EXPANSION

Legislation could expand Reserve role in homeland security Story on Page B1



FESTIVAL Post hosts arts festival, fun for Families

Story on Page C1



VOLLEYBALL Numbers mean little in volleyball

Story on Page D1





VOL. 61 • NO. 22

FORT RUCKER * ALABAMA

OCTOBER 20, 2011

HASC chairman:

'Fort Rucker among things we have to protect'

By Kelly Pate and Jenny Stripling Fort Rucker Public Affairs Office

Monday was a day of firsts at Fort Rucker. For the home of Army Aviation, it was a first-ever visit from a chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Armed Services Committee

Chairman Howard P. "Buck" McKeon, R-California, observed various aspects of ongoing Soldier training throughout the day, and talked with U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker leadership and Soldiers.

And for the chairman, it was the first time he realized that all Army pilots, as well as rotary wing pilots of some sister services and international students,

"Very few Americans have a clue about what happens at Fort Rucker. There are a lot of detailed things that (Soldiers) learn here, and when we talk about cuts to the military, those are the types of things that we have to make sure we protect," McKeon said.

McKeon said the country needs a clearer picture of the importance Fort Rucker has within the Army mission. More members of the committee need to visit Fort Rucker to see the training firsthand, McKeon

The House Armed Services Committee is responsible for the funding and oversight of the Department of Defense and U.S. military, as well as substantial portions of the Department of Energy.

The day tour, led by Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, included a stop at Allen Stage Field where students flying TH-67s practiced autorotations as part of their Initial Entry Rotary Wing

At the Helicopter Overwater Survival Training facility, commonly referred to as "dunker training," McKeon observed students learning survival maneuvers in an indoor pool.

SEE HASC, PAGE A4



Ron Sanders, URS program manager for the HOST program; Rep. Howard P. "Buck" McKeon, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee; Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, commanding general of USAACE and Fort Rucker; and Alabama Rep. Martha Roby, tour the USAACE Helicopter

Events connect retirees to resources, community



PHOTO BY BUSSELL SELLERS

Retired Master Sgt. Louis Spencer has his blood pressure taken by Spc. Ryan Scott, Lyster Army Health Clinic health care specialist, during last year's Retiree Health Fair. This year's health fair is Oct. 28 at The Landing.

By Erin Murray Army Flier Staff Writer

The 37th annual Fort Rucker Retiree Appreciation Day will be held Oct. 28, with multiple Fort Rucker organizations hosting events to acknowledge the contributions made by retired service-

"Retiree day is in recognition of their past service and for what they continue to do now. We have to take care of our retiree population, because they have a large impact on Fort Rucker as volunteers. Their ability to help out around the installation fills a lot of empty spaces," said Chris Moore, retirement services officer.

The day of recognition begins with a health and information fair at The Landing from 8 a.m. to noon, hosted by Lyster Army Health Clinic and the Fort Rucker Retirement Services Office. The fair draws more than 500 retirees from states

across the southeast, said Moore. While visiting more than 52 vendors and information booths, retirees can receive flu and pneumonia vaccines during the fair. Fort Rucker organizations including Army Community Services, Army Substance Abuse Program and Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation will also be on site to provide information. Visitors can attend classes on topics like nutrition and aging, depression, tobacco cessation and exercise as well as receive screenings that can help prevent illness, said Denece Clayborn, Lyster Army Health Clinic community health nurse and program organizer.

"We want retirees to stay healthy and prevent disease to get wellness information and learn how to take better care of their health. It's a wonderful opportunity for the large retiree population. We want to make sure that they know we are here for

SEE RETIREES, PAGE A7

Rucker supports 7th SFG at Eglin

By David C. Agan Jr. Fort Rucker Public Affairs

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. After calling Fort Bragg, N.C., home since 1953, the 7th Special Forces Group has a new address at Eglin AFB.

A member of the Florida Senate. U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force senior leadership, local community leaders, and members of the public attended a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house for the Army 7th Special Forces Group at Eglin AFB, Fla., Friday.

The event was also attended by representatives from Fort Rucker, including Col. James A. Muskopf, garrison commander, and Justin Mitchell, deputy garrison commander, and the 98th Army Band Brass Quintet provided music during the national

According to Col. Frederick Swope, deputy director, Atlantic Region of Installation Management Command, it's Fort Rucker's responsibility to ensure the Soldiers of the 7th and their Families are taken care of just like they would be on any Army

"Seventh Special Forces is a major command, so even though it's located on an Air Force base, the Army has a responsibility to make sure our Soldiers are being taken care of and are provided the same level of service that all the other Army agencies are," said Swope.

"Although [Eglin] is not a joint

base, the Air Force is the lead. It is our responsibility to provide the services that the Air Force and other sister services don't provide; the services that are specifically related to the Army," said Swope.

The ceremony began with an aerial demonstration of High Altitude Low Opening parachute tactics by the Black Daggers, the U.S. Army Special Operations Command parachute

After opening remarks by guest speaker Sen. Don Gaetz, Florida Senate, the crowd of nearly 1,000 was addressed by Col. Antonio M. Fletcher, commander, 7th Special Forces Group, who expressed his ea-

SEE EGLIN. PAGE A7

Fort Rucker grounds its OH-58 Delta Fleet

Fort Rucker Public Affairs Press Release

Fort Rucker's fleet ic system concerns. of OH-58 Delta Kiowa Warrior helicopters have been grounded determined but is exbased on a decision made by Fort Rucker officials.

listic look into specif- course.

The length of ground time has not yet been pected to be minimal.

The grounding of the fleet is not expect-The grounding is not ed to heavily impact a result of an accident, the training of those but rather a proactive students going into decision to take a ho- the Kiowa Warrior

PERSPECTIVE • A2 **ARMYWIDE** ■ B1-4 **COMMUNITY** ■ C1-8 ON POST - C2 SPORTS ■ D1-4

PERSPECTIVE

ACAP aids separating job seekers

Fort Rucker Army Career and Alumni Program

When thinking of getting out of the military, some Soldiers say, "I can't wait!" They are excited about getting back into civilian life.

Those who have been in the military for more than 10 years may experience a dichotomy of feelings. They experience periods of intense excitement and extreme sadness. They anticipate the adventure ahead and fear not being able to find an adequate job. Some are not sure what kind of job they'd really like to look for, if they have adequate educations or training, or even where they want to live.

Sometimes those leaving the military dread putting on the uniform for the last time and the changes that will ensue in their lives. Most job seekers worry about finding a good job in the chosen location at a salary that will give their Families a comfortable lifestyle.

With all of these extremes of feelings, it's not hard to imagine the stress job seekers feel. Research shows that the stress during a job search is second only to that experienced when a spouse dies. Is it any wonder that job hunters need support and help during this stressful time?

Many clients at the ACAP Center work as a team with their spouses. The training offered is beneficial to spouses who are looking for a job and for those who just want to assist with the job search.

Even if they are not seeking a job, spouses can help with writing, typing and reproducing resumés and cover letters. They can help search employers and locate job openings. During the interview preparation, spouses can assist with rehearsals by asking tough interview questions and helping with good an-

One of our recent successful job hunters got his whole Family involved in the job search process. They subscribed to newspapers in the areas of interest, and the children went through the want ads. found likely sources for jobs and entered the data into the computer. The Family located a job and is happily resettled in another state. When he landed a job, the entire Family celebrated because it was their suc-



cess - they had all contributed.

It's always sad for us to learn that a few of our clients must carry the entire load of job hunting. It's a heavy load when the welfare of a Family is at stake. Sometimes the job seeker doesn't want to worry the

Often, the sources of the stress involve money, relocation or adjusting to a different lifestyle. For example, when a Family has to tighten its financial belt, it is a big help when spouses and children cooperate on conserving money until the job search is successful. This all contributes to a positive attitude, which is so important while meeting prospective employers.

The most "together" job searchers are those who have the support of their spouses, Families and friends. An adage says, "Marriage doubles your happiness and halves your sorrows." A shared stressful situation is much the same - half as bad when the

Visit or call the Fort Rucker ACAP Center at 255-2558, or log on to https://www.acap.armv.mil to schedule an appointment or to register and take the ACAP pre-separation briefing on line.

ACAP bosts MOAA transition presentation

The Fort Rucker ACAP Center sponsors a once-a-year lecture regarding transition by the Military Officers Association of America entitled Marketing Yourself for a Second Career.

Bldg. 5700, Rm. 282.

This top-shelf presentation is a great professional development opportunity. Transition is, of course, ultimately a part of all military careers. Therefore, the lecture is perfect for those who are contemplating retirement in one to five years. However, it doesn't stop there.

Regardless of whether any particular officer or senior enlisted member has reached the point of being in their own transition, they should be educated about the process in order to mentor and counsel those who work for them and are contemplating or going through their transitions

This "executive summary" presentation can prepare them for that role as well as many multi-day programs. Simply stated, it's a great fit for any commander, officer, or senior enlisted supervisor - from the most senior, to the most ju-

The lecture will be given by retired Air Force Col. Brian Anderson, now a deputy director of transition services on MOAA's national staff.

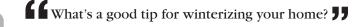
The presentation, given an-The event will take place nually at over 150 military Nov. 4 from 9-11:30 a.m. in installations of all services worldwide, is universally praised by audiences as, "upto-date, hard-hitting, and sharply focused - a must see."

It includes comprehensive information on the retirement decision itself, employer perceptions, your competition, resumés, cover letters, job search, networking, career fairs, interview techniques, salary negotiation, benefits packages, the current job market, and other relevant and important transition topics.

The presentation is geared toward officers and senior enlisted, but those of all ranks are welcome. Spouses are highly encouraged to attend as well.

All who attend will receive a free copy of the lecture's companion book, also titled Marketing Yourself for a Second Career. It is an in-depth, all-inone resource for the transition

For further information, call 255-3932.





B Co. 1st Bn. 114th Avn. Regt.

"Seal your windows."



Beate Bateman, manager

"Have a fireplace."



military spouse

"Turn down the thermostat just a little to save



Shawn Brooms. civil service engineer

"Check your windows and walls for leaks.



Staff Sgt. Terell Larry, 7th Special Forces Group

"Have a draft guard for your doors to keep warm air inside."

COMMAND

Maj. Gen. Anthony G.

Crutchfield

FORT RUCKER COMMANDING GENERAL

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Post honors outstanding employee

By Russell Sellers Army Flier Staff Writer

By the way Dan Stamaris, Aviation Center Logistics Command quality assurance specialist, works, it would be almost impossible to tell he has a disability.

That's part of what helped him earn the Outstanding Employee with a Disability Award at the headquarters building Oct. 13, according to Trish Durham, ACLC Logistics Directorate chief.

"He is an absolutely exceptional employee," she said. "He's not just part of a team, but part of our Family. He's extremely dedicated to the war fighters and, as a former prisoner of war, he has valuable insight that he has shared with those going through the (Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape) program."

According to a write up by Durham, while on active-duty during the 1991 Gulf War, retired Staff Sgt. Daniel Stamaris was part of a search-and-rescue team that volunteered to rescue a downed F-16 fighter pilot. During the attempt on Feb. 27, 1991, the Blackhawk helicopter in which he was flying was shot down. Only three survived the crash, including Stamaris. They were taken as POWs by the Iraqis and held for seven days. Stamaris sustained extensive injuries, including a broken left foot, broken pelvis and shattered knee.

Upon his release by the Iraqis and return to the U.S., he was treated at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center for seven weeks and had to learn to walk again.

Today, he lives with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder daily as well as the aftermath of the physical injuries to his body. There are days when it is difficult for him to walk. However, talking about his ordeal and working through the discomfort is cathartic for him, she add-

Stamaris said he never thought about winning an award for his service, he just wanted to do the job to the best of his ability and to make a difference.

