

The new Apache Block III helicopter sparkles under bright lights during a ceremony at the Boeing facility in Mesa, Ariz., Nov. 2. The new attack helicopter has a stronger engine, improved avionics, better computer-networking capability and increased maneuverability.

## **Army rolls out new Apache Block III**

### **By Sofia Bledsoe** *Program Executive Office, Aviation*

MESA, Ariz. — The world's most lethal attack helicopter just got even better.

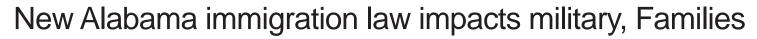
Inside a hangar against a backdrop of lights and fog, and looking as intimidating as ever, the first AH-64D Longbow Apache Block III was revealed to the public for the first time during a Roll Out ceremony Nov. 2, at the Boeing Apache production plant in Mesa. "Wow!" exclaimed Col. Shane Openshaw, project manager for Apache Helicopters. "To say that I'm proud would be a tremendous understatement. Today marks the completion of the first step of the journey to the future of the Apache. This first step took a tremendous amount of teamwork and is a reflection of great accomplishment with the combined efforts of this team."

That teamwork was certainly reflected by the impressive attendance of about 500 that includ-

ed several dignitaries, such as former vice chief of staff of the Army retired Gen. Dick Cody who flew the first AB3 prototype, retired Gen. Thomas Allen Schwartz, former U.S. Army Forces commander, various congressional representatives, other retired general officers, several international defense military representatives, current and former Apache project managers, and some members of the Boeing workforce.

"They're here to say 'thank you' to this entire team for your hard work and dedication to deliver this aircraft," said Maj. Gen. Tim Crosby, program executive officer for Aviation. Directing his attention to the workforce, he added, "What we're talking about today is the achievement of that vision (Army modernization). Every one of you that have worked on this aircraft is part of that success. Don't take this lightly. You will save lives of our American Soldiers by what you have done.

SEE APACHE, PAGE A6





## **By Kelly Pate** *Public Affairs Specialist*

Do you know where your birth certificate is? If not, it's probably time to go find it.

Because of a new law designed to crack down on illegal immigration, card-carrying members of the U.S. military, their Family members and Department of the Army civilians can expect to provide proof of citizenship in order to get services in the state of Alabama now, including getting an Alabama driver's license.

House Bill 56, (a.k.a. the Beason-Hammon Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act), which is still being challenged but has passed into law, impacts Fort Rucker and will continue to do so on a rolling basis, said Capt. Megan Mueller, officer in charge of client services for Fort Rucker's Office of when they're going to get their boat registered," Mueller said. The idea is that illegal immigration is causing economic hardship on the state of Alabama. To lessen that impact, the state of Alabama now requires people to provide proof that they are in the U.S. legally when the state provides services to them. An out-of-state driver's license and military identification are not accepted as proof of citizenship, she said.

A major impact to Fort Rucker deals with documentation requirements for vehicle registration, mobile home registration, boat registration, "anything you need a tag for," Mueller said.

"If you have an Alabama driver's license, you're good to go. If you have an out-of-state license, what you have to bring with you is a birth certificate, a passport, or if you weren't born in the U.S. you need to bring some document showing your immigration status — a visa, green card, or naturalization doc-

the Staff Judge Advocate.

"It's not going to impact everyone all at once. It just depends on if you're purchasing a new vehicle, or if your vehicle tags are about to expire. It might impact people more in the spring

ument. If you're Native American, a tribal enrollment card is good enough," she said.

SEE IMMIGRATION, PAGE A6

## Fort Rucker kicks off Native American Heritage Month

### **By Nathan Pfau** Army Flier Staff Writer

Army and Air Force Exchange Service and the Fort Rucker Equal Opportunity Office kicked off Native American Heritage Month Friday at the post exchange to help celebrate Native American history and culture.

Members of the Choctaw, Cherokee, MaChis, Lakota and other various local tribes were among those who came out to celebrate the festivities and showcase the Native American cultures and traditions passed on by their ancestors, said Susie Antonello, visual merchandise manager for AAFES.

"We wanted to create awareness and bring the community together. Native Americans are usually looked over and

we just want to create awareness for those that have actually had a part in creating their history and background in this country," said Antonello.

The celebration kicked off with the various Native American tribes helping post the colors to honor the veterans and the military. The celebration was also an opportunity to educate people about the history of Native Americans and the role that they played in the development and the shaping of this country, said Antonello.

Those who attended the celebration were able to witness authentic Native American dress, try different types of Native American cuisine and observe the various dances performed by the different tribes.

