McFarling said that today in the Army, there isn’t much indication that prescription drugs such as amphetamines, methamphetamines, codeine, morphine, oxycodone or oxymorphone are being abused in great numbers. Data from the Army shows that in fiscal year 2011, for instance, among the 507,502 drug tests conducted for amphetamines, about 0.13 percent of Soldiers were subsequently confirmed to have been using the drug illicitly.

For methamphetamines, about 0.07 percent were shown to be using illicitly. For codeine, that number is 0.05 percent, oxycodone is at 0.08 percent, and oxymorphone is at 0.15 percent.

Even with the low number, McFarling said, if abuse of a prescription drug like

SEE PRESCRIPTION, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY SGT. SAMANTHA BEUTERBAUGH

The number of Soldiers abusing prescription drugs is low – very low. And the Army just signed a contract to develop a marketing campaign that will help keep that number low.

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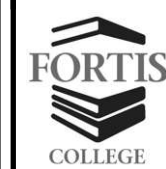


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XM25: Congress approves additional funding

Continued from Page B1

to better represent the capabilities of the weapon.

“The reason we have renamed it is because that is really the materiel solution we have brought to the Army to be able to bridge the gap that was identified as counter-defilade targets,” Armstrong said.

Currently, there are five prototypes being tested by Soldiers in Afghanistan.

Congress has approved an additional \$24.7 million in funding for 36 new prototype XM25s and will incorporate some changes based on Soldier feedback from the field.

“We are hoping to have those in our hands for testing by the end of 2012 and downrange six months later to conduct additional field testing with a battalion size

unit,” Armstrong said.

It may be a few years before Soldiers see a new individual carbine rifle, but phase one of the individual carbine competition begins Oct. 27 at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The first phase is to ensure all of the bids are responsible and responsive from the vendors. The second phase, which runs through 2012, is to initiate the test fires for the program. The third phase takes place in 2013, where three of the rifles will be chosen and will then enter the evaluation phase.

“The third phase is really focused on getting Soldier feedback for the entire test,” Armstrong said.

The winner will be selected based upon best value to the Army followed by a cost benefit analysis, which will determine whether it’s appropriate to stay with the cur-

rent M4A1 or transition the entire fleet to the individual carbine or move to some sort of hybrid solution where the M4A1 is fielded in conjunction with the new individual carbine, Armstrong said.

At the same time the Army tests the individual carbine, there will be continual improvement and upgrade of the M4 carbine to the M4A1 configuration. The M4 improvements can happen one of two ways. First is to purchase the M4A1 configuration directly from the vendor and send them to units. The second method is to provide a kit to units to upgrade the M4 carbines in their inventory to the A1 configuration.

“The Army continues to upgrade all of its equipment in the inventory,” Armstrong said. “The M4 has already had over 60 improvements to that weapon and this is a continuation of that process.”

Airdrops: System allows for wide range of payloads

Continued from Page B1

airdrops, made from high altitudes, also keep aircrews safer than they would be on low-altitude passes.

“It gets the Air Force up high, out of the threat range,” Benney said. “It allows them to be offset from the target. It allows the Air Force ... to either pick from within a big area (launch-acceptability region) in the sky to drop to one point, or they can actually drop from one point and hit multiple targets, which is unique.

“The first time they employed the program of record (which is managed and executed by U.S. Army Product Manager Force Sustainment Systems, also at Natick) in theater they put out eight bundles and they programmed four to one (forward operating base) on one side of the valley and four to one FOB on the other side of the valley. That’s unique.”

Low-altitude airdrops in some areas are perilous.

“Around some regions of Afghanistan, if we come in low, they’ll actually shoot from the top of the mountains down on the aircraft,” Meloni said. “So getting up high — and by high I mean 17,000 to 25,000 feet — and dropping keeps them out of that threat range from small-arms fire and man-portable air defenses.”

The JPADS family of systems allows for

the delivery of different payload weights from 10 pounds to tens of thousands of pounds. In a single pass, one aircraft can deliver supplies to multiple FOBs.

“We’re getting within 100 meters in theater, and we’ve actually had efforts to push that in closer, within 50 meters,” said Meloni of JPADS’ accuracy. “It can be dropped day, night — it doesn’t matter.”

“The accuracies are a function of JPADS weight class,” Benney said. “So the smaller it is, the more accurate it is.”

The decision of whether to use the accurate but more costly delivery systems depends on the situation.

“There is still a subset of drop zones in theater where we do need that really precise, guided system,” Meloni said. “As you can see with the terrain there, it’s not always easy to get some of this stuff back, so there’s been a big push to reduce the cost.”

One way to do that, said Meloni, is to use a modular version from which electronics can be removed after the supplies land.

“You actually reduce the cost of the system (significantly), and you’re able to recover the most-expensive pieces,” Meloni said.

Benney said that a normal airborne guidance unit weighs about 90 pounds. PM-FSS has developed a modular AGU

that weighs 30 pounds less than that.

“The modular AGU repackages existing components and consolidates more than 50 percent of the AGU value in an easily removable module that can be recovered on a hot drop zone and is half the size of a shoebox,” Benney said. “Throw it on your backpack (and) leave everything else, if required.”

That’s not the only opportunity for savings, Meloni said.

“In addition to the lower-cost guidance unit, (PM-FSS has) actually (developed and used a one-time-use, much) lower-cost parafoil,” Meloni added.

Meloni called JPADS part of a “toolbox of systems that the Air Force and the Army can use to get supplies to the troops in Afghanistan or Iraq.”

As Benney noted, the Army and Air Force have worked together to field the system.

“In general, the Air Force is responsible for getting you to the right point in the sky and knowing the weather,” said Benney, “and the Army develops and pays for nearly everything that leaves the aircraft.”

In the future, combat teams are likely to find themselves increasingly dispersed around the battlefield in the early days of a conflict. That dynamic environment would make JPADS even more vital to successful resupply and would push further refinements to the

system.

On so-called “combo drops,” different systems would communicate with one another during a drop.

“Right now, they do not know where each other is in the sky,” Benney said. “We’re looking in the future for secure (communications) so that each system can say, hey, this is where I am, and this is where I’m going, so that they don’t hit each other and can pass each other information that will enhance situational awareness and accuracy.

“You could do — and we’re looking at — follow the leader, have them fall into a pattern (stack up), which is what some of the (Special Forces) guys want to do.”

The airdrop folks also have been dropping lighter-weight JPADS off of unmanned aircraft, which could be the future of aerial delivery.

“It could be an unmanned aircraft that comes by with all these different things,” said Benney, “a loitering aircraft in a battle so you can get somebody anything they want right where and when they want it, very quickly.”

Benney knows what airdrop customers are after in the long run.

“They want street corner and rooftop accuracy,” Benney said. “Ultimately, we want to be able to go down Third Avenue, take a left on A Street and land right in front of the door.”

Prescription: New elements to be added to random drug tests

Continued from Page B1

oxycodone does become a problem, it’s one that’s “very, very, very hard to correct. This is one of the most addictive drug families you can have. It’s much easier for us to prevent Soldiers from becoming addicted than it is to help them get rid of their addiction.”

The campaign the Army will embark on will be preventative in nature, he said, one that is aimed at making Soldiers aware of the risks and addictive nature of many prescription drugs. The format of the campaign, he said might be similar to what the Department of Defense is doing with its “That Guy” campaign to educate servicemembers about alcohol abuse.

“You have people coming into an installation, they do rollouts, get community involvement with presentations, they do media spots, paper campaigns, handouts, possibly billboards, social media, anything you could conceive of to sell this idea,” he said.

In addition to the anti-prescription drug abuse campaign the Army is gearing up for now, the service already has other efforts in place to prevent an epidemic of prescription drug abuse.

Prescription drugs are being tracked across the Department of Defense now, to ensure Soldiers aren’t inadvertently prescribed multiple doses of the same addictive drug,

or that Soldiers don’t seek out multiple prescriptions. Also, there are now limits on the amount of time a Soldier is allowed to use a prescription, even if there are pills left over in the

bottle.

Also coming in the future, a widening of the scope of random drug tests. Today, when a Soldier goes in for a random drug test there’s a 100 percent chance he’ll

be tested for marijuana. There’s only a 20 percent chance of him being tested for oxycodone, however.

By the middle of fiscal year 2013, oxycodone will become part of the standard drug test. Other drugs like those in the hydrocodone family or benzodiazepine tranquilizers will also eventually become part of the standard drug testing battery.