"This is a great honor to me," he said, "Not just on behalf of myself, but for all of those



Dan Stamaris, ACLC quality assurance specialist, is presented with the Outstanding Employee with a Disability Award at the headquarters building by Col. Donald N. Galli, USAACE chief of staff.

with a disability. This just goes to show that, just because you have a disability doesn't mean you can't be very important to the mission and the organization."

Stamaris is a vital part of a team of dedicated personnel responsible for the superior oversight of a \$3.2 billion, multi-year contract, the largest maintenance contract in the Army, Durham said.

His contributions directly contributed to Center of Excellence chief of staff, was also ACLC increasing the mission capable rate on the helicopter training fleet of over 535 aircraft above 70 percent, a first in Fort Rucker history and crucial to the production of over 3,000 Army Aviators annually. His work has helped the mission capable rate rise to 71.9 percent across the entire training fleet.

Col. Donald N. Galli, U.S. Army Aviation

at the ceremony to present Stamaris with the

"It's an honor and privilege for me to be able to do this today," he said. "Dan is an American Soldier and American Hero. He continues to serve our Army today. We at Fort Rucker greatly appreciate everything he's done and is doing for us and the Army.



Sgt. Julie Hicks, Spc. Joseph Leon and Spc. Annel Anderson participated in AFAP's "In Her Shoes" domestic violence simulation last week,

Domestic violence presentation places participants in victims' shoes

By Erin Murray

Over 30 participants experienced domestic violence scenarios when Fort Rucker's Family Advocacy Program and Social Work Service presented the "In Her Shoes" domestic violence simulation to Soldiers and civilian staff Oct. 13 at Wings Chapel.

The simulation was presented as a training module for staff and also as a way to increase awareness of Domestic Abuse Awareness Month, said Luticia Trimble-Smith FAP manager

"It's an educational simulation describing the many ups and downs women face when in an abusive relationship. It helps present the different resources available to victims," she said.

Leslie George, a social worker from Lyster Army Health Clinic, said that "In Her Shoes" was presented to "increase awareness of domestic violence, advocacy and understanding for victims and improve the mechanism for staying safe."

Participants were given cards that described the characters they would role play over the course of the event, including their back-

tic violence scenarios and asked to choose their course of action. According to the choices made by the groups, the simulation's results varied from victims receiving help to ending up injured or deceased due to domestic violence or emotional abuse.

"It was very interesting. This is a great program because it makes you think. I would encourage a victim to seek help and I'd open up my home to them," said Sgt. Julie Hicks, a participant in the event.

Spc. Annel Anderson did not know what to expect from the afternoon of training, but she left with a new perspective.

"I didn't know what to expect. thought it would be something boring, like a slide show or a presentation. It was actually really fun," she said.

Anderson's group walked in the shoes of a Vietnamese immigrant in an abusive marriage with an American, a situation that Anderson said made her think differently about domestic abuse.

"I think it's realistic. People might think they know the right thing to do. Sometimes, you see

ground information. Characters in people going through something the simulation were given domes- that seems easy to understand, but it's not always so simple," she said.

George said that much of the training was focused on teaching participants the dos and don'ts of handling domestic violence by having participants learn the many sides of a situation, both from the perspective of the abuser and the

Some of the suggested dos and don'ts provided by the event's leaders included refraining from blaming victims of domestic abuse or attempting to "prescribe" a solution such as divorce. The event encouraged participants to encourage the use of resources such as FAP, Social Work Services and Victim Advocacy program when they encounter domestic violence.

"Most people will eventually come in contact with a situation of domestic abuse at some point. There are certain actions that are helpful and others that are not helpful. This event helps show the difference," said George.

To find out more about domestic violence prevention, call 255-7029. Those seeking victim advocates can call 379-7946 or 255-7947 for assistance.

News Briefs

workshop

The Judge Advocate General's Legal Assistance Office hosts a free income tax workshop Oct. 27 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, Rm. 282. Topics include income tax filing requirements, changes in tax rules for 2011, correctly completing W4 forms and other important income tax infor-

For more information, call 255-9631.

CFC update

The Fort Rucker Combined Federal Campaign has raised \$458,383 as of Monday, which is 40.7 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.

Overseas mailing deadlines

ALEXANDRIA, Va. The United States Postal Service and Military Postal Service Agency have released deadlines to ensure packages arrive to military and State Department post offices overseas by Dec. 25.

Deadlines to ensure arrival by Dec. 25 are Nov. 12 for parcel post U.S. Postal address.

mail; Nov. 26 for spaceavailable mail: Dec. 3 for parcel airlift mail; Dec. 10 for priority mail and first-class mail, letters and cards; and Dec. 17 for express mail mili-

The Military Postal Service Agency highly encourages customers to mail packages on or before the dates for the specific mail category in order to avoid unplanned transportation delays. Not all military State Department post offices are eligible for Express Mail Military Service, therefore, customers should plan accordingly.

"Express Mail Military Service is not available for holiday packages and mail going to Iraq and Afghanistan," said Faye Slater, the deputy director of the Military Postal Service Agency.

For information on mailing deadlines and restrictions, email the Military Postal Service at: MPSA-TR@conus. army.mil.

Electronic retiree newsletter

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



HASC: "We [the Army] could not do the mission without Army Aviation'

Continued from Page A1

McKeon visited the Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape training site, and simulations training at Warrior Hall. He also had the chance to talk with Soldiers during lunch at the dining facility.

Crutchfield said the visit was important for Fort Rucker.

"Simply put, this visit is huge. One of my imperatives is to significantly increase the relationships with local, regional and national communities. This (visit) is doing just that with the national community," he said.

The general added that Fort Rucker is essential to the battlefield.

"We [the Army] could not do the mission without Army Aviation, and commanders want more. Unfortunately we don't have any more to give right now, but we're going to try our best to give them what they need to fight this war. Army Aviation is carrying a large share of the burden for the Army, which is carrying a large share of burden for the nation," Crutchfield said.

With more helicopters deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan today than we had at the height of the surge in 2008, the bottom line is Army Aviation is the most demanded enabler in Afghanistan and Iraq today, he added.

Sgt. 1st Class Justin Gallaher, who participated in training at the HOST facility during McKeon's visit, said the training at Fort Rucker is why Soldiers survive in actual situ

"It is critical. Everybody that actually survives these types of situations always credits it back to the time when they did training like this as to why they survived. If your job is going to put you in a realworld situation, then definitely any kind of live training in an environment that's going to put you close to that is very important," Gallaher said. "To save a life - it's hard to put a dollar amount on that.3







Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, commanding general of USAACE and Fort Rucker, escorts Rep. Buck McKeon, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, after the latter's arrival to Fort Rucker for a tour of the post, facilities and to observe Aviation training firsthand Monday.



Rep. Howard P. "Buck" McKeon, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, lunches with Fort Rucker Soldiers Monday during his visit to the post to observe Aviation training and tour facilities.

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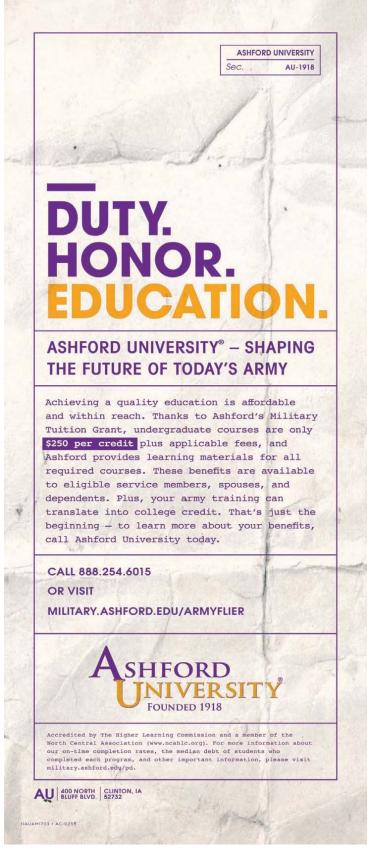


Educating on Aviation

Military legislative assistants from the offices of Alabama's congressmen receive a pre-flight briefing before departing on a UH-60 Black Hawk for an aerial tour of Fort Rucker Monday. The seven assistants, along with the executive director of the Alabama Military Stability Commission, visited the post to learn about what goes on at Fort Rucker and the vital role the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence plays in national defense. According to Maj. Alfred Boone, a congressional liaison officer at the Army level, these visits, "provide substance otherwise not obtained from an office or hearing in D.C. Staffers focus on the issues important to the local community but that also fits into the national agenda/security or has implications for other communities in the state. Each stop throughout the visit illustrates a point that enforces the overall message. Staffers will walk away from the visit with a better understanding of the issues to inform their boss." And mission accomplished, according to the MLAs, including Jennifer Warren, assistant to Rep. Martha Roby. There is nothing more invaluable to see firsthand than the operations going on at Fort Rucker. It is impressive -- the extensive training that occurs at the base from the water survival training to simulation to the daily in-flight training. Also, I was so struck by Fort Rucker's strong commitment to the Soldiers, their Families and the surrounding communities?



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- 4. Register (or log in if previous user)
- 5. Make your pledge



Army civilian workforce development on track

By C. Todd Lopez Army News Service

WASHINGTON — In the last year, the Army has moved closer to transforming its civilian work force of more than 320,000 employees.

Currently, the Army Career Tracker, or ACT, is available to some 50,000 civilian employees. The online tool is designed to integrate training and education into one website. The tool allows an employee and leadership to track their careers, and monitor education and training resources.

During a lunch for Army civilians at the 2011 Association of the United States Army Annual meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C., Under Secretary of the Army Joseph W. Westphal highlighted some of the progress made toward some short-term goals that he laid out a year earlier at the same event.

Included in those goals, Westphal said, was mapping civilian employees to a career program and also developing a "scalable hiring process proof-of-concept" to reducing hiring times for civilian employ-

So far, about 50,000 civilians have been mapped to one of 31 career programs and there is a target to have 100 percent mapped to a career program under ACT by Sept. 30, 2012

To speed up civilian hiring, the Army conducted a "hiring reform beta test," aimed at reducing timelines for hiring actions.

We invested in civilian employee professional development with a talent management program for GS-15s and aligned the SES and senior civilian management organizations," Westphal said. "We have also developed the Army career tracker, an online tool for tracking employee skills and training requirements. The ACT will help employees and their supervisors

Westphal said that progress in civilian workforce transformation "has not been easy," and that transformation is still "embryonic."

The under secretary said studies have shown the Army has to improve how it hires civilians, manages civilian careers, and trains and develops leaders. Additionally, he said, the Army must adapt the workforce to changing national requirements.

"The primary goal [of civilian workforce transformation] is to ensure that every civilian that comes into the Army has a career path," Westphal said. "And that career path can be tracked, that people will be able to receive education training and development in those career paths so they can grow in the Army and provide greater expertise in their jobs.

Developing education for civilian employees. something similar to what is available for Soldiers, is also critical, he said.

"If you're a Soldier today, whether you are a noncommissioned officer or an officer, the Army invests a significant amount of money in your education," he said. "We've got probably the best educated military in the world. We need to do the same thing for our civilians. Putting money into that in a tight economy is going to be a struggle — but I am going to make sure we do the best we can."



Joseph W. Westphal

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Army overhauling personnel management

By Master Sgt. Doug Sample Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The all-volunteer force can expect several changes in terms of promotion, evaluation and professional development as the Army looks at new strategies for overhauling its personnel management system.

During a panel discussion on leadership and future personnel strategies Oct. 12 at the 2011 AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition, Army leaders briefed Soldiers and civilians on what they can expect as the service looks to 2020.

Thomas Lamont, assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, said the overall strategy is to transform the Army management of manpower over the next nine years.