The festivities also featured booths

set up that showcased various forms of authentic Native American art and vendors that had items ranging from dream catchers to prayer fans for those attending the celebration to purchase.

"This is really amazing to see all of the dances and outfits that they put together to do all of this," said Samantha Marsh as she watched the Native American participants perform.

Among some of the dances performed was the grass dance, which requires specific regalia and was used when the Native Americans wished to move into a new area according to Donald Miller, who is of Cherokee descent and a participant in the dances.

"Of course, back then they didn't

SEE HERITAGE, PAGE A5



PHOTO BY NATHAN PFAU

Participants perform ceremonial dances as the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and the Fort Rucker Equal Opportunity Office kicked off Native American Heritage Month Friday.

# PERSPECTIVE

## ACAP describes traits of successful job seekers

### By Bryan Tharpe

Fort Rucker Army Career and Alumni Program

The Army Career and Alumni Program began servicing military personnel and their spouses in 1991. From the beginning, separating and retiring personnel taking advantage of counseling and workshops have been extremely successful in finding jobs

While working with clients, ACAP counselors soon began to notice similar traits in successful job seekers.

The most prominent trait is their positive, "can do" attitude. Nothing seems to get them down for long and each day is considered a fresh start.

Are you a positive or negative thinker? An attitude readjustment may be in order for those who feel they can't do it. Learn to associate with optimistic people and frequently tell yourself, "I can and will do it.

Ask friends and Family to help you remain on track and positive. Consider setbacks a learning experience and use them to motivate you to try other tactics. Always have a plan "B" and don't be afraid to use it if plan "A" isn't working.



ACAP counselors also notice that winning job seekers are very focused about their career goals and carefully investigate how to reach them. If you don't know what your goals are, they are extremely hard to achieve.

Consider taking an interest inventory at the education center to examine what careers you may be best suited for with your strengths and personality.

Another helpful hint might be to chat

with people working in the field you are interested in to find out what is really entailed in the job. The ACAP Center is full of information that can assist you in exploring different occupations and embracing career change.

Once winners determine their goals, they begin working on a plan. Those who start working on a plan a year or two in advance are financially and emotionally much better prepared. Without an organized plan with easily achieved objectives, the ultimate prize seems unreachable.

If budgets make it a real hardship to go through a job search transition period, transitioners may work with budget counselors to streamline their bills and cut expenditures. If they need further education to be marketable and competitive, they should talk to the education center about tuition assistance or the GI Bill.

They research job announcements and talk to college or career counselors to ascertain what kind of training or degree program to pursue. If they aren't sure where they want to live, they check out all possibilities by traveling, using Chamber of Commerce information and searching the Internet

Successful job seekers learn to talk

comfortably and network with all kinds of people in person and on the telephone. They are not afraid to express their objective and attributes to friends, colleagues and perspective employers. There is little room in their plans for timidity and modesty.

If communication is one of your weaknesses, now is the time to make it a strength. This could be an ideal time for you to join a club, take a speech course at the local college or schedule a mock interview with your ACAP counselor. Practice, practice, practice, and pretty soon you will be more comfortable speaking with others.

If you would like to join the ranks of the victorious, consider taking on their characteristics of positive thinking, goal setting, careful planning and effective communication skills

The Fort Rucker ACAP office is located in the Soldier Service Center in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 185. Retiring Soldiers and their spouses may begin using the service two years prior to separation, and Soldiers and their spouses that are planning to separate from the Army may use ACAP one year before they separate.

If you would like to set up an appointment, call 255-2546 or log onto https://www. acap.army.mil.



Melissa Waters, military spouse

"They've defended our freedom."



military spouse

"They've sacrificed their time away from Family to do a job others don't want to do.

COMMAND

Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield

our freedom."

Col. James A. Muskopf

Lisa Eichhorn FORT RUCKER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Sara Sturgill,

military spouse

"Because they serve for

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rifices that the rest of the country hasn't made."

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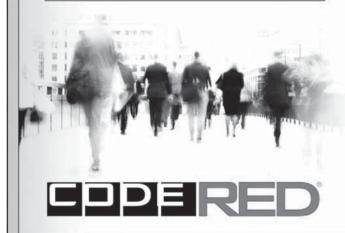
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Performers in the 2011 U.S. Army Soldier show dance to 1940s music after traveling back in a "time machine" during the show. The Soldier Show came to Enterprise High School for two performances on Saturday and Sunday.

## 'Carnival' show brings entertainment for Soldiers, by Soldiers to Wiregrass



Soldiers performed several multicultural numbers during the 2011 U.S. Army Soldier Show, including Asian-inspired dances using masks, fans and decorative lighting.