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*Offer ends 1/28/2012. Offer available to new residential customers only. A current military ID is required to receive offer. The monthly rate of \$29.95 requires a minimum service commitment of twelve (12) months. Rate applies to up to 10 Mbps High-Speed Internet service. An additional monthly fee and separate shipping and handling fee will apply to customer's modem or router. All rates exclude taxes, fees and surcharges. General - Services and offers not available everywhere. CenturyLink may change or cancel services or substitute similar services at its sole discretion without notice. Offer, plans, and stated rates are subject to change and may vary by service area. Requires credit approval and deposit may be required. Additional restrictions apply. Terms and Conditions - All products and services are governed by tariffs, terms of service, or terms and conditions posted at www.centurylink.com. Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges - Taxes, fees, and surcharges apply, including a Carrier Universal Service charge, National Access Fee surcharge, a one-time High-Speed Internet activation fee, state and local fees that vary by area and certain in-state surcharges. Cost recovery fees are not taxes or government-required charges for use. Taxes, fees, and surcharges apply based on standard monthly, not promotional, rates. Call for a listing of applicable taxes, fees, and surcharges. Pure Broadband Service - As determined by service location, an early termination fee will apply as either a flat \$39 fee or the applicable monthly recurring service fee multiplied by the number of months remaining in the minimum service period, up to \$200. However, if subscriber cancels the service while deployed during the term agreement time frame, the early termination fee will be waived. Performance will vary due to conditions outside of network control and no speed is guaranteed. Telephone landline is part of the service only for the purpose of data traffic transmission/connection and cannot be used for voice traffic transmission, except for 911 services. ©2011 CenturyLink, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The name CenturyLink and the pathways logo are trademarks of CenturyLink, Inc. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.



OCTOBER 13, 2011



Post hosts events for Families, community

By Erin Murray
Army Flier Staff Writer

Multiple Fort Rucker organizations will be hosting Halloween events for both children and adults in the upcoming weeks, ranging from old-fashioned fun to frightening.

The various on-post Halloween events are a great chance for every member of the community to have a little spooky fun, said Janice Erdlitz, Fort Rucker Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation marketing director.

"DFMWR enjoys the opportunity to create fun events, and Halloween always brings out creative ideas. We have something for all Family members," she said.

The Center Library and Fort Rucker riding stables will provide events specifically for young children. The riding stables will host the annual Children's Fall Festival Oct. 22 from 4 p.m. until dark.

"There will be games, inflatables, concessions, horse rides, pony rides and a costume contest for kids age 10 and under. It will be a fun-filled event that the whole Family can enjoy," said Leda Green, program manager of the equestrian center.

Oct. 25, children ages 3-11 will be able to assemble a Halloween-themed take-home craft at the Center Library from 4-5 p.m. Guests will also receive treat bags and children are encouraged to wear their costumes to the activity. The event is open to the first 65 children to register, which can be done at the library.

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers hosts a Haunted House Oct. 22 from 6-10 p.m. at Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center. Admission to the haunted house is two canned food items, baby food or baby formula and goes to benefit the post food locker program. In previous years, the BOSS haunted house has drawn more than 1,000 attendants and collected 2,500 canned goods.

Erdlitz said that the BOSS haunted house is especially fun for those wanting to "have an extra fright" for a good cause this Halloween.

Fright Night at the Riding Stables takes place Oct. 27 and 28 at 7 p.m. This 3-mile hayride takes guests on a spooky journey based on the story of Edmund Rucker and his 16 children, complete with a walk through the cemetery, "Purgatory Trail of Terror" and the "Barn of Screams." Tickets are \$8 and are available at the stables and in Leisure Travel Services in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 130. Fright Night is open to the public, and Green offered a few tips for those planning to attend.

"We are recommending that children under the age of 12 do not attend this event. If they do come they need to have adult supervision with them at all times. Guests should be aware that they will be walking on part of this year's trails, so they need to wear comfortable shoes that they don't mind getting dusty. We want everyone to be able and come out and have the creepiest, most fun Halloween ever at the Fort Rucker Riding Stables," she said.

Rucker Lanes



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Maj. Norberto Rodriguez, Lyster Army Health Clinic Primary Care chief, and his daughter, Roslyn, participate in last year's Spooky 5K fun run. Those looking to add a little fitness to their Halloween fun this year can participate in the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility's Spooky 5k and 1-mile fun run and costume contest Oct. 29 at 9 a.m., with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m.

will host Monster Bowl Oct. 28, with extreme bowling from 7:30 p.m. to midnight. Along with all-night bowling, there will be a costume contest at 9:30 p.m. Best adult and child costumes will receive a free bowling ball.

The Monster Ball costume contest and dance will be held at The Landing Zone Oct. 29 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. The Monster Ball is open to the public ages 18 and older, and cash prizes will be available to several best costume winners.

Those looking to add a little fitness to their Halloween fun can participate in the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility's Spooky 5k, 1-mile fun run and costume contest Oct. 29 at 9 a.m., with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. The event is open to the public, and participation in the fun run is free. Costume contest winners will receive trophies and fun run participants will receive medals. To register for the 5k, call 255-3794.



PHOTO BY EMILY BRAINARD

Then WOC Asha Porter assists Emily Marcoux with a ring toss during last year's Halloween event at the Riding Stables. This year, the Riding Stables offers up the Children's Fall Festival Oct. 22 from 4 p.m. until dark, and also Fright Night at the Riding Stables Oct. 27 and 28 at 7 p.m.



ON POST

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

CYSS Parent Advisory Council Meeting

Fort Rucker's Child, Youth and Schools Services will host a parent advisory council meeting from noon to 1 p.m. Monday at the youth center on 7th Division Rd, Bldg. 2806. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information on items of interest and ideas about CYSS programs.

For more information, contact CYSS at 255-2958.

Cub Scout food drive

Fort Rucker's Cub Scout Pack 50 hosts a food drive Saturday from commissary opening until 5 p.m. at the commissary's exit. It benefits the post's food bank. The Scouts ask that only canned and dry goods be donated.

AFTB Level II

Army Community Service hosts Army Family Building Team Level II training Monday, Tuesday and Oct. 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371F. AFTB Level II is designed to help people gain personal growth skills and includes classes on: communication, stress management, time management, acknowledging change and more. Advance registration is required.

For registration and childcare information, call 255-2382.

EFMP information, support

The Exceptional Family Member Program hosts a brown bag lunch Tuesday at The Commons on 7th Avenue from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for all Families with an exceptional or special needs member. The topic of this meeting is the No Child Left Behind Act. Families are welcome to bring their own lunches, and meet and network with other EFMP Families.

For more information or to register, call 255-9277.

Assistive Technology Expo

The Exceptional Family Member Program and the Equal Employment Opportunity Office sponsor an Assistive Technology Expo in observance of National Disability Employment Awareness Month Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the lobby of the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700. The Expo is open to everyone and will showcase assistive technology devices available for individuals with disabilities. Representatives from the Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center and Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind will be present.

For more, call 255-9277.

Anger Management

The Family Advocacy Program hosts an Anger Management Workshop Tuesday and Oct. 25 from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Early Childhood Activity Center. Topics include: identifying causes of anger, symptoms of anger, techniques on how to manage anger and developing



FILE PHOTO

Creative social

The Fort Rucker Arts and Crafts Center hosts creative socials every third Thursday of the month from 4:30-6 p.m. The creative socials are designed for Fort Rucker's aspiring artists to share ideas, inspiration and resources, and also provide opportunities to showcase the artists' work. The socials are also for people who want to develop a skill, are an enthusiast, or who are talented at what they do. The event is open to the public. For more, call 255-9020.

an anger management plan. Registration is required. The workshop is open to active duty servicemembers, retirees, government employees and their Family members.

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

ACS Family Game Night

The Family Advocacy Program hosts Family Game Night Oct. 21 from 5-7 p.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950. People are welcome to bring their Family for a night of games. Families that complete the round robin of games will receive a free board game to take home. This event is limited to the first 25 Families and the deadline to register is Friday. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information or to sign up, call 255-9641 or 255-3898.