"The Army of 2020 must retain high-quality individuals. We must be more flexible and informed, better able to identify and draw on the unique skills and talents within the force to more easily address specific missions," he explained. "Our goal is to create institutional agility so that we are able to expand and contract the force to meet new missions, changing environments, and emerging crises."

To achieve that goal, Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, deputy chief of staff, G-1, said the Army must maintain and manage the talent it has within the force. Bostick said the Army is good at developing leaders, but emphasized that as it looks to the future, there has to be change.

"We are very, very good at developing leaders and we are focused now on how do we do it better," said Bostick. "You can talk to any industry out there and they will look at the United States Army as a great example of how we develop young



Speaking at the 2011 AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition, on coming changes to the personnel management system are (right to left): Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostic, G-1; Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, chief of the Army Reserve; and Maj. Gen. Ray Carpenter, acting director of the Army National Guard

leaders, officers, noncommissioned officers, warrant officers and civilians. We want to keep that reputation as we move forward. After 10 years of war, we're taking a real strong look at where we are at and taking some action and changing some of the ways we do business."

Bostick also pointed out that the Army needs leaders who are adaptable, diversified and can operate on many strategic levels. "Whether it is within Congress, or the media, or budgeting, or personnel - across this enterprise that we have - we have to ask, 'Are we setting ourselves up for success? Are we getting the civilian education, the military education, and the experiences, knowledge, skills and abilities that we need?"

Bostick also spoke enthusiastically about a new option the Army is working to implement in the near future that he says will make officers more adaptable leaders. Over the next year, West Point and the Training and Doctrine Command will roll out a new initiative called "broadening." It will aim to allow officers to gain the knowledge, skills and abilities through various assignments outside their core competency.

The new initiative, which has the support of the Army secretary and chief of staff, provides officers the opportunity to work as fellows with government and civilian agencies as well as military exchange programs, training with industry and teaching at colleges and universities.

Bostick recalled com-

ments former Defense Secretary Robert Gates made to West Point cadets in February, telling them to "look for opportunities that in the past were off the beaten path. If not a career dead-ender, then the institutional Army should not only tolerate, but encourage you in that effort."

Other changes, Bostick noted include implementing a senior-rater box on the officer evaluation report for all grades, brigadier general and below, with the exception of chief warrant officer 5; implementing successive positions by senior rater, and incorporating comments on Officer Efficiency Reports, or OERs, by raters indicating completion or initiation of the 360 assessment. The 360 assessment allows peers and subordinates to rate a Soldier's performance over the past three years.

Bostick compared the 360 assessment to what many Soldiers know as an after-action review, adding that officers need to become "comfortable with the dialogue" in the assessment.

G-1 Sgt. Maj. Tom Giles explained the Army plans to develop its noncommissioned officer, or NCO, corps through changes in schools and training. Giles said Soldiers can now take structured self-development

training, which he said encompasses "all the key things that we don't have time to get to in institutionalized training. Things like the culture and traditions of the service, information that is critical to young service members."

Giles also commented on changes to the noncommissioned officer evaluation report, or NCOER, adding that the document has "had its day."

"Most importantly (it) does not meet the Army leader-development strategy," he said. As for the ratings in some of the NCOERs, Giles said most noncommissioned officers would agree there is too much inflation in bullet comments.

"We need to get back to accountability," he said.

A board of sergeants major is discussing several recommendations for improving the NCO rating system to include a multi-source assessment tool, he said, and ways to increase senior-rater and rater accountability

Meanwhile, directors for the National Guard and Army Reserve admitted they have unique challenges when it comes to providing the training needed to develop strong leaders. However, both men offered up what they said are positive solutions to the problems their services face.

"Our struggle is how do we get that training and incorporate it into all the other things on the plate of this Soldier," said Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, chief of the U.S. Army Reserve. "So our challenge really is where do we fit our leader development in with all that we are asking our Soldiers to do, and they have a full-time job at the same time."

Throughout the three-day conference, Stultz said he has spent a lot of time preaching the value and benefit of the "Continuum of Service" model which allows the Reserve to maintain the investment the military has made in developing leaders for a life-long career.

Stultz said continuum of service allows Soldiers to "flow back and forth" between active and Reserve time "so they can achieve their life goals of going to school or starting a new career." In return, he said Soldiers get experience that will make them better leaders.

Maj. Gen. Ray Carpenter, acting director of the Army National Guard, explained the Guard has a "backlog" when it comes to military education, and that the Guard is looking at several options to better develop its Soldiers as leaders. He pointed out that the operational tempo of Guard units due to the continued support of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has outpaced the ability to educate and train noncommissioned officers and junior leaders.

Opportunity Knocks

>>Employment Forum<<

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

INTERNAL

Testing Clerk GS-0303-05 SCEG11367498 Closing Date: Oct. 23 (DUTY LOC: Montgomery)

Firefighter (Stagefield) GS-0081-05 SCEG11360414 Closing Date: Oct. 26

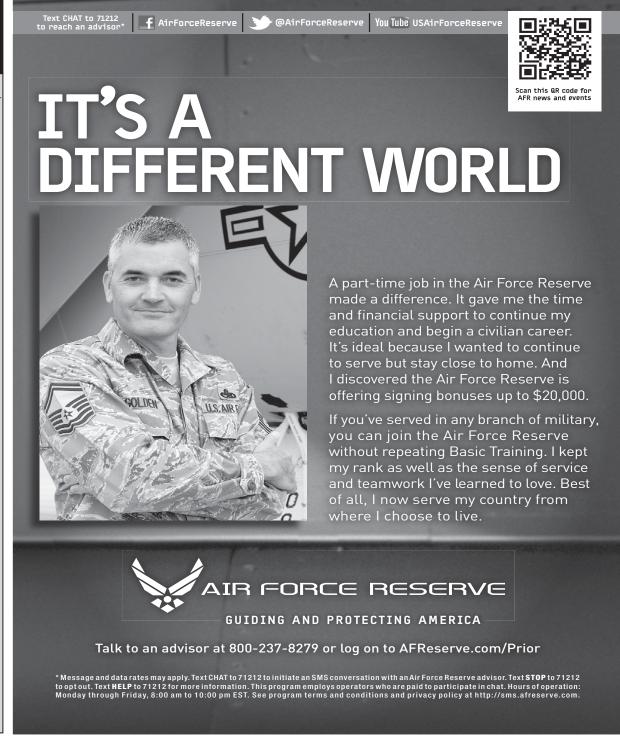
Quality Assurance Specialist GS-1910-11 SCEG11359547 Closing Date: Oct. 26

Supervisory Logistics Management Specialist GS-0346-12 SCEG11399764 Closing Date: Oct. 26

Strategic Communications Specialist GS-0301-11 SCEG11423537 Closing Date: Oct. 26

Budget Analyst GS-0560-11 SCEG11399840 Closing Date: Oct. 26

Management Support Assistant (OA) GS-0303-07 SCEG11185954R Closing Date: Oct. 26 (TERM NTE 24 MTHS)



Retirees: Event presents opport

Continued from Page A1

them and that we appreciate the service they have given," she

Retiree appreciation events will continue after the health fair with the quarterly retirement ceremony at 2:30 p.m. at the United States Army Aviation Museum and a social for retirees at the Landing at 4:30 p.m. Moore said that both these

events recognize retired Sol- efits, said Moore. He explained diers old and new, and give them a chance to "trade war stories, renew old friendships or make new acquaintances.'

Retired Soldiers can attend a German-style buffet at 5:30 p.m. at The Landing, followed by an address from Rear Admiral W. Clyde Marsh, Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs commissioner. The address will be an update on military benthat the information provided will benefit both long-time and newly retired Soldiers.

"There's a constant change in the retiree population. We want to make sure they're aware of the opportunities and facilities that are available to them. The biggest concern right now is on ciation Day brings people from benefits because the Army has to reduce costs. There is nothing better that [retirees] can do than

make sure they know what's happening and how changes will impact them," he said.

Moore explained that the Fort Rucker Retirement Services Office provides assistance to more than 32,000 retirees from Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi. Retiree Apprearound the area to Fort Rucker and the surrounding community, with many retirees returning ev-

"The footprint that Fort Rucker is responsible for reaches beyond the Wiregrass area. I see the same people returning every year. It speaks highly of the services this installation provides. Retirees recognize and appreciate Fort Rucker almost as much as we appreciate them," he said.

For information on Retiree Day and to pre-register for events, call 255-9124.

Eglin: Plans call for facility to increase by 6 buildings

Continued from Page A1

gerness to begin the next chapter of the 7th's proud history at Eglin.

"We are overjoyed to be in the Emerald Coast and live as your neighbors," said Fletcher. "For 50-plus years we called Fort Bragg home, and the bonds of our personal friendships and the connections throughout the countless Carolina communities ran extremely deep. In retrospect, six years ago when Congress mandated our move to Eglin, it was received with a bit of angst and nervous anxiety.

smiling faces, unconditional community support, the Emerald Coast weather, world class facilities and unprecedented training opportunities quickly erased those fears," said Fletcher. "This unparalleled blend provides this exceptional unit with a unique opportunity to focus on what matters most: training for our soldiers and caring for their families. We look forward to writing the next chapter in the 7th Group's proud legacy with the Emerald Coast neighbors.'

In September 2005, the

Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended to President George W. Bush that the 7th Special Forces Group be relocated from Fort Bragg to Eglin, in order to provide the opportunity to train jointly alongside the Air Force Special Operations Command.

Construction for the new compound began in March of 2009. Within two years, what was previously a wooded area frequented by local hunters had been transformed into a 350-acre. \$255 million cantonment site with over 40 facilities, officials said at the ceremony. Roughly 150 Soldiers per week have moved during this past summer, with the last Families arriving in September.

Upon the ceremony's conclusion, guests were invited to tour the 7th's new facilities and view an array of static displays, including the Ground Mobility Vehicle, the MRAP All Terrain Vehicle, and the Unmanned Aerial Surveillance Shadow.

Plans call for the 7th Special Forces Group to grow by additional six buildings and 150 acres over the next year, officials said.



A member of the Black Daggers, the U.S. Army Special Operations Command Parachute team, performs a precision jump during a ceremony mmemorating the opening of the 7th Special Forces Group at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Friday,

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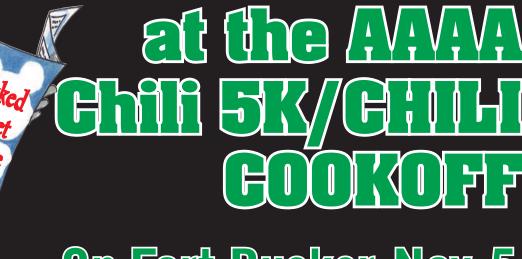
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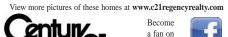
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Photo on Page D4

Testing in progress

OCTOBER 20, 2011

Soldiers help researchers develop future gear for warriors

Army News Service

NATICK, Mass. - If asked to identify

Soldiers doing some of the most important work in the Army, one probably wouldn't immediately think of 30 who reported directly to the Natick Soldier Systems Center in Massachusetts from advanced individual training.

Yet four times a year at Natick, groups this size play major roles in the Army's future. During their 89-day stays there, they sometimes accomplish enough to have significant impacts on their fellow Soldiers for years to come. Not bad for men and women new to the military.

Known as human research volunteers, or HRVs, these Soldiers help researchers conduct medical studies and equipment testing to determine where to spend, or not spend, millions of taxpayer dollars.

"They're very, very important," said Col. (Dr.) Keith L. Hiatt, until recently the medical director of the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine at Natick. "There's no sense in buying a million new backpacks that the guys can walk maybe a mile in (before) their back hurts so much.'

Since 1954, more than 4,000 Soldiers have served as HRVs at Natick. They have taken part in medical studies for USARI-EM and helped test a variety of equipment in extreme conditions for the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center.