### By Erin Murray Army Flier Staff Writer

Soldiers from around the country visited the Wiregrass Saturday and Sunday, putting on two performances of the 2011 U.S. Army Soldier Show at Enterprise High School.

This year's Soldier Show, entitled "Carnival - A Traveling Thank You," included performances of contemporary and classic hit songs, high-energy dance numbers, as well as multicultural performances representing Hispanic, Asian and other international cultures. The presentation is coordinated by U.S. Army Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation and by the Army Entertainment Division, which aims to provide "entertainment for the Soldier, by the Soldier."

Hundreds were in attendance for Sunday's matinee performance, including Col. James A. Muskopf, Fort Rucker garrison commander, who was presented a plaque of appreciation by Army Entertainment.

'You could stay at home and watch 'America's Got Talent,' but you've got to be here to see Soldiers' got talent. I have seen three Soldier shows in the past, but this is by far the best that I've seen," said Muskopf.

He explained that the Soldier Show is morale-boosting for Soldiers, Families and the surrounding community, because it shows a different side of the Army.

"The Soldiers in the show come from all specializations. They come and get to let their hair down and

### have fun," he said.

The Soldiers performed hit songs by artists like Lady Gaga and The Black Eyed Peas, but the closing number, a melody of patriotic tunes, elicited many cheers and even a few tears from audience members

"I loved it. It was great - it had a little bit of everything. I think the facility provided more room and a better production. All the Boy Scouts sat perfectly still, so that shows how entertaining it was," said Jeanette VanDerwood, who came to the Soldier Show with her grandson and his Boy Scout troop.

Providing something for everyone is a big part of the Soldier show, explained Sgt. Emily McAleesejergins, a performer in the show. She said that after several auditions, Soldiers selected for the show travel for nearly a year, and make over 120 stops at installations in the United States and overseas.

"It's an exciting and exhausting experience that allows me to do something that boosts morale," she said.

For many, including Enterprise resident Mark Maxwell, the Soldier Show was surprising both for the quality of the performance and because it showcased the many talents of Soldiers.

"Before coming to the Soldier Show, I wouldn't have thought that the Army could put on such a great show. It's awesome to see Soldiers doing something that helps boost morale and presents an entirely different side of the Army life to civilians," he said.

## Post offers electronics e-cycling

## **By Nathan Pfau** Army Flier Staff Writer

The Fort Rucker Environmental Office celebrates America Recycles Day by holding an electronic



## **News Briefs** CFC update

holders and their Families. The tickets are available at leisure travel The Fort Rucker Combined

in Bldg 5700 Federal Campaign has raised Since limited tickets are avail-\$959,777 as of Monday, which is able, people are encouraged to call percent of the drive's goal of

cycling event Sunday-Tuesday at the Recycling Center and post exchange parking lot to help raise awareness about recycling electronics responsibly.

The event is open to all residents and employees of Fort Rucker, as well as the local community, said Colleen Quinlan, hazardous waste program manager for the Directorate of Public Works.

"It's a very convenient and free way for people to recycle their unused electronics," said Quinlan. "Most places charge a fee to recycle electronics."

The event can help educate people on the hazards of improper disposal of electronics, said Ouinlan.

According to the National Safety Council, lead and mercury from and consoles, phones, scanners, monitors and televisions are extremely harmful in landfills and the heavy metals can work their way into water supplies.

"Increasing awareness is so important," said Quinlan. "Too many people probably don't know they're harming the environment when they toss out old electronics."

Some examples of acceptable items include: computers and monitors, televisions, cameras, printers and cables, video games

circuit boards and calculators. Most small appliances will be accepted to be recycled.

Microwaves, and larger appliances such as refrigerators, and government property book items will not be accepted.

Some of the items that are brought in to be recycled will be refurbished and reused, saving energy and reducing pollution, while other items will be recycled for their precious metals and other

useful materials, said Quinlan. "We made sure the company taking this equipment is [Responsible Recycling] certified," she said.

Those that wish to participate in the e-cycling event can drop off their electronics at two different locations: the Recycling Center, Bldg. 9322 on Third Avenue and Minute Man Street, or at the post exchange parking lot.

For more information, call the Recycling Center at 498-4050 or call Quinlan at 255-0487.

\$1,125,000, report local CFC officials.

This is the last week to contribute to CFC. People can donate by visiting http://www.heartofalabamacfc.org/ or visiting Bldg. 5700 Rm. 280.

CFC Victory and Awards Celebration is Dec. 13 at 1 p.m. at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. CFC and Army leadership will reveal the overall amount raised towards the CFC for 2011 and recognize the organizations and project officers that attained 100 percent or greater goal completion, and also CFC Leadership Givers who gave \$1,000 or more. The event is open to all federal civil service, postal and military members.