Consumer Advocacy Workshop

Army Community Service hosts a Consumer Advocacy Workshop Oct. 20 from 7-8 p.m. at The Commons on 7th Avenue, Bldg. 8950. The Better Business Bureau of Alabama will discuss various consumer education topics, including ways to protect against identity theft and what to do when people become ID theft victims. Attendees will also learn why it is important to check out businesses and contractors before they sign for materials or services, and ways to determine if businesses and contractors have a good reputation. Additionally, this class will teach people how to avoid scams and how to report scammers to authorities.

For more, call 255-9631.

Wanted: Outstanding Families

Army Community Service accepts nominations for the Month of the Military Family Outstanding Military Family now through Friday. People who know a military Family that they would like to honor can submit a nomination in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 390. Nominations must describe specific contributions the Military Family has made to improve the quality of life for the Soldiers and Families in units, organizations and the Fort Rucker community.

For the specific criteria and requirements for nomination applications, call Tom Jenkins at 255-3817 or email him at Tom.C.Jenkins@us.army.mil.

Youth art, essay contests

Fort Rucker children are invited to put their artistic and literary talents on display for the community in two separate contests in October, with the winners being announced in November.

All entries should include the child's name, grade, name of parents, phone number and email address on the back of the drawing or essay. Deadline for submission is Oct. 20 to Fort Rucker Primary or Elementary School counselors. The deadline for off-post students is Oct. 21 and should be turned in at Bldg. 5700, Rm. 390 in Army Community Service.

For more on the contests, call Tom Jenkins at 255-9888 or send an email to Tom.C.Jenkins@us.army.mil.

DFMWR Spotlight

Fort Rucker's

ARTS FESTIVAL

October 15th
9 am - 5 pm
Festival Fields

FREE ADMISSION

Numerous arts and crafts vendors showcasing & selling their art

Event will feature BOSS Car Show

Musical entertainment from our annual Talent Show

Video game tournament on the big screen

Face painting, children's inflatables & youth drawing contest

Car Show

Want to register your car for the car show? Judging will begin at 1 pm and awards will be handed out at 3 pm.

Call CPL Brad Nolte at (334)379-4594 or bradley.j.nolte@us.army.mil

For more information please call 255-9810
www.ftruckermwr.com

Fort Rucker Arts Festival

EFMP Friendly

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 13-16

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

The Smurfs (PG) 7 p.m. Warrior (PG) 7 p.m. Fright Night (R) 7 p.m. Apollo 18 (PG-13) 7 p.m.

TICKETS ARE \$4.50 FOR ADULTS AND \$2.25 FOR CHILDREN, 12 AND UNDER. MILITARY I.D. CARD HOLDERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE WELCOME. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 255-2408.

Hollyday Mart participants, vendors, volunteers sought

By Erin Murray
Army Flier Staff Writer

The Fort Rucker Community Spouses Club seeks volunteers, vendors and pageant participants for its annual arts and crafts Hollyday Mart Nov. 5 at the Enterprise Civic Center.

This year, the CSC will add a new element by providing entertainment in addition to the crafts expo.

One of the entertainment events that needs participation from the community is the Miss Hollyday pageant, which has 10 categories for women of all ages, according to Erica Geranen, coordinator of the mart. The pageant is a non-glitz pageant that will showcase the participants' best holiday outfits. Winners will receive crowns, sashes, trophies and savings bonds, but no participant leaves empty handed, she said.

"It's for all age groups, ages zero to 101. The best thing is, everyone goes home with a tiara," she said.

The deadline to register for the pageant is Saturday and it will take place at 2 p.m. the day of the Hollyday Mart.

CSC still has outdoor spots for arts and crafts vendors available. Geranen encouraged artists and craftsman of all types to consider selling their wares at the event, which draws more than 2,000 attendants each year. Vendors at past Hollyday marts have sold football fan merchandise, ironwork and military-related items, among many other handmade items.

"It's prime time for Christmas shopping. There's so much besides crafts," said Geranen.

Geranen said vendors are required to have a special events license from the city of Enterprise, which requires a one-time registration and fee. This year, CSC



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Dottie Conyers, military spouse, looks over some hand-made crafts during the annual FRCSO Hollyday Mart at Daleville High School last year. Conyers said the event was a great way to get started on her Christmas shopping.

chose to move to the Enterprise Civic Center to accommodate a larger audience and more vendors.

"Last year, we had an amazing amount of people come through. We're looking forward to another successful year," said Jackie Crogan, coordinator of the 2010 Hollyday mart.

Much of the work done at the

Hollyday mart is done by CSC members and volunteers. CSC is still seeking Soldiers, Family members and members of the community to help out.

"We definitely need volunteers to work the event," said Geranen, who added that volunteering for the Hollyday mart is a great introduction to the CSC's activities, "[Volunteers]

are able to meet other spouses and other people from the community."


The Hollyday mart is a fundraising event for the CSC, but Geranen emphasized the importance of attending, volunteering and participating in the many events offered.

"All the money raised at this event goes back to the club, which we use to put back into the community in the form of scholarships and welfare. It's a chance to give back to the community," she said.

For more information on volunteering, vending or participating in the Miss Hollyday pageant, contact hollydaymart@gmail.com or visit fruckeresc.com.

Cold prevention tip

Cough or sneeze into your elbow, thus covering your nose and mouth.



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WESTGATE CENTER

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ABDUCTION - PG-13
M-F 7:00 • \$65 2:00 & 7:00

WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER - R
M-F 9:00 • \$65 9:00

COLLEGE CINEMA • ENTERPRISE

COURAGEOUS - PG-13
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DOLPHIN TALE IN 3D - PG
M-F 7:10 & 9:00 • \$65 2, 7:10 & 9:00

THE DEBT - R
M-F 7:00 & 9:10 • \$65 2, 7:00 & 9:10

OZARK

ABDUCTION - PG-13
Fri 7:00 & 9:00 • Sat 2:00, 7:00 & 9:00
Sun 2:00 & 7:00 • Mon-Thurs 7:00

KILLER ELITE - R
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Religious Services

HEADQUARTERS CHAPEL (BLDG 109)
- Multi-Cultural Worship Service, 8 a.m., Sunday.

MAIN POST CHAPEL (BLDG 8940)

- Catholic Confessions, 4 p.m., Saturday.
- Catholic Mass, 5 p.m., Saturday
- Catholic Mass, 9:30 a.m., Sunday.
- Liturgical Service, 8 a.m., Sunday.
- General Protestant, 11 a.m., Sunday.

WINGS CHAPEL (BLDG 6036)

- Contemporary Protestant Service, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sunday.

SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER (BLDG 8939)

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

ADULTS GROUPS

- Protestant Women of the Chapel meets every Tuesday at 9 a.m. at Wings Chapel. Childcare provided.
- Military Council of Catholic Women meets every Thursday from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Spiritual Life Center. Childcare provided.
- Catholic Adult Fellowship meets regularly throughout the year. For more information, call 255-9894.

YOUTH GROUPS (CLUB BEYOND)

Varsity Club (9th - 12th Grade)
Tuesday, 6:30 - 8 p.m., Spiritual Life Center.

Beyond Club Bible Study (6th - 12th Grade)
Wednesday, 5:30 - 7 p.m., Spiritual Life Center.

JV Club (6th - 8th Grade)
Thursday, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., Spiritual Life Center

Bible Study
Wednesday, 5:30 - 7 p.m., Wings Chapel

BIBLE STUDIES

Protestant Women of the Chapel
Tuesday, 9 - 11:30 a.m., Wings Chapel.

Precept Bible Studies
Wednesday - Friday, 9 - 11:30 a.m., Spiritual Life Center.

Above the Best Bible Study
Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon, Yano Hall (lunch provided).

Precept Bible Studies
Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Spiritual Life Center.

PMOC Bible Study
Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Wings Chapel.

For more information about available services, call 255-2989 or 255-2012.

TRICARE investigates beneficiary data breach

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—The TRICARE Management Activity is reviewing its data protection policies and procedures in the wake of a data breach involving personal health information of an estimated 4.9 million military clinic and hospital patients.

The breach potentially affects patients who received care or filled pharmacy prescriptions in San Antonio-area military treatment facilities from 1992 through Sept. 7, 2011, TRICARE spokesman Austin Camacho reported.

Other beneficiaries who received care elsewhere, but whose laboratory workups were processed in San Antonio military treatment facilities, also could be affected, he said.

Science Applications International Corp., a TRICARE contractor, reported the data breach Sept. 14. Backup tapes from an electronic health care record the military health system used to capture patient data since 1992 were lost, Camacho reported.