'We recruit roughly four times a year, about 30 each, so it's about 120 (Soldiers) a year," Hiatt said. "You don't need 2,000

people to do this. Ideally, you need 20 or "They want everyone for the studies. 40. And if 20 to 40 people can help the Army buy a million widgets or come up with a whole new guidance on how you survive a swamp or whatever, that's a good investment.'

Mary Anne Fawkes has managed the HRV program at Natick for four years and has accompanied Hiatt on those recruiting trips. During her tenure, she has watched young Soldiers make valuable contributions to deployed service members.

"They're the best people to test each of the products," said Fawkes of the HRVs. "This really works well. These brand-new Soldiers, a lot of them come up and give great feedback.

As Fawkes pointed out, the program recruits Soldiers between ages 18 and 39. "They want the wide range," she said.

That's what the Army is. It's made up of the same people as society."

Not only are their opinions valued, HRVs get plenty out of the program.

"They get to meet other people that they may not have otherwise even had a chance to meet," Fawkes said, "These are things that an average Soldier that goes someplace else would never have a chance to do. It's a benefit for both sides."

Spc. Sean Brandt and Pfc. Josh Hernandez, both trained as helicopter mechanics, came to Natick after AIT to try and make a difference for Soldiers.

"For me, it worked out really well on all sorts of different levels," Brandt said. "I got to participate in some things. I got to

SEE GEAR, PAGE B4



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. MATTHEW SMITH

A UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter lands at Forward Operating Base Bostick, Afghanistan, while personnel wait to board another helicopter Oct. 8.

Legislation could expand Reserve role in homeland security

By J.D. Leipold Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Legislation being considered by both houses of Congress could provide the Army Reserve broader authority to call up troops for homeland security and also allow the force to deploy units for operations lasting 120 days

Chief of the Army Reserve Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz said last week that the legislation would grant authority to call up as many as 60,000 Reservists per year from all services, for unnamed contingencies, both inside and outside the country. He spoke to reporters about the proposed expansion of Title 10 authority following a seminar Oct. 11 at the Association of the 2011 U.S. Army Annual Meeting and Exposition.

"For homeland use, current law says you can only use your Title 10 Reserve in the homeland in instances of weapons of mass destruction," Stultz said, adding that the Army Reserve isn't trying to insert itself or replace the National Guard

There should be a logical progression, just like there is now, where local civil authorities respond, then the governor calls up the National Guard — and in 90 percent of the cases that's all that's needed — but in that other 10 percent where the state needs federal help, we'd be available with a lot of needed ex-

Stultz said the National Governors Association and the National Guard Association felt there were no issues of infringement and they support the Title 10 change as well.

Additionally, the Army Reserve has sought the Title 10 change to allow it to support operations that are usually 90-to-120-day deployments and would give each Reserve force commander the authority to send one unit for the entire duration rather than have two or three units cover down in that same

The general also said he was looking at creating an operational reserve of about 25,000 Soldiers, of which 5,000 could be pulled up trained and ready when the country needed them. This would keep the rotational cycle ideal at one year out, four

Presently, the rotational cycles are "pretty good for the majority of units" at about 12 months out and 42 months back. He said some units are one to four, but others — such as Aviation



Samoa-based U.S. Army Reservists of Bravo and Charlie Company, 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, 9th Mission Support Command, brush up on their combat skills during weapons qualification. More than 100 Soldiers returned to American Samoa June 30, 2010, after completing 18 days of training

units — are still high-demand, high operations tempo, especially in Afghanistan. Yet others, like logistics units, are coming down as units move out of Iraq.

Stultz said the Reserve force needs to continue investing in modernizing equipment, providing the dollars for training and simulation systems that give Soldiers realistic training. He said if worthwhile training is not sourced or invested, the Reserve will lose what he called the "national treasure" because Reserve Soldiers don't want to sit in a drill half for a weekend or go to summer camp and dig foxholes.

He noted as budgets shrink and the force becomes smaller that Soldier standards will be more closely looked at, and he. like the chief of staff of the Army, is concerned with the pos-

sibility of automatic budget cuts that would kick in if there's no agreement on the \$1.5 trillion in federal savings by the Congressional deficit reduction committee.

"If sequestration kicks in, we don't want to end up doing what we've done in the past where we focus on how to get people off the rolls, not which people off the rolls," he said. "We don't want to incentivize the wrong people to leave the

"We need to upgrade the standards, and if you can't get there, you can't stay in," Stultz said. "We have people in our formations who we should have already eliminated, but for lack of a clerk or motor pool sergeant we kept them. Let's process these people out so we can make room for those we want to keep."

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B2

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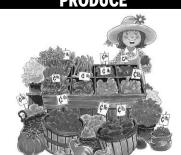
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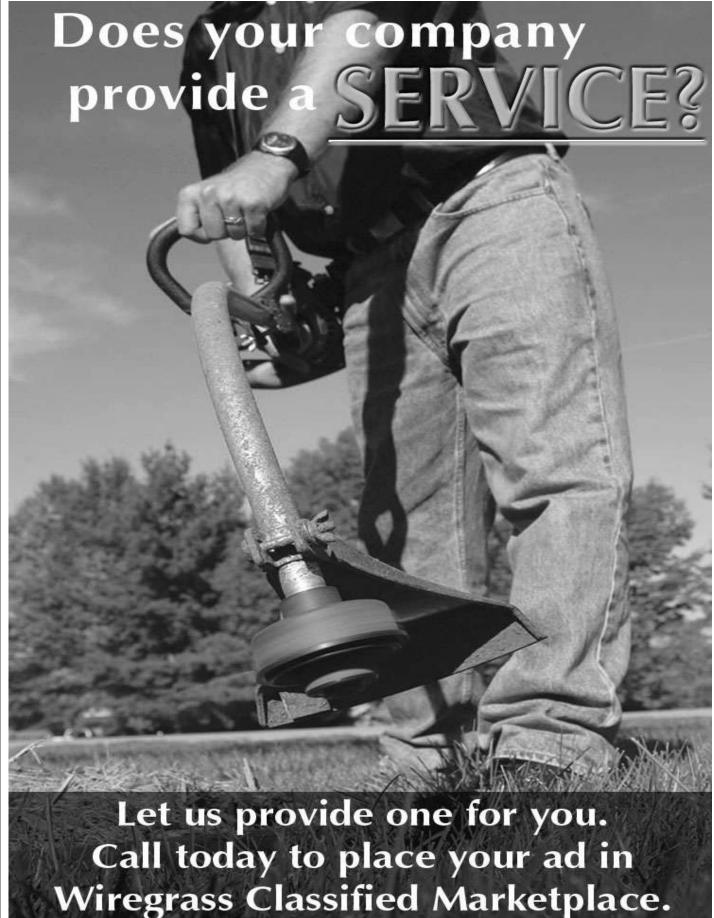
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Gear: Tests make equipment safety top priority

Continued from Page B1

help the Army develop new stuff, which was cool to me. I (did) something that a lot of people don't get a chance

"As far as the research, you're actually helping," Hernandez said. "That's really cool."

Why are HRVs such as Brandt and Hernandez so important?

"To do good research, if it's going to affect humans, you need human volunteers," Hiatt said. "Soldiers, by definition, are going to be a much better population to work with, for the simple reason that they know what it is to wear this stuff, and they are in good condition, and they know what it is to be a Soldier.'

Hiatt said that when he went on recruiting trips throughout the year, he made sure to bring in Soldiers who were physically and mentally prepared to contribute to studies and testing at NSSC. He added that if this small group "can help the Army procure either knowledge or a product, they're helping not only themselves, they're also force multipliers, because they're helping the whole Army. We do some pretty intense things.'

Safety always comes first with human research at NSSC, however.

"The whole idea is it's got to be as safe as possible," Hiatt added. "They're wired up all the time when they're in really intense environments. We make sure that all risks are mitigated as much as possible and that appropriate medical coverage is going to be available."

"It's almost like the 'Right Stuff' sometimes, they've got so many tubes and lines and things," Hiatt explained. "From a physiologic standpoint, and a medical standpoint,

we control everything. If you're putting somebody in 140 degrees on a treadmill with MOPP (mission oriented protective posture gear) 4 on, it's a big deal.

As Hiatt pointed out, USARIEM usually has three doctors, four medics and a physician assistant tending to the

"We have staff that's completely dedicated only to taking care of them," Hiatt said. "There's no place in the Army that's got that intensity of medical support for 30 people.'

HRVs are given briefings on all of the studies and testing under way at Natick. They might be asked to work out in extreme heat or cold, or at various altitudes. They could be deprived of sleep or food for periods of time. And they could test food, clothing or equipment in varying condi-

"They volunteer to come up to Natick," Fawkes said. "They can volunteer to leave whenever they want. They can drop out (of a study) whenever they want.

They can select what to participate in, as long as they meet certain criteria.

"It's like a Chinese buffet or a smorgasbord," Hiatt said. 'You just choose what you want, and they're briefed on absolutely every one of them."

Hernandez and Brandt said they both signed up for every item on the menu.

"I took every single one," Brandt said. "That was really nice, because they schedule it all. There's a schedule every week that tells you exactly where you need to be and what you're going to be doing, which, I think, helps you as a Soldier. You can just focus on doing your PT and doing

Brandt did one study that looked at how fatigue affects

"You do this lift with (a) box that weighed 22 pounds." Brandt said. "The camera would track the movement of your joints. It was really kind of cool to see and be a part of, and it was definitely hard."

Hernandez participated in a study about proposed changes to the Army Physical Fitness Training Program.

"It was a little bit more strenuous than I thought it would be," Hernandez said. "They test to see if you're getting any stronger, if you're getting any improvement. I definitely have gotten stronger since I've been here. We don't get any major injuries or anything, but we definitely are sore after that.'

The HRVs become accustomed to the constant monitoring during studies and testing.

"You kind of realize this is what I'm here to do," Brandt said. "I'm here to test stuff. I'm here to try stuff out. As I've been here a little longer, it's kind of part of the job."

Natick has taken HRVs from the ranks of helicopter mechanics, supply clerks, tankers, cavalry scouts, infantrymen and artillerymen, among others.

Most have no regrets afterward, Fawkes said.

"The majority of them do say that they're really glad they did this and it was really great for them," Fawkes said. "Most people rave about how good it is here."

All of the testing at Natick aims to provide Soldiers with the best technology and gear available in the world. HRVs help researchers stay on target.

"The Army thinks that Soldiers are performance athletes, basically," Hiatt said. "Whatever we give him, it's got to last and it's got to work, and it's got to not malfunction. We also have to provide him the right water and the right food, so that he functions, too, physiologically. That's why we do what we do."





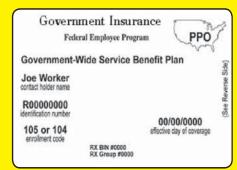
Soldiers of TF Black Knight, A Co., 2-28., 3-66th Armor Regt., 172nd Inf. Bde., attach equipment to a CH-47 Chinook for transport on Combat Outpost Sar Howza. Paktika Province, Afghanistan, Oct. 2.

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OCTOBER 20, 2011





Left: Alexis Holuly, 2, from Enterprise, slides down one of the children's inflatables during the annual Fort Rucket Arts Festival at the Festival Fields Saturday.

Below: Jazsper Womack, Carroll High School ROTC, paints an American Flag on Bailey Turner's, military child, face during the annual Fort Rucker Arts Festival at the Festival Fields Saturday. The event featured various arts and crafts vendors, the BOSS car show, musical entertainment from the Rockin' Rucker's Talent Show, children's inflatables and a student art contest.



Community Police give tips for a safe, fun Halloween

By Erin Murray Army Flier Staff Writer

The Fort Rucker Community Police wants the community to have a safe and fun Halloween as trick-or-treating is observed on post Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m.