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

### Free tickets

The Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation reports is has a limited number of free tickets on a first-come, firstserved basis for the Jim Brickman Concert at the Dothan Opera House Sunday at 3 p.m. The offer extends to Fort Rucker ID card David Kintz at 255-3750.

255-3031 beforehand to see if any are still available.

Burger King Express closes

Burger King Express, located inside Bldg. 6600, will close its doors Nov. 18 and will no longer operate at Fort Rucker. Burger King patrons may continue to dine at the recently renovated main Burger King, located in Bldg. 4300 across the street from the post exchange. For more, call 598-9423.

## Black History committee

The Fort Rucker Equal Opportunity Office and Air Traffic Services Command will host the African American Black History Month committee Nov. 21 at 1:30 p.m. at the ATSCOM headquarters building. The committee will help plan the events for the upcoming African American Black History Month Observance in February and is open to all Fort Rucker community members, including Daleville, Ozark, and Enterprise. For more, call Sgt. 1st Class



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## Heritage: Event features Native American cuisine

Continued from Page A1

have lawnmowers, so they would do this dance to pack and stomp all the grass down," said Miller. "Many people think that the Pow-Wows are just spiritual celebrations, which they are, but they also serve a purpose, and honor the great creator and fellow friendly tribes that live nearby."

Miller feels that the heritage month is important to dispel some of the common misconceptions and myths that people might have about Native American people.

Along with booths set up showcasing art and merchandise for sale, there were those that were set up to educate people on the history of the Native American people and their role in the nation's history.

"Many people don't know that many Native Americans were involved in many war efforts during the two World Wars and even the Civil War," said Richard Greybull, who is a member of the Dakota tribe and a local science teacher

He said that this is part of the reason that he feels it is important to bring about awareness and educate people on the Native American involvement in shaping the

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home.

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country. The celebration was also a great opportunity for people to sample the different cuisines that Native Americans have to offer, said Antonello.

Among some of the foods two types of fried bread, one made with flour and one made with corn meal, hominy with chicken, community soup and a strawberry drink made with a secret ingredi-

vulged. "The community soup

favorite on this table." said Jeff Davis, who had come out to enjoy the festivities.

The celebration was an excellent opportunity for Families to come out and educate themselves on Native American culture and enjoy that people could enjoy were the fun and food that their culture had to offer and see what the Native Americans have offered this country, said Antonello

"Native Americans have served this country with great honor and never request anything in return. They have a lot of pride in their country and their culture," said Antonello.

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## Apache: Block III lighter, more lethal to enemy forces

Continued from Page A1

You have reduced the burden on that Soldier.' Prior to the ceremony, a sacred blessing of the aircraft was performed by the White Mountain Apache Tribe led by Chairman Ronnie Lupe who is also a Korean War veteran, assisted by his executive officer Jerry Gloshay, Jr. and spiritual leader Ramon Riley. The blessing was steep in Apache tradition that included a prayer, a "smudging" of the aircraft, the singing of two songs and a final blessing. The semi-private ceremony was held on Boeing's flight line at dawn with about 30 attendees.

At the rollout, Mai, Gen, Anthony G, Crutchfield, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, spoke to the Boeing employees about why the work they do is important.

"What you build here represents yesterday, it represents today and what's behind that curtain represents tomorrow." he said. "For vesterday. think about that young captain during Desert Shield and Desert Storm who left his young Family to go to Iraq in a machine at the time that was not vet tested in war: the AH-64A. No one knew if it would work. And that young captain didn't know if he'd return to see his babies and his wife. He strapped that aircraft on and was lethal to the enemy. And he returned to hug his wife and kiss his kids because of you. That captain's name was Captain Crutchfield. That's how I know what you do is important.

"If you don't believe that, let's think about today," the general continued. "Let's think about the young Marine in Anbar Province, Iraq, during a time when the war wasn't going well, in 2008. He was pinned down by the enemy. All was lost.

"As that young Marine looked up to the sky, he heard something," Crutchfield added. "He heard that sound that is unmistakable - that Apache Longbow helicopter. As he stared at the sky he told his Marine buddies. 'It's gonna' be OK.' And they said 'What? How do you know that?' and he said 'Because my dad is an AH-64 Apache pilot. It's going to be OK.'

"And as that Apache rose over the horizon and destroyed that enemy, those Marines are alive today because of it. That young Marine is the son of my public affairs officer. That's how I know that.