The exact circumstances of the loss are part of TRICARE's investigation, he said. Those results are expected to be published as soon as possible.

The tapes may include Social Security numbers, addresses and phone numbers, as well as personal health data such as clinical notes, laboratory tests and prescriptions, he said. No financial data such as credit card or bank account information is included.

Despite the information involved, TRICARE officials estimate the risk of harm to patients to be relatively low.

"Reading the tapes takes special machinery. Moreover, it takes a highly skilled individual to interpret the data on the tapes," Camacho said. "Since we do not believe the tapes were taken



with malicious intent, we believe the risk to beneficiaries is low."

As TRICARE officials investigate the incident, they plan to notify everyone whose personal information may have been involved in the breach,

Camacho said.

TRICARE and SAIC are working together to come up with that list of names, but because of the number of people potentially affected and the need to review multiple databases,

Camacho said, individual notifications could take four to six weeks.

In the meantime, TRICARE officials encourage people who suspect they were affected by this incident to take steps outlined on the Federal Trade Commission website to protect their personal information. They also can monitor their credit and place a free fraud alert on their credit for 90 days using the FTC website.

Concerned patients may contact the SAIC Incident Response Call Center at no charge, Mondays-Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time. Stateside, patients may call toll-free to (855) 366-0140. Overseas, patients can make collect calls to (952) 556-8312.



PHOTO BY ERIN MURRAY

Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Paige, a 14-week-old female bulldog. She is energetic and would be good in a home with older children. It costs \$81 to adopt her, which includes spaying, a microchip and heartworm testing. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels. Donations can be dropped off at the veterinary clinic or the commissary. Visit the Fort Rucker stray facility's *Facebook* page at <http://www.facebook.com/fortruckerstrayfacility/> for constant updates on the newest animals available for adoption.

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EVENTS CELEBRATE HAUNTED HISTORY



Tourism program highlights Alabama’s spooky sites

Alabama Tourism Department Press Release

(Editor’s note: This is the first in a two-part series on 13 events celebrating Alabama’s haunted history. For more on places to see and things to do in Alabama, visit <http://www.alabama.travel/>)

MONTGOMERY — Visitors can experience Alabama’s haunted history in October with ghost trails, story-telling festivals and ghost walks.

A variety of events and trails pay homage to the state’s ghostly history including a rare moonlit tour of the famous ghost town Old Cahawba. The Black Belt Ghost Trail showcases dozens of haunted sites that include homes, restaurants, cemeteries and Civil War sites. The 33rd Alabama Tale Tellin’ Festival in Selma honors renowned storyteller Kathryn Tucker Windham.

The Alabama Tourism Department offers the following list of ghostly events taking place this month across the state.

BLACK BELT GHOST TRAIL Black Belt Region – self guided, year-round

Visit Alabama’s Black Belt Region to tour the popular ghost trail. The self-guided tour will take you to dozens of sites in

three counties (Dallas, Perry, Wilcox) to include restaurants, hotels, cemeteries, and homes. A brochure provides a map and the haunted history of each stop on the tour. The trail also includes a site for visitors to view videos detailing the ghost stories.www.youtube.com/user/AlabamasGhostTrail. For brochures and more information visit www.alabamasfrontporches.com or call (334) 636-5506 or (334) 636-0120.

HUNTSVILLE Ghost Walking Tour – Fridays, Saturdays in October

Visitors have three tours to choose from and they run simultaneously. Participants will hear stories of Huntsville’s haunted past while walking along the Old Town Historic District. The Haunted Downtown Historic District offers a one-hour trolley tour through Huntsville’s haunted past. Another option is the Twickenham Historic District.

Reservations should be made in advance by purchasing tickets at Harrison Brothers Hardware Store at 124 South Side Square. Adult tickets are \$12 and children 10 and under can ride for \$10. Seating is limited. All tours begin promptly at 6 p.m.

The walking tours take place on Friday nights as well as Saturday nights. Trolley tours will only be offered on Saturday nights. Tickets for the walking tours are \$8 for adults, \$6 for children 12 and under.

For more, call (256) 509-3940 or visit www.huntsvilleghostwalk.com.

MONTGOMERY Haunted Hearse Tours — Now through Oct. 31

Tour operators offer you to “take a ride in a renovated hearse, if you dare.” The hearse can accommodate a maximum of six guests per trip. The tour will go by Hank Williams’ grave in the Oakwood Cemetery Annex as well as by numerous other sites in Montgomery with “haunted” histories.” Tours begin on the hour from 7 p.m. to midnight each day. Pickup will be at the Alley in downtown Montgomery and guides will share stories with the guests.

Reservations can be made by calling (334) 514-4457. Cost is \$15 per person.

ATHENS Historic Haunts Walk — Friday, Wednesday

This annual Historic Haunts Walk begins at the Houston Library and includes tales of paranormal activity at 12 local structures. Hear about the college student who fell to her death and is said to still wander the halls at Athens University. Each walk is about 90 minutes and begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

For more information, call Limestone County Tourism (256) 232-5411 or send an email to Jeanette@visitathensal.com.

SELMA Alabama Tale Tellin’ Festival— Friday and Saturday

This year’s event will feature a tribute to renowned storyteller and festival founder, Kathryn Tucker Windham, who died this year. Hear ghost stories and tell your own story at the Swapping Grounds. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and \$5 for children 12 and under.

For more, call 1-(800)-457-3562 or visit www.taletellin.selmaalabama.com.

HUNTSVILLE Cemetery Stroll — Sunday

Some 60 costumed interpreters tell the story of those buried in the Maple Hill Cemetery. For more, call (256) 533-5723.



WIREFGRASS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ANDALUSIA

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.

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

DOTHAN

OCT. 28 — The Wiregrass Museum of Art hosts a free Night at the Museum from 6-8:30 p.m.

This is a free outdoor harvest costume party with food, movies, demonstrations

and art activities for kids.

For more information, visit <http://wiregrassmuseum.com>

ENTERPRISE

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 Paul Kasper at 389-5434, Bob Wills at 347-8297 or Bob Cooper 347-7076, or visit the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6683 on *Facebook*.

TODAY — The Atlanta Pops Orchestra will perform in the Enterprise High School Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. under the direction of Principal Conductor Dr. Jason D. Altieri. For tickets, call 406-2787 or visit CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com.

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.

OCT. 28 — The Wiregrass Disabled American Veterans Chapter No. 99 meets at 6 p.m. inside city hall. A meal and refreshments is served.

For more information, call 347-9574 or 389-7050. DAV will also establish an auxiliary consisting of male and female spouses of Chapter No. 99 members. For more information, call Ruth Wonders at 684-3328.

OZARK

OCT. 21— A luncheon will be held at the Ozark Civic Center Oct. 21 with a keynote address from Richard Marcinko, who founded U.S. Navy SEAL Team 6. The event will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and are on sale through Tuesday at The Ozark Civic

Center Business Office, Ozark Chamber of Commerce and Ozark City Hall. For more information, contact Denise Ellis at 774-2618

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

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 40’s, 50’s, and 60’s, finger foods, and refreshments. For more information, call Janet Motes at 808-8500.

Beyond Briefs

Sundown Concert Series

The Sundown Concert Series, featuring local and regional artists, is held at Kiesel Park in Auburn every Thursday through October. Guests can bring a picnic, lawn chairs or a blanket and the family dog to an evening of entertainment. For more information, call (334) 501-2940 or visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks.

Bruce Phillips “Different Perspectives” Exhibit

Troy University’s Rosa Parks Museum is showing the work of Tuskegee University professor and artist Bruce Phillips today and Friday in the museum’s exhibit hall. The museum is free and open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call Viola Moten at 241-8701.

Kentuck Festival

The city of Northport hosts the annual Kentuck Arts Festival Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Kentuck offers a variety of artistic styles ranging from folk to contemporary arts as well as traditional crafts.

Daily tickets are \$10 a person and admission is free for children under 12. For more information, visit <http://www.kentuck.org/festival.html>.

ArchiTreats Lecture

The Alabama Department of Archives and History hosts the ArchiTreats: Food for Thought lecture on Alabama history Oct. 20 at the Alabama Archives in Montgomery. Doug Seroff will present “The Legacy of Alabama African American Gospel Quartets” and the Four Eagles Gospel Quartet will perform.

This presentation is in conjunction with the Department of Tourism’s Year of Alabama Music. Coffee and tea will be provided by the Friends of the Alabama Archives.