Peggy Contreras, Fort Rucker Community Police supervisor, provided many safety tips for children who will be donning their costumes and the adults who will be tagging along.

"Safety should always come first. Children should be with parents or a trustworthy adult, not just other children," she said

Contreras also encouraged trick-or-treaters and parents to wear light colored clothing or reflective patches, along with carrying a flashlight for after dark. She advised that before Halloween, parents should make a plan with children in case they get separated.

"Costumes should fit well, so that children don't trip. Have an emergency contact pinned inside the costume, so that if your child gets lost, they have a way to reach you," said Con-



treras.

Those who will be driving during the trick-or-treating hours should exercise even more caution than usual around crosswalks and in neighbornoods.

"Drivers should slow down and be aware and pedestrians should be careful around crosswalks," she said.

While Halloween is a spooky

time, the police encouraged older children to be careful with their antics.

"Older children and teenagers should keep the horseplay to a minimum. Sometimes young-

er kids are afraid of costumes, so older children shouldn't try to frighten them,"

She also urged parents to continue to be safe after the trick-or-treating is over by thoroughly checking candy for tampering. She said children should never eat uninspected or unwrapped candy, even if they know the source.

Contreras noted that Fort Rucker is a safe community, but that the police would still be available to ensure that trick-or-treaters stay safe.

"Patrols will be out monitoring, and we hope that McGruff will be out visiting the trick-or-treaters, too. If you see something unusual, don't try to handle it on your own. Get as much information as possible and then call for assistance," she said, adding that a happy Halloween benefits the whole community "This is a good time to get out and meet your neighbors. A safe and successful Halloween helps build the community on Fort Rucker."

For more Halloween safety tips, or to report a concern, call 255-2222

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

Anger Management

The Family Advocacy Program hosts an Anger Management Workshop Tuesday 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 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.

Children's Fall **Festival**

The Riding Stables hosts the Children's Fall Festival Saturday from 4-7 p.m. The event features numerous children's games, horseback riding, inflatables and a Halloween costume contest for children ages 1 month to 10 years. The event is open to the public.

For more, call 598-3384.

Halloween craft making

The Center Library hosts a Halloween Craft Making Activity for children ages 3-11 Tuesday from 4-5 p.m. Children are welcome to wear Halloween costumes to the event, and light refreshments will be served. Space is limited to the first 65 children to sign up. For more information or to register, call 255-3885.

Character Dining

The Landing Zone hosts Character Dining Tuesdays from 5-7 p.m. This Tuesday features Halloween Kids' Night complete with pumpkin decorating, television and film characters, balloons and free face painting. During the event, children ages 12 and younger eat free from the buffet with the purchase of an adult entree (limit of two per adult). The event is open to the public.

For more, call 598-8025.

Fright Night

The Riding Stables hosts Fright Night Oct. 27-28 from 7-10 p.m. Admission is \$8 per person. The event features The Purgatory Trail," and the "Barn of Terror." Guests can also go for a hayride through the woods and hear the story of Edmond Rucker and his 16 children, who were cursed by his wife, the witch Connie Bloodheart. Guests can finish their evening at the cemetery by taking a short walk the haunted barn. The event is recommended for ages 13 and

For more, call 598-3384.

Monster Ball

The Landing Zone hosts the annual Monster Ball Oct. 29 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. The event is for ages 18 and older. D.J Dave will provide the tunes and the event also features a costume contest.

Prizes will be awarded for best overall costume, most original costume and best couples costume. The event is open to the public. There is a \$5 cover charge. For more, call 598-8025.

Care Team Training

Army Community Ser-

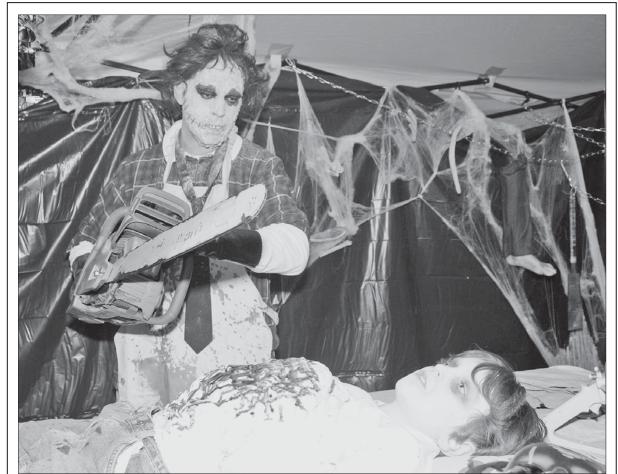


PHOTO BY EMILY BRAINARD

Scary BOSS

Staff Sgt. Jeff Scott "hacks" Colby Clark with a chainsaw during last year's BOSS Haunted House at Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Facility. BOSS is at it again this year with its haunted house Saturday from 6-10 p.m. at Fortenberry-Colton. Admission for this event is two canned good items that will benefit the post food locker. The event is open to the public. For more information, call 379-4594 or 255-2677.

vice hosts Care Team training Oct. 27 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 284.

As part of the Care Team, volunteers "perform a very valuable role to both Families of fallen and injured Soldiers," according to ACS officials

The training is offered to those interested in being a Care Team volunteer, and is designed to give people an understanding of volunteers' responsibilities and offers guidance on how to handle issues volunteers are likely to face.

For more, call 255-9578.

EFMP Zumba demonstration

The Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program hosts an EFMP Zumba demonstration Oct. 27 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at The Commons, Bldg. 8950, on Seventh Avenue.

The demonstration is selfpaced and designed for people with special needs and disabilities. The demonstration will be conducted by a certified Zumba instructor.

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

Peanut Festival tickets

Leisure travel is selling National Peanut Festival tickets now through Oct. 31 for the Nov. 4-13 event in Dothan. Tickets cost \$6. For more, call 255-9517.

Ladies Night

The Landing Zone hosts its Ladies Night Friday from 7 p.m. to midnight, featuring live entertainment by the blues-rock group Triple Threat. Cover charge is \$5 at

The Landing Zone cour-

tesy van offers a free ride home to anywhere on Fort Rucker. The event is open to the public.

For more, call 598-8025.

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.

The art contest, titled "My Military Family," invites children ages 4-11 to submit their work depicting their military Families in color drawings - pencils, Crayons or paints - on 8 1/2-by-11 paper in vertical format. Family members should not be mentioned by name in the drawings.

The essay contest, titled "What being in a Military Family Means to Me," is open to all military children ages 7-12. Essays should be between 100 and 200 words, and may be handwritten or typed.

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 today to Fort Rucker Primary or Elementary School counselors. The deadline for off-post students is Friday and should be turned in at Bldg. 5700, Rm. 390 in Army Community Service.

Winners will be recognized during the chili cookoff and ACS' "Salute to Military Families" event Nov. 5 at the Fort Rucker Festival Fields.

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

DFMWR Spotlight



SCHEDULE FOR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

Red Ribbon Week educates youth, prevents drug abuse

Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker's Department of Public Safety, Army Substance Abuse Program and installation schools will join forces to help prevent drug use during Red Ribbon week Oct. 24-29.

Fort Rucker's Red Ribbon week activities include a parade by students of Fort Rucker Elementary School, a fall festival hosted by Fort Rucker Primary School, and events from ASAP aimed at educating the community, said Shannon Vickery, ASAP office manager.

"Education is the key to prevention. The goal of Red Ribbon week is for the focus of the youth in our community to be on drugs and the harmful effects they can have,' she said.

Fort Rucker Elementary School will have daily events recognizing Red Ribbon week, culminating in the annual parade from the school to the post theater Oct. 27 at 1 p.m. Elementary School principal, Vicki Gilmer, said that each year the school coordinates with the parentteacher association and community leaders to promote a safe and healthy lifestyle.

The theme for this year is "It's Up to Me to be Drug Free." The 98th Army "Silver Wings" Band, McGruff the Crime Dog, and officers and firefighters from the Fort Rucker DPS will all accompany the students in the parade.

"Red Ribbon Week is such an exciting time of year. It gives the school a great platform to educate students against the use of drugs as well as making good life choices daily. It is an ideal way for schools and communities to unite and take a visible stand against substance abuse," said Gilmer.

ASAP will also support the elementary school's parade and host an outreach event to Fort Rucker Girl Scouts Oct. 22. Involvement in Red Ribbon week is a chance for ASAP to educate the community, starting with its youngest members, said Denise Clarke, ASAP Risk Reduction program coordinator

"Red Ribbon week is the perfect opportunity for parents to sit down with their children and talk about drugs and drug prevention. Many times, a child's first introduction to drugs will probably be misusing



Community Police member Sgt. Zeyna Jimenez instructs Fort Rucker Primary School students on the danger of using drugs during last year's Red Ribbon Week. This

their parents' over-the-counter prescriptions or inhaling household substances. Kids are introduced to drugs by their peers, so parents can take this week to also talk about peer pressure and the importance of making good choices," said

While Red Ribbon is aimed at younger members of the community, ASAP will also conduct an event that aims to eliminate prescription drug abuse by all members of the Army Family, said Clarke. ASAP will be partnering with Lyster Pharmacy to have a drop box for unused prescription drugs in the Fort Rucker Post Exchange on National Take Back Prescription Day Oct.

earlier we start educating our children, the higher chance they will most likely say no to drugs," said Vickery.

For more information on Red Ribbon week and drug prevention, contact ASAP at



Pick-of-the-litter

Meet Sigmund, an 11-week-old male domestic short-haired cat available for adoption at the Fort Rucker stray facility. He is super sweet, easy going and loves toddlers. It costs \$81 to adopt Sigmund and other animals at the facility, which includes all up-to-date shots, microchip and neutering. For more information on animal adoptions, call the stray facility at 255-0766, open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The facility needs donations such as dry or canned foods for cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, as well as blankets, toys and towels. Donations can be dropped off at the veterinary clinic or the commissary. Visit the Fort Rucker stray facility's Facebook page at http:// www.facebook.com/fortruckerstrayfacility/ for constant updates on the newest animals available for adoption



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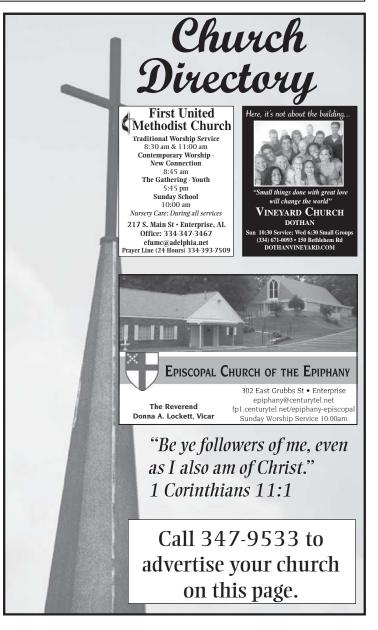
We are a "family friendly, family focused" church where great emphasis is placed on connecting and forming great relationships. We are an all-inclusive congregation and we welcome all who desire to worship with us, we provide an environment that's open and biblical. "The Light" is a Christ-centered church that fully believes in the teachings of Christ.

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See you Sunday!



Biden, Odierno support military children

she wrote. "I saw my mom

was there, and she was cry-

ing, which made me start

crying right away. I asked

what was wrong, and she

told me that my dad was OK,

but we had lost four of our

Soldiers. I remember crying

The teen and her brother,

Biden noted, were the only

military children in that

"Unfortunately, their sto-

ry is not unique," she said.