"What's behind the curtain, however, represents tomorrow. That chapter hasn't been written, but it will. And it will be a chapter in history



Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, USAACE and Fort Rucker commanding general, gives a coin to one of the Apache Council members involved in the blessing of the first Apache Block III Longbow Nov. 2 in Mesa, Ariz.

like no other chapter. I know that. I'm convinced of that because of the work that you do every day," the general concluded.

The Apache Block III is the next evolution of the Army's premier attack helicopter and is the only rotorcraft with the ability to operate at 6,000 feet and 95 degrees at an out-of-ground effect hover with a full mission payload. The new Apaches will be stronger, faster and less constrained in extreme combat conditions.

Besides the increase in top speed, it will turn faster and tighter, making it almost impossible for the enemy to hide. It will have a combat speed of approximately 164 knots, about 20 knots faster than those currently in service. The Block III aircraft brings back the performance of the early model and adds significant capabilities for today's fight.

Some of the key upgrades to the Apache Block III include a more powerful engine and drive train, and composite rotor blades that provide more lift and will allow the aircraft to fly over any mountain in austere places like Afghanistan

"The Block III brings back the power margins that crews had at roughly 3,000 or 4,000 pounds lighter gross weight than the Block II model," said Lt. Col. Dan Bailey, Apache Block III Prod-

uct Manager

The aircraft had become heavier over the years when the Army added upgrades to the subsystems, making the pilot power margins more limited.

"Now we'll be able to go to all those places where the enemy tends to hide from us," said Bailey

Another key upgrade with the Apache Block III is its more advanced computer processing system called the Future Networked Force, which will ensure connectivity to the next generation of networked capabilities, making the aircraft viable and sustainable through the 2030/2040 timeframe. Bailey explained that when the Block II aircraft was built in the 1990s, it was based off of older computer technology.

The Block III's open system architecture will allow the Army to put new subsystems onto the aircraft in a much more efficient manner which means it will be faster, less expensive to maintain, and more flexible to integrate any additional new technologies. As the pilots learn and as the environment changes, the Army can adapt the aircraft to whatever enemy force they encounter.

"The Apache Block III is the leading edge today in terms of rotorcraft, and it's the most advanced attack helicopter in the world. We want to maintain that, and the only way we can is by resetting the aircraft from an architecture perspective," said Bailey.

The key enabler with the open system architecture is the ability of the Apache Block III to perform at Level 4 Interoperability with an unmanned aircraft system. This means that the pilot can now control the flight path, weapons systems and sensors on a UAS.

"Only the Block III aircraft with its new computer processors and open architecture allows this to happen," said Bailey

Lt. Col. Edward Vedder, commander of the 1st Battalion, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade from Fort Riley, Kan., said he is extremely excited for his unit to be the first unit equipped with the Block III aircraft.

"This is a great capability that we're going to be able to deliver to the battlefield," he said. "Right now somewhere far away, there's a group of Soldiers at a combat outpost that are scared they're away from home, and we're going to be able to provide that comfort to them because they know when that Apache comes over the horizon, everything is going to be OK."

Already ahead of schedule, to date the Army has inducted 29 aircraft under the Apache Block III program. Fielding of the Block III Apaches to the first unit is slated to begin in 2012, and the Initial Operational Test is planned for Spring 2012. The first unit will be fully equipped with the new Apache Block IIIs in fiscal year 2013. Currently, the Army is approved for 51 AB3 aircraft under the Low Rate Initial Production.

The Apache Block III is fundamentally a remanufacture program, taking existing Longbow Apaches, inducting them, taking them apart, upgrading and refurbishing components, and adding the new Block III specific capability insertions.

The Army's acquisition objective stands at 690 Apache Block III aircraft with 634 remanufactures and 56 new builds. The Apache Block III remains the world's most lethal helicopter and brings an indispensible benefit to the entire Army team and mission



Scan this code with your smart-phone to view a YouTube video of the CG's remarks during the Apache rollout ceremony

## **Immigration:** Transient nature of military jobs means planning ahead

Continued from Page A1

An exception to this is if the out-of-state license shows the person's citizenship was verified.

Military documents that show the person's place of birth will be accepted, but at this point it is still undecided what those are, Mueller added. The law also impacts students registering for public school

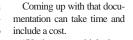
part that has state officials The problem for military types is the transient nature of "The law makes it a felony the job.

for any state official to accept "If you live in Alabama, documentation that's not alyou were born and raised lowed under the law. It's not here, or you're a permanent a campaign against us. The resident here, you've probably got all your stuff with revenue office is just on such strict limitations from the state you so you could probably go

home and dig up your birth certificate. But since our Soldiers are moving around so often, they might have one place where they keep all their documentation permanently. They might not have it with

308-1355

said. them and may have to go get it," Mueller said.