For more information, call 353-4726 or visit <http://www.archives.alabama.gov/>.

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 Saturdays through Oct. 28, from 7-11:30 a.m.

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

Eclectic Trade Days

Local vendors 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.

Elberta festival

Elberta Town Park hosts the bi-annual 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

Jazz in the Park Birmingham features performances by local jazz enthusiasts and takes place Sundays from 8-10 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Visit www.magiccitysmoothjazz.com for details and complete list of locations and performers or call (205) 616-1735.

ROTC programs return to Ivy League schools

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — With the fall semester busily under way at colleges and universities across the United States, some of the most prestigious among them are charting a new course with the return of ROTC programs to their campuses.

ROTCs are making a comeback at Ivy League schools after being banned from many of them for decades — first in objection to the Vietnam War, and more recently because of the now-repealed “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” law that banned gay men and lesbians from serving openly in the military.

With both objections now history, ROTC programs are returning to more campuses, including the Ivies.

The University of Pennsylvania, Princeton and Cornell universities and Dartmouth College never dissolved their long relationships with ROTC. Cornell hosts Army, Navy and Air Force ROTC detachments. Princeton and Dartmouth sponsor Army ROTC. Penn has a Naval ROTC program.

More of their sister schools are following suit. Harvard, Yale and Columbia universities approved the reintroduction of ROTC programs to their campuses earlier this year.

Harvard President Drew Faust called Naval ROTC’s return to the Cambridge, Mass., campus “an important new chapter in the long and storied history of military service by members of the Harvard community.”

At Yale, university and military officials agreed to establish Naval and Air Force ROTC programs next year. University President Richard Levin welcomed the return, citing the contributions the graduates will make to the military, and the opportunities the new relationship will



Navy Secretary Ray Mabus, left, and Harvard President Drew Faust sign a memorandum of agreement re-establishing the Naval ROTC on the Harvard campus for the first time in nearly 40 years.

offer for those who choose to serve.

Air Force Secretary Michael B. Donley, who joined Levin Sept. 12 in signing an agreement to establish an Air Force ROTC detachment at Yale in the fall of 2012, called the decision a “win-win.”

“First, a permanent presence for Air Force ROTC will make it easier for Yale students who are interested in military service to access ROTC education and training ceremonies,” he said. “Second, a Yale presence will give the Air Force a way to connect and engage with some of the brightest and most diverse students in America.”

Navy Secretary Ray Mabus signed similar agreements to establish Naval ROTC detachments: in March with Harvard, in April with Columbia, and in May with Yale.

In announcing the Columbia University Naval ROTC program, Mabus called the decision a renewal of a long and rich history between the university and the Navy.

“Columbia’s tremendous support to our men and women in uniform returning from the recent wars is overwhelming, as are the growing numbers of veterans who are woven into the fabric of this great institution,” he said. “The return of Naval ROTC to campus will only serve to enhance and strengthen our institutions and contribute to the success of this great country.”

Other elite schools appear to agree. For example, the faculty senate at Stanford University voted in April to invite ROTC to return to its Southern California campus. University officials reportedly are in “serious discussions” with the military branches about setting up an on-campus ROTC program, but no agreements have yet been reached.

Meanwhile, Brown University in Providence, R.I., the last Ivy League institution to ban ROTC from

its campus, is studying the issue. University President Ruth Simmons invited discussion on inviting ROTC back to the campus before her report to the university corporation this month.

Former Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, a longtime educator himself, was a staunch advocate of restoring ROTC to the nation’s elite schools. During his visit in September 2010 to North Carolina’s Duke University, which sponsors three ROTC programs, Gates called for other prestigious universities to follow Duke’s example.

“Over the past generation, many commentators have lamented the absence of ROTC from the Ivy League and other selective universities — institutions that used to send hundreds of graduates into the armed forces, but now struggle to commission a handful of officers every year,” he told the Duke assembly.

Gates applauded efforts to restore military recruiting and officer training programs to these schools, and encouraged some of the country’s most gifted students to consider joining them.

“A return of ROTC back to some of these campuses will not do much good without the willingness of our nation’s most gifted students to step forward — men and women such as you,” he told the Duke students.

For at least one Ivy League graduate, her alma mater’s decision to reinstitute ROTC came just a tad too late.

Last month, Mary McDonald sat alongside dozens of other young men and women at the Baltimore Military Entrance Processing Station doing final preparations before shipping off to Army basic training.

With a Columbia University degree under her belt, along with an internship at the prestigious Center for

Strategic and International Studies think tank, McDonald knew she had a lot of career choices. But at age 24, she had no doubt about what she wants — and said she’s not alone among Ivy League students and alumni. “I can’t think of anything better than to lead Soldiers, period,” she said.

Her goal, she explained, is to complete basic training, get accepted into Officer Candidate School and ultimately, become a military intelligence officer.

Like most of today’s recruits, McDonald said the 9/11 attacks shaped her world view and her decision to join the military.

She was a high school freshman in Hastings-on-Hudson outside New York City when terrorists launched the attacks. McDonald recalled that she was in biology class, hearing loudspeakers call students by name to the principal’s office and TVs being rolled into the classrooms.

Looking back, McDonald expressed regret that her generation was considered too young to be a part of the national response.

“We weren’t asked to do anything,” she said. “So now, I want to make a contribution. My generation is very eager to serve. We just want an opportunity.”

The 9/11 attacks “very directly affected my world view,” McDonald said. And events under way now, including military operations around the world, she said, will shape America’s foreign policy for the foreseeable future.

“I want to be at the center of it,” McDonald said. “I want to deploy 100 percent.”

(American Forces Press Service photo editor and research assistant Lisa Stafford contributed to this article.)

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Iron Aviator

AVCIII competes for coveted title

By Russell Sellers
Army Flier Staff Writer

Cooler temperatures made part of the Iron Aviator competition less stressful, but it wasn't any easier on the Aviation Captains Career Course students who participated Oct. 6.

This was the final physical event for the class before moving on to final exams and graduation, and it gave them all a chance to work together as a team, said Capt. Mike Ishida, AVCIII small group leader and event coordinator.

"This is an individual as well as a team event," he said. "Really, the importance comes out of the teams' ability to put together a strategy to win. It's a great team-building activity."

The competition consisted of four events: a 4.5-mile ruck march, an 8.8-mile bike ride, 2-mile run and 300-meter swim, he said.

Ishida added that the students always look for ways to compete with each other and Iron Aviator represents a great opportunity to do just that.

"As career course captains, the one thing they look forward to is the time to compete with each other," he said. "It's also a great opportunity to get out of the classroom and spend some time here at Lake Tholocco."

The overall team winner was Team 10-1, the Sideliners, with a time of 1:34:37. Capts. Ryan Welch, Zac Seidel, Todd Mainwaring and Dan McNamara said they expected to win from the beginning.

"The guys that did the whole thing probably could have given us a run for our money if they'd been on a team together, but things worked out pretty well for us," Seidel said. "It was a good note for us to go out on as a team."

All of the team members agreed that the hardest part of the event was the ruck march at the beginning due to the ever-changing terrain and the extra weight attached to them in their packs.

However, Capt. Jimmy Tullis, who finished as the first-place individual with a time of 1:43:57, said the roughest part of the competition for him was the swimming.