"There are approximately

700,000 children throughout

the country who have parents

serving in the National Guard

and Reserve - and so many

of them do not live anywhere

Guardsman," she added, "I

know just how important it is

for a teacher, a counselor or a

fellow classmate to reach out

and show support and under-

Biden encouraged the au-

"Think about how you

dience to reach out to mili-

can take part in bringing

some stability, guidance and

friendship into their lives,"

Odierno echoed Biden's

call to support military chil-

dren and their Families. The

military has shouldered the

burden of multiple deploy-

ments and separations for

"As a mom of a National

near a military base.

standing."

tary Families.

she said.

for days."

By Elaine Sanchez American Forces Press Service

NATIONAL HARBOR, Md. — Two staunch military Family advocates spoke Friday on behalf of military children, citing the challenges and stresses they endure to an audience of child support professionals from across the nation

Speaking at the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's national conference here, Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond T. Odierno noted the importance of mentorship and support for military children as they navigate the frequent moves, deployments and separations brought on by more than a decade of war.

"As a teacher and a military mom and grandmother, I have seen firsthand what a big difference a great mentor can make in the lives of our nation's military children," Biden told the audience of juvenile justice and child protection professionals. Her son, Beau, serves in the Delaware Army National Guard.

Biden cited a new program that's already making a difference in military children's lives. Earlier this week, she explained, the Justice Department announced a partnership with the Defense Department to award \$20 million to organizations that provide mentoring programs and services to children with a military parent. Among the award recipients are the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Big Brothers Big Sisters and the National 4-H Council.

"These mentors and so many other individuals and groups across this country



Gen. Raymond T. Odierno

are showing all Americans that there are countless ways to help our military Families – some large and many small, but all important," Biden noted.

Last year, President Barack Obama directed federal agencies to work together on a government-wide approach to supporting military Families, Biden said, and "this mentoring initiative represents a powerful response to that call to action."

It's also a fitting example of agencies "Joining Forces," she said. First Lady Michelle Obama and Biden launched that initiative earlier this year to encourage all sectors of society to honor and support military Families.

Military children need and deserve this support, she said, as they endure unique challenges and stresses, from multiple moves and schools to deployments and separations.

Biden recalled meeting a teenager whose father had deployed to Afghanistan with the Illinois National Guard. The girl gave Biden an essay she had written about that deployment.

In her essay, the teen said a teacher called her to the office one day. Her first thought was something bad had happened to her dad. years now, he said, which affects the Family members just as it affects the servicemembers.

The nation must main-

The nation must maintain its commitment to these Families, the general said, especially the Families of the fallen and those who are caring for servicemembers wounded in combat.

Odierno noted that more than 4,500 soldiers have died while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, and more than 32,000 have been injured, with 9,000 of those requiring long-term care.

"The one thing I'm always concerned about with these factors – repetitive deployments, casualties, death – is the impact it has on our children," he said. "What are we doing to help them to cope? What are we doing to help them to overcome?"

Programs such as the Defense and Justice departments mentorship partnership will help to ensure military children adapt and excel in the years ahead, Odierno said, but still more help is needed.

"We need engagement from organizations not normally involved in military issues," the general said, "to help us, to provide us expertise, to fill the gaps between where our government programs are able to help our Families and where they cannot."

Community support also is needed, Odierno noted, particularly for reserve forces that are geographically dispersed throughout the nation. "We need to be able to reach out to them, to reach out to their children to help them," he said.

Odierno said he'd also like to forge a relationship with nonprofit organizations that support military Families so there's better access and coordination, and to other departments and agencies that provide care for children to ensure they're incorporating military Family members in their programs.

The general noted his career, which spans 35 years, has spurred 23 moves. His oldest child, he added, attended four different high schools. "First and foremost," he said, "we need continued assistance to school-age children to support seamless transitions between schools."

While much work remains to be done, Odierno said he's grateful for the support Americans have so freely given over this past decade of war. "I've been so impressed by the generosity of American people, that [they] want to reach out, they want to help, they want to assist," he said. "They want to do whatever they can to help our Families."

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.







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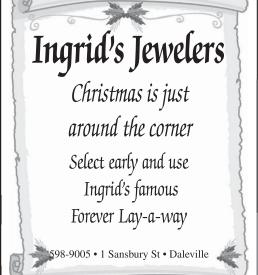
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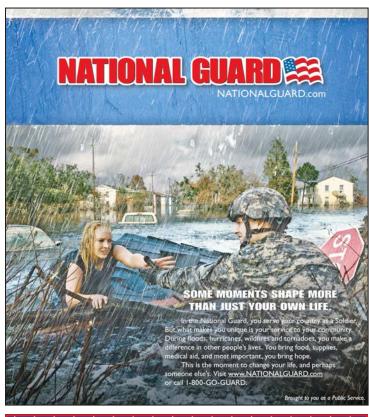
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Tourism program highlights Alabama's spooky sites

Alabama Tourism Department Press Release

(Editor's note: This is the second 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

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.

SELMA

"Haunted History Tour" -Friday-Saturday

Two centuries of area history will come back to haunt visitors during the return of the Haunted History Tours of Selma and Dallas County. Friday's event at Old Cahawba Archaeological Park features a rare

moonlit, guided tour to the town's most haunted locations. Paranormal investigators will also demonstrate the art of ghost

Saturday features two venues in Selma's historic district - Sturdivant Hall and Old Live Oak cemetery. Hear stories of resident ghosts and walk along the cemetery for a living history tour.

Tickets for each event are \$15 — event suitable for ages 12 and older. Packages with the haunted St. James Hotel are also offered this year - purchasing advanced tickets is recommended.

For more information, call the Selma-Dallas County Tourism Office at 875-7241 or visit www.selmaalabama.com

FLORENCE

Haunted History of the Shoals Ghost Walk — Friday-Oct. 31

Participants will stroll through the downtown Florence historic district with a local tour guide and author Debra Johnston Glass. Participants will be entertained with stories steeped in legend, folklore and truth. The tours cover a one-mile area and last about 1 1/2 hours.

Tours start at 7:30 p.m. daily at the W.C. Handy statue in Wilson Park. Tickets cost \$10 for adults, and \$8 for children 12 and younger.

For more, call (256) 757-7506 or visit www.discovertheshoals.com.

FORT PAYNE

Storytellin' Campfire Talk: Spooks in the Valley — Saturday

A free "storytellin'event" takes place at DeSoto State Park at the large pavilion across from the nature center as stories are told around the campfire from 5-6 p.m.

For more, call (256) 782-5697 or visit www.epic.jsu.edu.

THOMASVILLE

Ghost Walk and Fall Festival - Sunday The Thomasville Arts Council acts out some of the famous ghost stories from the books of renowned storyteller Kathryn Tucker Windham. Participants can hear the haunted history of Thomasville at stops along the way. The festival includes a street dance, motorcycle poker ride, car show and the Haunted Hille Hotel haunted house.

For more information, call 636-1542.

GADSDEN

Ghost Watch - Tuesday

People can attend and hear Mike Goodson share ghost stories of the area from 6-8 p.m. People are welcome to bring friends and Family, along with chairs and blankets - to keep warm or to hide under. The free event will be held at 4th and Broad Streets in historic downtown Gadsden. For more, call (256) 547-8696 or visit facebookhttp://www.facebook.com/event. php?eid=153397651414261.

BEATRICE

Ghost Stories at Rikard's Mill -

People are welcome to visit and enjoy a pumpkin toss, pumpkin painting and relay race before gathering around a bonfire to listen to spine-chilling ghost stories from the area daily from 6:30-10 p.m. The Haunted Swamp Trail will also be open for those brave enough to wander its path. Food vendors will be on site. Admission is \$5 per person.

For more, call the Monroe County Heritage Museum at (251) 575-7433 or send an email to mchm@frontiernet.net.

DEMOPOLIS

Tombigbee Haints and Haunts —

Oct. 28-29 Demopolis welcomes visitors to hear

ghost stories, the coffin maker's tale and more on this land and river tour that features local story tellers sharing folklore and facts about the Tombigbee River and Demopolis' early inhabitants.

The tour takes passengers from the City Landing to the Riverside Cemetery and passengers will return to the City Landing via a hayride that winds through the street of historic Demopolis. Tours start at 7, 8, 9 and 10 p.m. and cost \$15. Seating is limited for each tour.

For more, call 289-9644 or 289-0270.

OMMUNITY 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

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

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.

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 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ozark square parking 808-8500.

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 free lives. 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

FRIDAY -- A luncheon will be held at the Ozark Civic Center 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.

OCT. 29 — The Coalition for a Drug Free Dale County hosts its third annual Red Ribbon community block party from 10 For more information, call Janet Motes at

lot across from the city of Ozark municipal building. The party's purpose is to unite all members of the community in order to send a unified message to our youth to live drug

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

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

The complex is transformed into a dance hall and features music from the 40s, 50s, and 60s, finger foods, and refreshments.

Beyond Briefs

Sundown Concert Series

The Sundown Concert Series, featuring local and regional artists, is held at Kiesel Park in Auburn everv 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.

Corndodgers Farm

The Corndodgers Farm in Headland will be open through Oct. 30. Attractions available at the farm include a corn maze, hayrides, a cow train and jumping pillow. Admission to the farm is \$9 for adults and children. Senior citizens receive a \$1 discount and children under 2 are admitted free. Hour are Fridays 5-10 p.m., Saturdays noon to 10 p.m., and Sundays 1-6 p.m. For more information, visit www.corndodgersfarm.com.

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.

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 accom-

pany 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

For more information, call (256) 329-9227 or visit locations and performers or call (205) 616-1735.

Green and Gray Saturday

The National Park Service hosts a free green living program on the second Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. at Little River Canyon National Preserve in Fort Payne. Dates through the rest of the year are Saturday, Nov. 11 and Dec. 10. For more information, call (256) 845-9605 or visit www.nps.gov/liri.

Alabama Renaissance Fair

The city of Florence hosts the 25th annual Alabama Renaissance Fair Oct. 22-23 in Wilson Park. The free fair draws 30,000 - 40,000 and offers medieval themed food, rides, vendors and arts and crafts. Guests are encouraged to wear period clothes at the events. For more information, visit http://www.alarenfaire.org.

Peanut Butter Festival

The city of Brundidge hosts the annual Peanut Butter Festival Oct. 29 beginning at 9 a.m. This harvest and heritage celebration honors the town's proud heritage in the peanut butter industry. The festival features a 5K Peanut Butter Run. entertainment, contests, games, exhibits, a recipe contest, Peanut Butter Kids Contest and the Nutter Butter Parade. For more information, call 670-6302 or visit www.piddle.org.

MEDCOM aims to apply 'Medical Home' | Interested in completing model worldwide

By Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Piper Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army Medical Command is working to improve care by focusing on creating clinics based on smallgroup family practices.

The goal is to apply the Army Patient Centered Medical Home model to all treatment facilities throughout the Army, said Col. Mark Reeves, a family practice specialist with MEDCOM who spoke at the Association of the U.S. Army Annual Meeting and Exposition, Oct. 11.

We are pushing the whole process hard and are making progress," he said.

Patient Centered Medical Home is part of the Army medical system's transformation. It focuses on the small family practice and starts with the patient. Each primary care manager, or PCM, has two licensed practical nurses that work together all the time to form a core team.

The aim of the core team is to develop a long-term relationship with patients. No more than five of these core teams make up a patient center medical home, creating a small group practice.

"We have come to realize that we cannot achieve 100 percent continuity with one PCM with all the patients they have to manage all of the time," Reeves said. "The next-level effort is to have a small available group practice that prioritizes knowing that group of patients very well and cross coverage is seamless.'

Included in the medical home model is a behavioral health specialist, a dietician and a clinical pharmacist.

"These three skill sets represent well the overall incidents of what our patients conditions are and these are some areas that patients have said they've had difficulty accessing," Reeves said. "Aligning these three specialties with the primary care workforce is likely to achieve significant svnergy that helps our patients get what they need with limited barriers.

Throughout this model is case management for the more complex patients and care coordination for every single patient.