"You've got to think about all the documents you need and plan ahead," Mueller The law does not impact

foreign students who have a bills/hb56.htm.

For more information, contact the Fort Rucker OSJA office at 255-3482

foreign military ID.

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Sat: 9:30-1:00

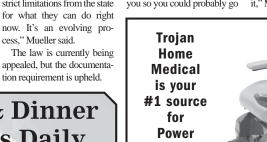
The text of HB 56 is available online at http://alisondb. legislature.state.al.us/acas/ searchableinstruments/2011rs/



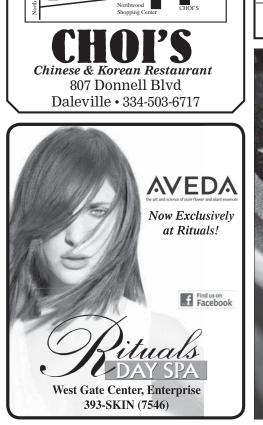


worried.

cess," Mueller said.



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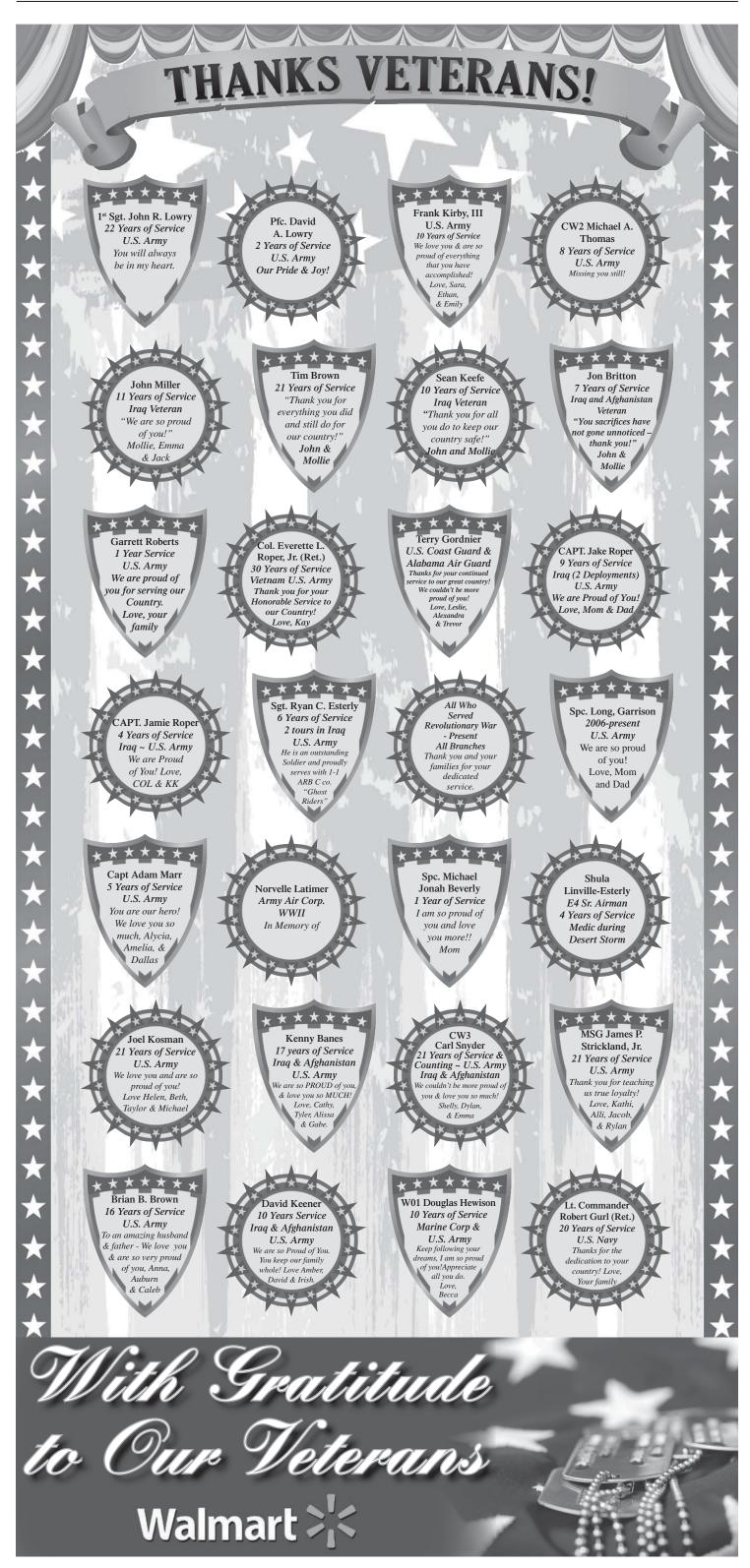


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## ARMYWIDE B is ARAAY

## **NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

## Above the best Female Aviator says challenges same for men as women

## By C. Todd Lopez Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Before taking home the 2011 leadership award from the non-profit Women in Aerospace organization, Col. Laura J. Richardson said she believes the challenges for fairs of women Aviators in the Army. both men and women in Army Aviation are largely the same.