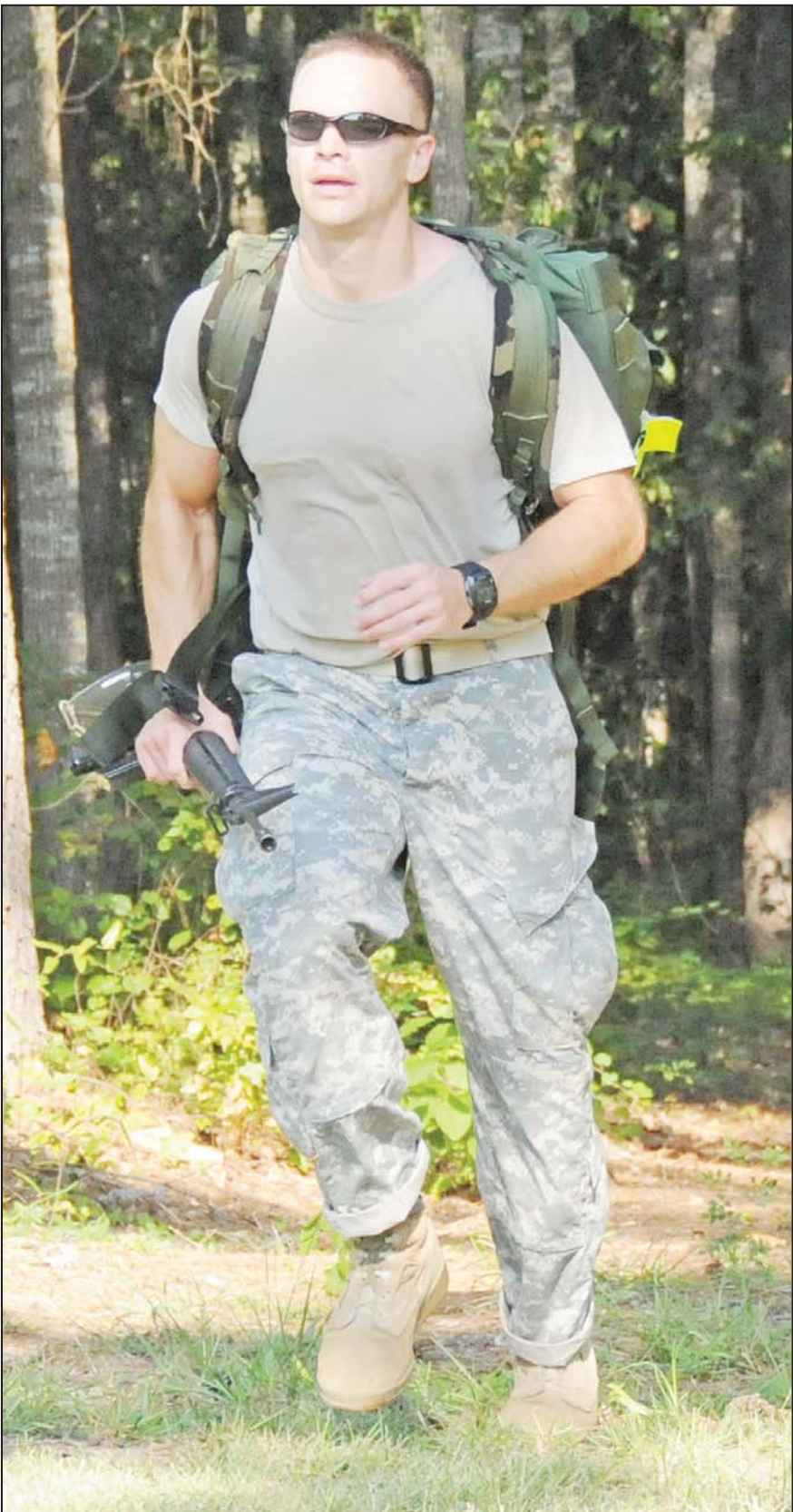
"The second I hit the water I could feel my legs wanting to cramp up," he said. "I was feeling really good until I hit the water. It was really cold."

Before hitting the water, Tullis said the beginning was a tough event because so many people had a lot of energy.

"After the ruck, I fell behind a little because the teams were helping out with the changing from ruck to biking and that's where I slowed down a little," he said. "I had to make up some distance after that."

He said it felt good to finish first and he added that having never done a marathon or any other type of competition like this, it was a good way to close out the course.

"I've never ran a marathon or triathlon before," he said. "I do a lot of working out, though. The last three weeks coming in I ran and biked for an hour every day. I think it helped a lot."



PHOTOS BY RUSSELL SELLERS

Capt. Jimmy Tullis finishes the ruck march portion of the AVCIII Iron Aviator competition at Lake Tholocco Oct. 6. Tullis finished first in the individual portion with a time of 1:43:57.



Capt. Daniel McNamara is first to cross the finish line during the biking portion of the AVCIII Iron Aviator competition at Lake Tholocco Oct. 6. His team, the Sideliners, finished first in the team portion with an overall time of 1:34:37.

PIGSKIN PICKS



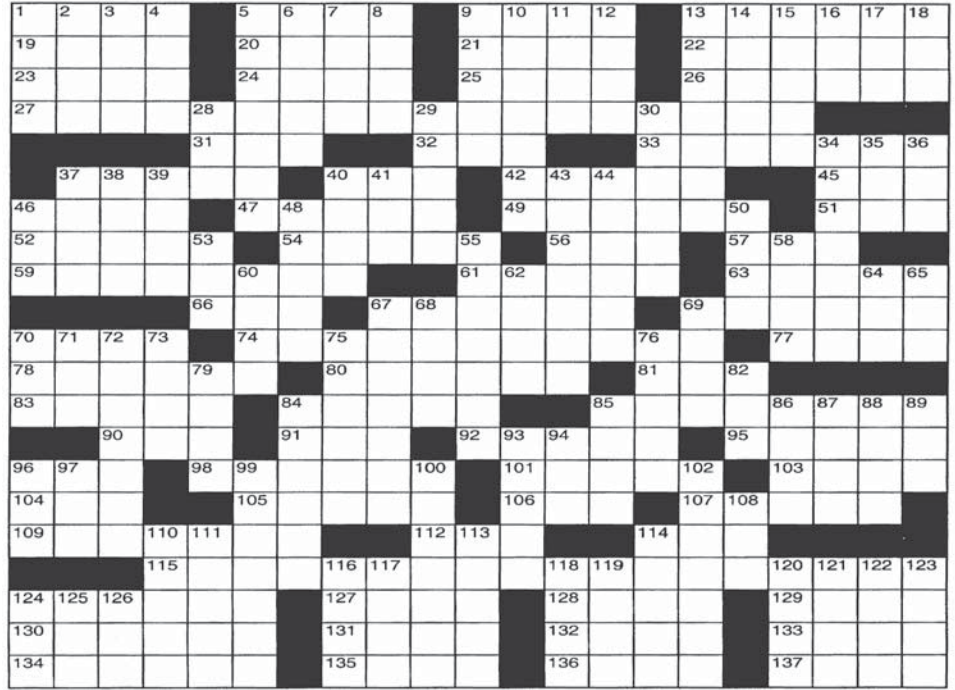
	Carolina vs. Atlanta	Houston vs. Baltimore	Buffalo vs. N.Y. Giants	Cleveland vs. Oakland	Dallas vs. New England	New Orleans vs. Tampa Bay	Minnesota vs. Chicago
 Jim Hughes <i>Fort Rucker Public Affairs</i> (26-9)							
 Master Sgt. Jimmy Lindsey <i>DPTMS NCOIC</i> (26-9)							
 Russell Sellers <i>Army Flier Staff Writer</i> (25-10)							
 Capt. Mike Simmons <i>Directorate of Public Safety</i> (25-10)							
 Sharon Storti <i>Network Enterprise Center</i> (26-9)							