As the medical homes are created. one of the short-term goals, which will be a long-term indicator of success, is National Committee of Quality Assurance recognition for the medical homes. The NCQA measures the ability of facilities to provide quality healthcare through standardized, objective measurement guidelines

The guidelines, called the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set, have been broadly adopted throughout the American medical community. HEDIS includes performance measures related to dozens of important healthcare issues. Selected measures include: advising smokers to quit; antidepressant medication management; breast cancer screening; cervical cancer screening; children and adolescent access to primarycare physicians; children and adolescent immunization status; comprehensive diabetes care; controlling high blood pressure; and prenatal and postpartum

Patients regularly receive surveys in the mail from medical treatment facilities to gauge the effectiveness and quality of the care they received. Satisfaction surveys from the past year indicated that 95 percent of people were happy when they saw their primary-care manager. Nearly 93 percent of the people surveyed were satisfied with their primary-care manager.

"Patients are much happier if they see their PCMs because this is somebody that they develop a long-term relationship with who knows their health history and is thinking toward their benefit," Reeves

The overall satisfaction with the system was 91 percent, which implies that there are system issues. Reeves said some were probably driven by lack of access, others driven by the absence of care coordination, and perhaps a lack of a multidisciplinary

"Bottom line is if you see a PCM you like and trust, you are more likely to be interested in doing the things that team develops and you are more likely to be inclined to health maintenance and readiness," Reeves said.

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Army leadership renews commitment to Families

By Evan Dyson

Installation Management Command

WASHINGTON — Top Army leadership renewed the Army Family Covenant, the Army's formal commitment to support Soldiers and their Families, with a signing Oct. 10 at the 2011 Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition.

Secretary of the Army John McHugh, Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond Odierno and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III were accompanied on stage by Sgt. Jeremy Barnhart and his Family, who were recognized as the 2011 AUSA Volunteer Family of the Year.

"We talk a lot about the Army Family," said McHugh. "We hear it on radio and on television. We read about it in virtually any Army publication and it is important that we talk about it. It's important that we remind ourselves, but it can't just be a bumper sticker."

McHugh added, "[We must



Top Army leadership renewed the Army Family Covenant, the Army's formal commitment to support Soldiers and their Families, with a signing Oct. 10 at the Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition. The signing was conducted by Secretary of the Army John McHugh, Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond Odierno and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III. Accompanying them on stage was Sgt. Jeremy Barnhart and his Family, who were recognized as the 2011 AUSA Volunteer Family of the Year.

great Soldiers, men and women in uniform, forward deployed wherever that deployment may

not forget that] with all these take them, more than 80 countries across this planet - that back home there are folks like yourselves who are struggling as well and holding

that Family together.

While acknowledging the hardships that the Army has endured during the past 10 years of conflict, Odierno said Family programs must ensure that Army Families remain strong.

"The reason we're able to have an all-volunteer force is because of the support we get from Families," said Odierno. "These are people who raised their right hand to say 'I want to serve' and that decision does not come alone.'

The Army Family Covenant was originally unveiled Oct. 8, 2007, to represent the Army's commitment to providing Soldiers and their Families with a quality of life commensurate with their service and sacrifice. In the time since, a variety of programs have been developed and enhanced, including Survivor Outreach Services, Child, Youth and School Services, Exceptional Family Member respite care and New Parent Support.

"We have two Families," said Odierno. "We have our biological

Family and we have our Army Family. We need both and we need to make sure that all of you have confidence that your Army Family will be there for you when you most need them."

While the Army works to adjust to a new fiscal reality, Army leadership reaffirmed their commitment to continue providing Soldiers and Families with quality programs and services at the levels necessary to support their daily lives and sustain their well-being.

"We will not make Family programs the bill payers for other kinds of initiatives," said McHugh.

Odierno stressed the importance of feedback from the field in identifying what programs provide the most benefit to the Army Family. Discussions like the Family Forums at AUSA, as well as comments from the field. are critical to informing leadership about what needs to be done to continue to provide quality programs and services to Soldiers



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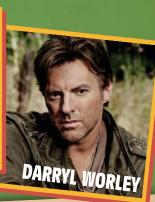
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OCTOBER 20, 2011

Numbers mean little in volleyball

By Russell Sellers

Army Flier Staff Writer

Just because the majority of a team fails to show up for the game, it doesn't mean that team will automatically lose, according to Tuesday night's game between the 110th Aviation Brigade and Lyster Army Health Clinic.

For the members of the 110th, this was an opportunity to remind everyone why they won last year's championship: Team work and good communication, according to Cody Tucker, 110th coach.

"We've played four games so far and have only lost one," he said. "Basic skills really helped us out. If you don't have the basic skills, it doesn't do much good to have more people."

Tucker said that the short length of the matches helped his players to stay

The game was set up as a doubleelimination game with teams playing until one side scored 25 points first. The 110th managed to win two sets in a row, thus winning the match, 2-0.

Lyster had six players on the court to the 110th's four, but the numbers weren't enough to cover up some costly mistakes, said Tim Hanson, Lyster coach.

The 110th surged early going up six points before Lyster finally got on the board. This was the theme for the rest of

Tucker and Joey Baltz were able to keep the team on the offensive, even when it looked like Lyster would mount a comeback. Leimomi Lobur and Anna Schortrann also put up a few points of their own, including a couple of aces.

The first match ended with a score of 25-17, but the game was far from over.

Lyster began its campaign for a comeback victory in the second match, but it

Hanson had a good bit of help from fellow teammate Aaron Moss, but even with that boost, it was hard to overcome a near-10-point deficit.

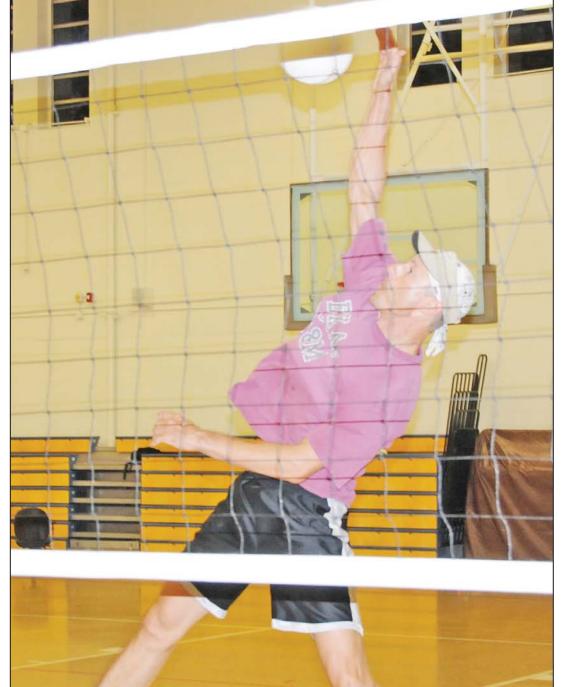
"We really need to work harder in practice," Hanson said. "We had a lot of people here tonight, but most of us are still trying to figure out how we work together.'

Hanson said that the team will be practicing more often now and that he's going to encourage more people to show up for it so a loss like this one doesn't happen again.

'Ît's going to be challenging because people have other responsibilities, but I think we can do it," he said.

Tucker said he was pleased with the outcome but didn't expect it because he had only four players to work with, including himself.

Still, despite having a strategy that worked, he said the team will continue to iron out issues during the next few weeks of practice.



Cody Tucker, 110th Avn. Bde. volleyball coach, delivers a spike to the Lyster team during an intramural volleyball game at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility Tuesday. The 110th Avn. Bde. won the set, 2-0.











THE LINK MUST HAVE BEEN DISRUPTED!



110 Urban

transport 113 Nutritional





Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

I GIVE MY WIFE CREDIT. SHE WAS REALLY MAKING AN EFFORT IN WATCHING THE FOOTBALL GAME, BUT HOW DO YOU RESPONDTO "YEAH HONEY, THE PURPLE GUYS MADE IT TO THE 55 YARD LINE?



TAG-SALE Super Crossword LINES 9 Augsburg article 10 Kind of cheese 11 Zhivago's love 12 Smell —

- ACROSS
 1 Act like a peacock
 6 Had kittens?
 10 Played the trumpet
 16 Holbrook or Linden
- 16 Holbrook or Linden 19 Stadium 20 Marathon 21 Not very often 22 Geologic division 23 "REOUIRES MINOR REPAIR" 26 Free (of) 27 Touched up the text
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 124 "AN ANIQUE TREAS-URE"
 130 '75 Abba hit
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 132 "The Seventh " 64 Refuse 65 — Cob, CT 66 Kett of the comics 69 Observe 70 "ONE OF A KIND" 75 Numbers man? 78 Actress Ward 79 Spoil
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 ('56 film)

 133 Tennis player Richards

 134 Big bang letters

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116 117 118 119

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 - series 33 Yoko 35 Supper scrap 36 Mississippi ruin 5 Sample the

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105

132

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

25

senator 37 Exchange 38 Start the slaw 39 Helicopter part 41 Tiny colonist

(be suspicious) 13 Summarize 14 Architect's add-on 15 Salon

supply
16 "Mein —"
("Cabaret"
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17 Sutherland

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25 "— Doubtfire" ('93 film) 29 Skunk in "Bambi" 31 Tall

story?

32 Andy Griffith

solo 18 Tramp's

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- 44 German port 46 Prongs 47 Optical device 49 Hispanic money 50 Watch keepers?
- 50 Watch keepers? 51 In an engaging manner 52 Wrathful 53 Celtic 59 Tennis legend
- 59 Iennis
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 61 Barnyard
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 67 Dictator
 68 Fall blooms
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106

121 122

Rodriguez

- 1. RELIGION: Which religious text is divided into chapters called "suras"
- 2. HISTORY: When did the War of 1812 end?
- 3. TELEVISION: The character Jim Phelps starred in what long-running spy drama?
- 4. MUSIC: What kind of instrument is a dulcimer?
- 5. MONEY: What is the standard currency of Vietnam? 6. FAMOUS PEOPLE: Who was
- Time Magazine's Person of the Century in 1999?
- 7. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the Baltic Sea located?
- 8. ANATOMY: What is "necrosis"? 9. NATURAL WORLD: Where is
- the geyser Old Faithful located? 10. MOVIES: What 1970s film's

theme song was titled "Evergreen"? See Page D3 for this week's answers.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	3		8					7
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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!

@ 2011 King Features Synd., Inc.

See Page D3 for this week's answers.

KID'S CORNI

110 111 112

133



MAKE A "HOOK" in the soda straw by bending it at one end. When you push it into the bottle, it will wedge itself in place, and you will be able to lift the bottle easily.

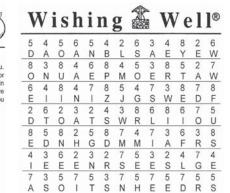


Illustrated by David Coulson

Don't let these words scare you. The grid to the left has room for nine words boo." We also give the word boo." We also give you plenty of hints to help you fill in the missing letters.

1. A forbidden subject. 2. A boorish person (sl.). Very long grass.
 A small, bound pamphlet.

A recurring problem that's hard to fix. A young child's game.
 Rural, backwoods country. 8 A Western jail. 9. Another name for a pirate.



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131

THE DOMINO EFFECT! Dump a box of dominoes on the table and tell your friends to lay them out, as they would in a game, while your back is turned. Then, without looking, tell them what two numbers are at each end of the line. What's the secret?

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THE "I" DVDATION v.

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THE "I" DVDATION v.

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

 Symbol for iodine (given).
 Equal number of votes.
 Exhaustef, fatigued.
 Joined metal sheets.
 Which is a game of tag.
 4. To prepare for publication
 6. How a wedding cake is built.
 S. Turned upside down. rs: I, 8, tie, edit, tired, tiered, riveted, inverted.