"I think they are the same challenges [for] everybody — if they are going award from Women in Aerospace. The to be a leader in Army Aviation, they have got to compete for the assignments as commanders," Richardson said. "Work as hard as you can and be nity. as competent as you can in your profession.

Test Command at Fort Hood, Texas;

recipient of seven air medals, recently dedication to the development of the selected for promotion to brigadier general, and having some 1,400 hours in the cockpit — with more than 400 of those combat hours during a tour in Iraq in 2003 — Richardson is in a good position to comment on the state of af-

During a ceremony Nov. 1 in Washington, D.C., Richardson, a Black ful I have been able to serve, and serve Hawk pilot, was given the leadership non-profit group aims to expand opportunities for leadership and visibility for women in the aerospace commu-

Her award citation reads "for her extraordinary leadership in U.S. Army Now commander of the Operational Aviation, her advancement of the role of women in combat Aviation, and her

current and future generations of female Aviators."

Richardson said she was honored for the award, and thanked those who had nominated her for it. She also cited her military career as a point of pride.

"My 25-year career in the Army has just been super, and I am thankthis long and I would not trade it for the world," she said after receiving the award, "To the other ladies who are receiving awards, I am just so honored to be standing among you tonight."

Richardson was commissioned in 1986 and says since then "opportunities for women open wider and there

SEE ABOVE, PAGE B6 ceremony Nov. 1 in Washington, D.C.



Katherine Sullivan, the first American woman to have walked in space presented Col. Laura J. Richardson, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot and commander of the Army's Operational Test Command at Fort Hood, Texas, with the 2011 Women in Aerospace leadership award during a



## MALLATESS Ξ

Two Chinook helicopters provide air support during Europe's Full-Spectrum Training Environment rotation Oct. 3-24 at Hohenfels Training Area in Germany. The 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team conducted a large-scale assault into an austere environment as part of the training

## New light machine gun aims to 'SAW' Soldiers' load

By Eric Kowal RDECOM

FORT BENNING, Ga. - Nearly 20 Soldiers participated in a two-week assessment of a prototype light machine gun to demonstrate its potential impact on mission effectiveness and to help engineers develop possible improvements to the weapon and its unique ammunition.

The evaluation sought the warfi



enduring a series of strenuous combat performance drills with the weapon.

It had taken six years to get from a concept to a fully functioning weapon that was ready for evaluation, but Kori Phillips, a project management engineer in the Joint Service Small Arms Program said it was well worth the wait.

"This is exactly what we have been waiting for," said Phillips. "This is what we need to move forward."

The Soldiers' feedback will be used to influence the user community to develop a Capability Development Document. A CDD is required before the system can transition to a program of record and enter the Engineering and Manufacturing Development phase of the acquisition life cycle.

This would be the next step needed for the program to move forward toward an eventual fielding of the weapon to Soldiers in the field.

The light machine gun is part of the Lightweight Small Arms Technologies, which is managed by the JSSAP, part of the Army's Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center, or ARDEC, at Picatinny Arsenal, N.J.

The LMG is a gas-operated, cased telescoped light machine gun. It is air-cooled and belt fed with selectable semiautomatic and fully automatic fire and fires from the openbolt position. Its rate of fire is about 650 rounds per minute.

The JSSAP team hopes that the LMG will eventually replace the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon, knows as a SAW, as the standard issue machine gun used by Soldiers in combat zones.

### Getting to know the weapon

The machine guns and their operators were tested through automatic rifleman tasks and operational scenarios.

The purpose was to assess how the lighter machine gun

PHOTO BY ERIC KOWA

## Spc. Timo Swaner engages a close range target with the light machine during a military unit assessment at Fort Benning, Ga., recently.

affects the Soldiers' ability to effectively engage targets from various firing positions after completing tasks that induced physical stress and an elevated heart rate.

The weapons were also evaluated on their suitability regarding portability, safety, compatibility with Soldier equipment, durability in challenging environments, ease of use, and impact on Soldier mobility.