DOWN TIME



Super Crossword SIMPLE MATH

- ACROSS**
- 1 "That was a close one!"
5 Horror-film extras
9 E-junk?
13 Football team
19 Troubadour's instrument
20 Each
21 Holy headgear
22 Fill with fizz
23 Taj town
24 West alliance
25 Like — of bricks
26 Cheese-maker's need
27 Start of a remark
31 Busy bug
32 Initials of interest?
33 Snuggled up
37 Iraqi city
40 — de deux
42 Requirements
45 Bristol brew
46 Chalky cheese
47 Tidied the terrace
49 Word form for "bird"
51 Compete
52 Hotelier
54 Take in, perhaps
- 56 Actress
57 Fury
59 Part 2 of remark
61 Standish's stand-in
63 Day or Duke
66 Foreman's fortes
67 French port
69 Rap session?
70 Dry run
74 Part 3 of remark
77 Encounter
78 Diva Maria
80 Plaza Hotel
81 Ewe said it!
83 Massenet opera
84 Mistreat
85 Part 4 of remark
90 Diocese
91 Fix a fight
92 Spartan serf
95 Pith helmet
96 Make lace
98 They're out of this world
101 Early emancipator
103 TV's "The Twilight —"
104 Kimono closer
105 Snowy bird
106 Relative of -ator
- 107 Mad general?
109 Duncan's murderer
112 Olive product
114 Tighten the tent
115 End of remark
124 "On the Waterfront" star
127 Gymnast
128 Plunder
129 Carry out orders
130 Confer
131 Singer
132 Frank or Francis
133 Forsaken
134 Ringed orbiter
135 Manuscript enc.
136 Pilsner
137 — ranch
- DOWN**
- 1 Realty map
2 O'Brien or Downs
3 Raison d'—
4 Put on
5 '71 Woody Allen film
6 Separately
7 Shopper's sack
8 Primer pooch
9 Like some cheddar
10 Coaching legend
11 Burn remedy
12 Cadfael, for one
13 Fervent
14 Yorkshire city
15 Surrealist
16 Hefflin or Cliburn
17 When Paris sizzles
18 Badminton divider
28 Bend
29 someone's — (yak)
29 Dispatch
30 Delhi denizen
34 Shirley's sidekick
35 Ransom — Olds
36 Scottish river
37 Complaint
38 Perched on
39 Rational
40 Brazilian kicker
41 Address abbr.
43 Learned
44 Snare
46 Mr. Ziegfeld
48 "America's Most Wanted" host
50 Conceal
53 NASA affirmative
55 English explorer
58 Wander
60 Greenhouse items
62 Miss
64 "— Station Zebra" ('68 film)
65 Salon request
67 Toilet water
68 Ever's partner
69 Mikita or Musial
70 Pl. of the whole
71 Team
72 Stretchy
73 Ballet movement
75 More mysterious
76 Diminish
79 Disoriented
82 Tread the boards
84 Flying brother
85 Price
86 Gloppy
87 "Once — a midnight dreary . . ."
88 Hawaii's state bird
89 Place-kicker's prop
93 Zola or Griffith
94 Rock's — Lobos
96 Hen's hubby
97 "The — Daba Honeymoon" ('14 song)
99 Disappoint
100 Silly trio
102 Fall fashion
108 FBI employee
110 Swahili, e.g.
111 Witch's home
113 Pointless
114 Conversation piece?
116 Grabs all the goodies
117 Poet Wilcox
118 Thick slice
119 Actor
120 Winter woe
121 Hunt's "— Ben Adhem"
122 Dweeb
123 Actress
124 Small shot
125 Stephen of "Ready to Wear"
126 Nova Scotia hrs.



See Page D3 for this week's answers.

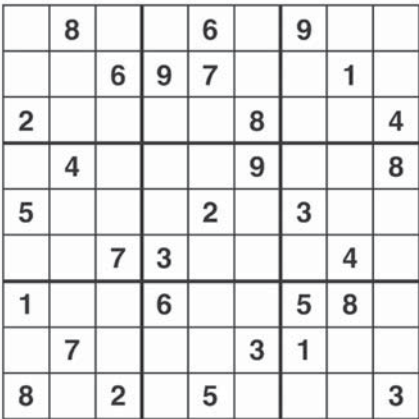
TRIVIA

- MUSIC: What was the name of the 1987 song and the movie starring Madonna?
- WEATHER: What are the "sirocco," "mistral" and "Chinook"?
- MEASUREMENTS: A triennial event occurs how often?
- MOVIES: Who was the Oscar-winning director of the "The Silence of the Lambs"?
- LANGUAGE: What does the Greek prefix "cyto-" mean?
- COMICS: What famous comics character had a girlfriend named Dale Arden?
- HISTORY: When did the USS Maine explode in Havana's harbor, an event that preceded the Spanish-American War?
- LITERATURE: Henry David Thoreau's famous Walden Pond is nearest to which town?
- MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Norse goddess of love and fertility?
- GEOGRAPHY: Cork and Limerick are major cities of which nation?

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.

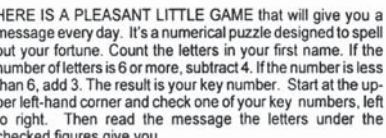
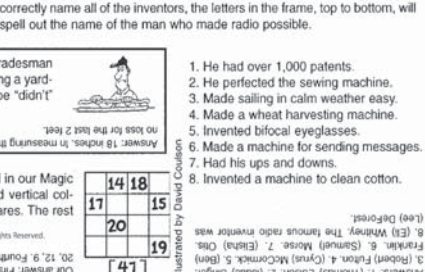
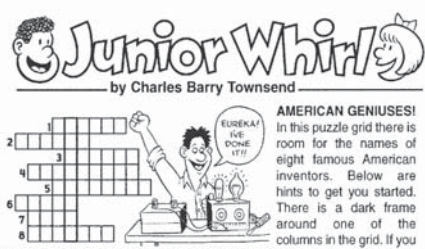
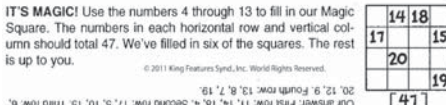
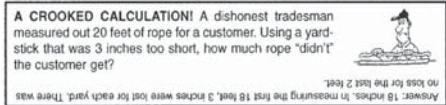
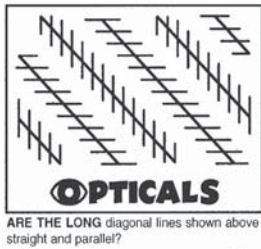
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID'S CORNER



GRIDIRON CORNER

Whoever wins, the fans still lose

By Russell Sellers
Army Flier Staff Writer

It probably doesn't matter who wins some of the games this weekend, because it's just a contest to determine who the biggest loser is.

First up is the Biggest Loser Bowl between Atlanta and Carolina.

Look, both teams came into this season with a lot of hype and neither has really delivered. Cam Newton might be a great quarterback in the making, but he's surrounded by mediocrity. The Panthers put on a great show against New Orleans last weekend, but don't expect that to last.

The real problem was that the Saints offense is truly the stuff of legend. QB Drew Brees showed us exactly why with what could only be described as fearlessness when he stepped up in the pocket. Then he made good on the pass. Cam Newton might be good at what he does, but Brees put on a clinic in courage. That's why the Saints are 4-1 while Carolina sits at 1-4.

Atlanta did something few teams have been able to do this season: make the Green Bay Packers sweat, albeit briefly.

The Packers aren't unbeatable, but they certainly looked that way in the second half with 25 unanswered points scored.

Come on, Atlanta. Where's all this skill we were hearing about at the beginning of the season? Why can't you maintain for four quarters?

The answer might be as simple as the very thing they thought would be their strength: the hype machine.

Matt Ryan should have been taking notes when Packers QB Aaron Rogers stepped up in the pocket. That guy knows how to judge and complete a pass play.

This weekend, Atlanta has the home field advantage and higher quality receivers. Matt Ryan might not be the scrambling quarterback that Newton is, but he's got a keen eye and he's got Roddy White, Tony Gonzalez and Julio Jones to work with. And the Panthers defense has looked pretty tired of late and Brees just proved they have a hard time with an effective passing game. It'll be close, but make my pick ATL.

Houston had a hard time this weekend with Oakland at



home and this week's road trip to Baltimore doesn't look so good for the Texans.

The Ravens had the week off after trouncing the New York Jets, 34-17. So long as the effective version of its offense shows up and not the completely dysfunctional one that showed up against Tennessee, Baltimore should come out on top.

But the biggest problem for Houston is going to be the Ravens defense. It essentially won the last two games for the team and this beast shows no signs of slowing.

If corner Lardarius Webb and linebacker Jameel McClain pull some of the same tricks against the Texans they did against the Jets, things will get ugly. These guys like to run fumbles and interceptions back for touchdowns. Matt Schaub has shown he makes bad decisions if pressured in the pocket, usually resulting in interceptions.

Houston, you have a problem.

Is there anybody left that still thinks Buffalo isn't for real?

If so, maybe you haven't been watching the games.

To be fair, though, last week's game against the Philadelphia Eagles was more like watching an exercise in how to lose a football game than it was Buffalo pulling off a big win.

The Eagles have looked terrible since losing to Atlanta earlier this season. QB Michael Vick looks terrified every time a linebacker even so much as gets an arm through his offensive line. The guy is a train wreck and he's dragging the rest of the team down with him.

Now, Ryan Fitzpatrick only threw for 193 yards in his last game, but he was 21 of 27 and only intercepted once. The guy is patient in the pocket and the Bills have a great defense who are pretty much being undersold right now by everybody. These guys are way better than they might get credit for and I say they'll show it a little bit more this weekend when they face the New York Giants.

The Giants just dropped one to Seattle over the weekend and did so in spectacular fashion. After a slow-going through three quarters, the Seahawks put up 20 points to New York's 11 for a 36-25 win. All of this using several backup players, too.

Giants QB Eli Manning tries so hard to emulate his far-more-talented brother, but it just isn't happening. You can't throw into coverage and expect good things to happen. That's how interceptions turn into touchdowns for the other side.