Falcons, Eagles fly high, Bears ready to maul

By Russell Sellers Army Flier Staff Writer

It might be presumptuous to write certain bird-affiliated teams off so early in the season, especially after they put up some not-so-foul wins over the weekend.

No folks, your eyes didn't deceive you; Matt Ryan really did lead the Atlanta Falcons to a 31-17 win over the Carolina Pan-

He actually looked like an NFL-caliber quarterback, unlike the last five weeks of the season. Maybe this is a sign that the Falcons are starting to pull it together. Then again, they've got Detroit this weekend on the road.

After what happened to the Lions over the weekend, expect them to come roaring back and looking to take out some frus-

A word of caution for Atlanta Coach Mike Smith: if your team wins, make sure whatever you say to Lions Coach Jim Schwartz is said clearly and slowly. Otherwise, he might mistake what you said for something mean and pick a fight with

Judging this game by the numbers, it's hard to put it in Atlanta's favor. Despite the sudden resurgence of the Falcon's running game last weekend, there's too much invested in the passing game for that to last. But, it was nice to see under-utilized running back Michael Turner have a breakout day with 139 yards and two touchdowns.

Speaking of teams who weren't flying so high before, the Philadelphia Eagles finally got things working right and put up a 20-13 win over the Washington Redskins Sunday.

It's a good thing, too. The so-called dream team was looking

QB Michael Vick passed for 237 yards and one TD, but he wasn't really the one who improved the most. That distinction clearly goes to the Eagles' defense, who finally figured out how to stop the run.

Washington, while it looked good at the beginning of the season, has begun to falter a bit in recent weeks. A slew of iniuries isn't helping matters, either.

Losing left guard Kory Lichtensteiger, left tackle Trent Williams and tight end Chris Cooley is going to make this weekend's game against the Carolina Panthers all the more difficult. Not to mention the fact that Panthers QB Cam Newton is still able to put up 237 yards passing and 50 yards rushing in a loss.



This weekend will also be a chance for the Chicago Bears to finally get two in a row when they face the Tampa Bay Buc-

It's not going to be an easy fight, however, as the Bucs did just put one over on an otherwise great-looking New Orleans

Chicago is going to have to step up the pass defense a good bit if it wants to contend with the likes of Tampa QB Josh Freeman. The guy threw for over 300 yards in the win over the Saints and he tacked on two TDs on top of that.

Still, Chicago's defense is nothing to be relaxed about.

Defensive End Julius Peppers made a statement against Minnesota this weekend, putting up two sacks, and that was with an injured knee. Poor Donovan McNabb was sacked a whopping five times during the night.

Add to that the offensive weaponry Chicago brings to the table, like wide receiver Devin Hester who put up a 98-vard kickoff return TD and a 48-yard receiving TD. This guy put on one seriously amazing performance, before going out of the game with a chest injury.

Will that still hurt come this Sunday? Probably, but I think he'll be back in just long enough to put up some huge numbers and then leave it to the rest of the team to finish the job.

Speaking of finishing a job, the Miami Dolphins might as well call it a season now. Thanks for coming guys, we'll see you next year.

Seriously, can these guys pull off one win? Just one win. That's all what's left of their fan base really needs to justify their love of this once-great franchise.

Now, it could be said that Miami's best chance for success would be this weekend when it takes on the Denver Broncos, but I don't think so.

Tim Tebow is in at QB and the Dolphins are in trouble.

Now, I didn't buy into the hype of Tebow a couple of years ago, and I'm certainly not buying into it now. I'm just saying the guy's a more effective QB than anybody on the Dolphins'

Will he be the saving grace to help the struggling Broncos put some fire back into this season? Eh, maybe. But I wouldn't go so far as to bet the farm on it.

Tebow doesn't have a high amount of experience, but maybe this week off the team's had made a difference.

Tebow did look effective when he finally got a chance to play against the surprisingly powerful San Diego Chargers two weeks ago. I think the Dolphins are about to drop yet another

Somebody needs to call Tony Sparano right now and tell him to pack his bags, this will be his last season as the Dolphins head coach.

If it's not, then apparently those in charge in Miami don't mind a team that loses every single game.

Back at the beginning of the season, I ranted all over Chad Henne as being the primary reason the Dolphins couldn't win. Well, I'm happy to report he doesn't have to shoulder (no pun intended) all of that blame. He will have to worry about his future, though, as a shoulder injury will keep him out for the remainder of this season and this is the final year of his contract with the 'Fins. Where to next? Maybe there's a pee-wee team that could use a coach back in his home state of Michigan.

Well, that's it for me folks. I've enjoyed writing this column for you all this season and the college football column last season, but it's time to move on to greener pastures

Next week Jim Hughes returns to the NFL column he made into a great read last season and I will be moving on to a new position in a different city.

Best wishes to all, and I hope you enjoy the rest of this excit-

Bowl Championship Series: Not perfect, but it works

By David C. Agan Jr. Fort Rucker Public Affairs

The first Bowl Championship Series rankings of the 2011 college football season have been released and the Southeastern and Big 12 conferences are well-represented at the top

of the poll. Representing the SEC, the No. 1 LSU Tigers and the No. 2 Alabama Crimson Tide are, for all intents and purposes, tied for the top spot, separated by a mere three tenthousandths of a point.

They are followed by No. 3 Oklahoma and No. 4 Oklahoma State, both from the Big 12, and No. 5 Boise State.

Now that the voters and computer algorithms are working together to provide us with a nigh-infallible system to rank our favorite college football teams, the real prognostication can begin.

Of course, I reference the infallibility of the BCS ranking system with tongue planted firmly in cheek.

Here's a quick primer for

those less familiar with the esoteric inner workings of the methods by which the BCS determines where a team is ranked.

There are three components to the BCS: the Coaches Poll, the Harris Interactive Poll, and the computer rankings. The Coaches and Harris Interactive polls are often referred to as "human polls," which is to say that there are living, breathing people that vote on where a team should be ranked. These two polls comprise

two-thirds of the BCS

rankings.

The final third of the are combined to render a tell us who the best team in the country is.

If your eyes haven't over-simplified you should know that my

firmly in cheek.

BCS rankings is calcu- my sarcasm towards the third of the BCS formula. lated by computers. Mul- BCS before I wear a hole That changed after the tiple algorithmic models into the side of my face. 2004 bowl season when

1- and No. 2-ranked teams the Rose Bowl. glazed over after read- would meet each other in
The only problem was ing this brief and grossly a championship game at that LSU had just defeated expla- the end of the season and, the Oklahoma Sooners to nation of how the BCS also, to avoid the dreaded win the BCS national chamrankings are calculated, split national champion- pionship. There were even ship. For the most part, it tongue remains planted has done exactly that. Ini-

tially, the Associated Press Perhaps I should explain poll accounted for one-

The BCS has been la- the AP named the undepercentage-based result mented as an imperfect feated USC Trojans, who that, when combined with system ever since its imple-were ranked No. 1 in both results of the human polls, mentation in 1998. The sys- the AP and Coaches poll, tem was devised as a way to national champions after practically ensure the No. they defeated Michigan in

SEE COLLEGE, PAGE D4

WOUNDED WARRIOR HUNT

The 2011 Fort Rucker Fall Wounded Warrior Hunt is scheduled daily from Saturday through Oct. 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.

MONSTER BOWL

Rucker Lanes hosts Monster Bowl Oct. 28 from 7:30 p.m. to

of four bowlers for two hours of bowling -- shoe rental included

The costume contest takes place during intermission from 9:30-10 p.m., with a bowling ball being awarded to the best adult costume and best child's costume

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

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility hosts the annual istration is 7:30-8:45 a.m. at the track behind the Physical Fitness Facility on Andrews Avenue the day of the event.

The run starts at 9 a.m. Participants are encouraged to pre-regisstumes. There are two sessions, with the first taking place from and same-day registration, \$12 no shirt option, and \$100 for a team 7:30-9:30 p.m. and the second from 10 p.m. to midnight. The event of eight, or \$12.50 per person, and each additional member pays the enter is Nov. 3 by 5 p.m. features "all-you-can-bowl" for \$10 per person with a minimum normal fee. The run is free and open to all children and begins after

the 5k is completed. Each fun run participant receives a medal.

There will be a costume contest with first-place trophies for overall best costume, scariest costume and most original costume for both adults and children categories. The costume contest is free to enter and will start at 8 a.m.

For more, call 255-0308.

GLOW BALL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Silver Wings "Glow Ball" night golf event is Nov. 4 begin-Spooky 5k, 1-Mile Fun Run and Costume Contest Oct. 29. Reg- ning 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 foursome

The course is limited to 72 players. Entry fee is \$35 for members midnight for people to come out and bowl in their Halloween — ter for the event. Fees are \$20 for preregistration, \$25 for week of — and \$45 for non-members. Entry fee includes cart and green fees, glow balls, range balls, tournament meal and prizes. Deadline to

edwinwattsgolf.com

PUZZLE ANSWERS









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College: Teams continue to vie for a BCS national title shot

Continued from Page D3

more BCS-related head-aches for college football fans the following season, which saw five teams finish the regular season with undefeated seasons. It was then that the Associated Press ceased to allow its college football poll to be used as a component of the BCS formula.

Joking aside, the BCS, while imperfect, remains the best system we have for determining a college football national champion. So while there will inevitably be much gnashing of teeth while the title contenders and pretenders are whittled away until the last men are standing, the BCS is what the major conferences agreed to and, for better or worse, we're stuck with it.

Beyond the opportunity for debate among sports writers and fans, the first set of BCS rankings never really matter all that much. In the history of the BCS, there have been only two teams ranked No. 1 in the initial rankings that went on to win the national championship. Incidentally, one of those teams, the 2003-2004 edition of the USC Trojans, was later forced to vacate their title.

This year's first BCS rankings, however, hint at something that many college football fans have been clamoring at for years: a playoff. Not an honest-to-goodness, legitimate playoff, of course, but it might be the closest thing we get unless the BCS ever completely collapses in on itself.

lapses in on itself.

Let's take a look at this fantasy playoff that the BCS has served up for us.

Slated for Nov. 5 is the game that the whole country has been looking ahead to for weeks: the No. 1 LSU Tigers vs. the No. 2-ranked Alabama Crimson Tide. For my money, this is the national championship game.

Heisman contenders? Check. Punishing defenses? Check. This is the stuff that SEC champions are made of. Behind one of the most experienced offensive lines in the nation, 'Bama running back Trent Richardson has been running rough shod over opposing defenses all season and is showing no signs of

easing up on the throttle. LSU cornerback Tyrann Mathieu's name (or, more specifically, his nickname "Honey Badger") has been on the lips of just about every television commentator, week in and week out. Even at this early point in the season, it's a rare thing for a defensive player to be seriously considered in the Heisman conversation and he deserves every mention he gets.

If we penciled LSU and Alabama into the semi-finals of our imaginary

BCS playoff, the next spots would be filled by the No. 3-ranked Oklahoma Sooners and the No. 4 Oklahoma State Cowboys, who face each other in Norman, Okla., on Dec. 3. Neither the Sooners nor the Cowboys have much in the way of a challenge on their schedules between now and then, and both should remain undefeated when they meet in

December.

The Sooners seem to be the most well-rounded of the top four BCS teams. They've proven their defense belongs in the same conversation with those of LSU and Alabama. Their offense, lead by quarterback Landry Jones and recordbreaking wide receiver Ryan Broyles, is nothing short of prolific.

Oklahoma State has been one of this season's most surprising overachievers. They score a lot of points on offense but their defense has been just good enough to keep them in some very close games this season. On paper, this matchup isn't as great as our LSU-'Bama fantasy playoff game, but, of course, every tournament has a Cinderella.



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to view a Flickr album filled with photos from this week's edition.