Finally, we come to the hardest to pick game of the week: Minnesota at Chicago.

Talk about the wrong stuff. Other than Chicago's more-often-than-not strong defense, what is there to really say positively about either of these teams?

Oh, wait, I forgot: they're both positively terrible.

The Vikings finally put up their first win this past weekend over Arizona, but that's not really saying much. The only win the Cardinals have is over Carolina in the first week.

While Chicago's dismal performance against Detroit Monday night showed that this team has fallen very far from last season's highs, its defense is still quite sharp.

This won't be an easy game for Da' Bears, but it's probably going to be a miserable day for the Vikings.

So long as QB Jay Cutler leaves the offensive production to Chicago's defense, everything else should work out fine.

Week 6 college football holds few surprises

By David C. Agan Jr.
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

Week 6 of the 2011 edition of college football is in the books. That means that, for the most part, we're at the halfway point of the season.

There weren't a lot of surprises to be found in this week's slate of games.

But that doesn't mean they weren't fun to watch.

The top-ranked LSU Tigers remain undefeated after trouncing No. 17 Florida

Gators, 41-11. The Tigers scored on the second play from scrimmage, a 46-yard bomb to wide receiver Rueben Randle and never looked back. It wasn't long before LSU had a double digit lead on the Gators, who were never considered a serious threat to the Tiger's national championship hopes by anyone other than some nervous LSU fans.

The No. 2-ranked Alabama Crimson Tide welcomed perennial Southeastern Conference also-ran

Vanderbilt to town and unceremoniously pounded the Commodores, 34-0. The Tide's defense was characteristically smothering in the victory and running back Trent Richardson continued his Heisman campaign by once again rushing for over 100 yards and scoring a touchdown. For those keeping score, it was the fifth consecutive game in which Richardson has rushed for over 100 yards.

In Dallas, the State Fair of Texas played host to the

Red River Rivalry game between the No. 3-ranked Oklahoma Sooners and No. 11 Texas. In what may have been the most eye-opening moment of the weekend, the Sooners showed the rest of the country that they were, in fact, as good they were predicted to be at the start of the season. And while their offense was as impressive as it has been all season, it was the Sooner defense that made the most emphatic statement of the game. By scoring three defensive touchdowns and

racking up a crushing eight sacks, the Sooners answered any doubts about their defensive ability.

Barring the unforeseen, Oklahoma will most likely play in their second Bowl Championship Series National Championship Game in five years. They just proved their defense, which is only allowing about 14 points per game, is a national championship-caliber squad. On the offensive side of the ball, quarterback Landry Jones has a 71.6-percent completion rate and he's

throwing to one of the deadliest receiving corps in football. And with No. 1 LSU and No. 2 Alabama on a collision course for each other on Nov. 5, it's no stretch of the imagination to picture Oklahoma playing for a national championship.

But let's not put the cart before of the horse. The Sooners will have to beat quite a few good teams that remain on their schedule before they can begin penciling in a trip to New Orleans

SEE COLLEGE, PAGE D4

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WOUNDED WARRIOR HUNT

The 2011 Fort Rucker Fall Wounded Warrior Hunt is scheduled daily from Oct. 22-29 from 3 a.m. to 6 p.m. The registration cost is \$25 per hunter. Registration begins daily during the week long hunt at 3 a.m. at Bldg. 24209 (the screened in pavilion) at West Beach, Lake Tholocco. Participants must have an Alabama State Hunting License and a Hunter Safety Education Course Completion Card. The event will not require the Fort Rucker Post Hunting Permit and will be open to the public.

For more, call 255-4305.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Pick-up games 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.

COUPLES INVITATIONAL

Silver Wings Golf Course hosts the annual Couples Invitational Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Entry fee for non-members is \$65 per couple. Members receive a \$10 discount. The cost includes green and cart fees, range balls, food and prizes. Tournament format is modified alternate shot.

For more, call 598-2449.

GLOW BALL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Silver Wings "Glow Ball" night golf event is Nov. 4 beginning at 2 p.m. for the 18-hole option, or 5:30 p.m. for the 9-hole option, at the Silver Wings Golf

Course. Participants can sign up individually or by four-some.

The course is limited to 72 players. Entry fee is \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members. Entry fee includes cart and green fees, glow balls, range balls, tournament meal and prizes. Deadline to enter is Nov. 3 by 5 p.m. For more information, call 598-2449.

SPOOKY 5K

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility hosts the annual Spooky 5k, 1-Mile Fun Run and Costume Contest Oct. 29.

Registration is 7:30-8:45 a.m. at the track behind the Physical Fitness Facility on Andrews Ave. the day of the event. the normal fee. The 1-Mile Fun The run is free and open to all children and begins after the 5k is completed. For more information, call 255-0308.

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

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Answers

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

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

Answers
1. "Who's That Girl?"
2. Names of winds that affect different regions of the world: (sirocco/ Mediterranean; mistral/France; Chinook/western North America)
3. Every three years
4. Jonathan Demme
5. Cell
6. Flash Gordon
7. 1898
8. Concord, Mass.
9. Freyja
10. Ireland

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PIGSKIN PICKS



	Michigan vs. Michigan State	South Carolina vs. Mississippi State	Baylor vs. Texas A&M	Oklahoma State vs. Texas	Virginia Tech vs. Wake Forest	Florida vs. Auburn	Arizona vs. Oregon

College: Weekend schedule appears interesting on paper

Continued from Page D3

in January. Those pesky Badgers from Wisconsin are busy building an argument for why they should jump Oklahoma in the polls should it come to a vote at the end of the season. The Sooners won't have much to worry about this weekend, though, as they face the 2-3 Kansas Jayhawks in Lawrence, Kan.

Thankfully, there are plenty of games on the schedule this weekend that are more interesting than Oklahoma-Kansas.

The best of the early games on Saturday looks to be when the No. 20 Baylor Bears square off against No. 21-ranked Texas A&M Aggies. Lately, the Aggies have made a habit of shutting teams down for three quarters and then completely collapsing in the fourth. That didn't happen last weekend when A&M downed Texas Tech, 45-40, so one can only hope the Aggie defense has given up on giving up. If they have, it could spell trouble for Baylor quarterback Robert Griffin III.

By now you've heard about RG3 – if you haven't, he's good. But so is Baylor running back Terrance Ganaway, who is rushing for 105 yards per game. Things are going to get very interesting this weekend at Kyle Field.

The No. 15 South Carolina Gamecocks travel to Starkville, Miss., to face the 3-3 Mississippi State Bulldogs. The Gamecocks have just dismissed their long-troubled, senior quarterback Stephen Garcia after he failed to adhere to guidelines he had agreed upon after his returning to the team following his fifth suspension. Garcia was the most experienced quarterback in the SEC at the start of the season, but he hadn't played well this year and was benched following his poor performance two weeks ago against Auburn.

Sophomore quarterback Connor Shaw has revitalized the South Carolina

passing game and running back Marcus Lattimore continues to rush for over 100 yards per game. Mississippi State has also been shuffling its starting quarterbacks, so they will be depending on running back Vick Ballard to do the heavy lifting on Saturday. Ballard, by the way, is the second best running back in the SEC behind Marcus Lattimore.

The Arizona State Sun Devils are on their way to Eugene, Ore., to face the No. 9 Oregon Ducks. Oregon running back LaMicheal James suffered a horrific elbow injury last weekend and may be forced to watch the game from the sidelines. The Ducks are ripe for an upset in this one. The Sun Devils have been on a hot streak. Quarterback Brock Osweiler con-

tinues to impress and they have a solid ground game. Their defense is quite good, forcing 18 turnovers in their last six games. Oregon has made a habit of hanging 60 points on their opponents but they don't fare so well against teams who actually play defense (see the LSU game from earlier this season).

The undefeated Michigan Wolverines are on the

road this week against the Michigan State Spartans. The Wolverine offense, led by their electrifying quarterback, Denard Robinson, is extremely good in the red zone and racks up piles of yards each week.

Michigan State has won this game for three years in a row, but that couldn't matter less to the Wolverines and first-year head coach Brady Hoke. The Spartan

defense leads the nation in total defense and their secondary will be looking to shake up Robinson's pass attack.

They'll need to do their best to slow down the Michigan offense since the Spartan offense is somewhat less effective than that of the Wolverines. They won't be able to keep up with Denard Robinson if he gets loose.

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