"We ran Soldiers through with both weapon systems and timed them to look at how much faster they could complete the course with the lighter weapon and to gain subjective feedback on mobility and portability issues while they negotiated the obstacles," said Maj. Matthew Bowler, a military adviser to the small arms program.

Immediately after each event, the Soldiers filled out sur-

veys where they offered opinions about how they felt physically, and any issues or malfunctions they experienced with either weapon or its ammunition. They could also include any positive feedback

On the first day of the second week, the Soldiers marched 6 miles in full combat gear, including body armor, a 50-pound rucksack and a basic load of ammunition for their respective weapons. Half the Soldiers carried the SAW and the other half carried the LMG.

After the road march, the Soldiers immediately started firing their weapons to measure the effects of muscle fatigue and stress while firing.

SEE SAW, PAGE B6

# HONORING THE BEST ND THE BRAVEST



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## Above: Female Aviator witness to fundamental changes

Continued from Page B1

are more opportunities for women in service."

When she first entered service, she said, women Aviators were not allowed to fly combat aircraft — that restriction has now been almost completely removed.

"When I came in, I couldn't go attack aircraft, I couldn't fly Apaches, I couldn't fly Kiowa Warriors," she said. "I had to either go Chinook or Black

## SAW: Weapon increases effectiveness

## Continued from Page B1

Sgt. Brandon Vega, an infantryman with the 2/29 Infantry Battalion, saw an increase in his accuracy when firing the LSAT after the march compared to the SAW.

"The first six round bursts were within the size of a quarter," Vega said. "Then I got three on top of one so I was real impressed with that."

Vega added that, using the SAW, he has yet to achieve the same level of accuracy.

According to a study conducted in 2005, the average fighting load for the SAW gunner is 79 pounds. That is nearly twice the weight a Soldier should carry, according to Army doctrine.

"The Soldier carries too much weight, so anything we can do to reduce Soldier load increases the Soldier's effectiveness, his capability on the battlefield and his survivability," said Bowler.

The weight reduction provided by the LMG would have a significant effect on the SAW gunner, the most heavily burdened Soldier in the squad.

With a basic load of 1,000

Hawk or stay Huey. Nowadays, women can fly Apache and Kiowa Warrior." Biots in special operations Aviation, however, a hurdle Richardson said she'd like to see overcome. Though Army can still not serve as

push now for more opportunities for women Soldiers. "I don't know that there's a push per se for that partic-

"I don't know that there's comba a push per se for that particular skill set [SOF aviation], past y

as much as there is overall with women serving in combat positions," she said. "There is, I think over the past year, more and more



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## Event gives Families a well-deserved thanks



### **By Erin Murray** Army Flier Staff Writer

Fort Rucker Families can get a well-earned night of relaxation at Lake Tholocco Nov. 19 as the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation offers a memorable Night Under the Stars to thank them for their commitment.

"This year we wanted to do something really special. We thought a Family camp-out event would be a great way to bring Families together and give kids a memory that will last a lifetime. This is just one way DFMWR would like to say 'thank you' to our military Families for all they do with their service to our country," said Janice Erdlitz, DFMWR marketing director.

The night is open to all military Families, and Erdlitz explained that camping is not the only activity planned for the night. Guests can enjoy face painting, games and a free screening of the film "Planet 51" presented by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. Though all the events are open to Families who attend, camping is optional but highly encouraged.

"I really hope that Families take advantage of the opportunity to camp out, but even if [they] don't they can still come and enjoy all the festivities. How can you pass the chance to roast marshmallows for s 'mores? If you've never camped out, this will be the perfect opportunity to, and there will be plenty of people around that can help," said Erdlitz.

will present Tell Me a Story, a literacy event hosted by Col. James A. Muskopf, Fort Rucker garrison commander, at 7 p.m. The story "Night Catch" by Brenda Ehrmantraut will be read. The first 100 Families who register early with the school liaison office will receive a copy of the book.

Tell Me a Story is an initiative of the Military Child Education Coalition which is designed to help empower our military children through literature, said Kimberly Kozel, youth education support services director.

"Using literature and their own stories helps to foster skills for resilience, strong peer and parent connections, and a sense of pride and accomplishment. The books are carefully chosen for their content, literary value and illustrations. "Night Catch" is a book about separation and learning to communicate with loved ones during a separation. I know this is a topic that most of the Families will have dealt with at some point in their military service. Hopefully this event will spark conversations between parents and children," she said.

"It is truly going to be a night to remember. I have only camped out a few times and each time it was amazing. It's going to be a great military Family event," said Erdlitz.

Admission to the event is free for military Families. Families can call and reserve a tent while supplies last for the night by calling Brian Jackson, event coordinator. at 255-9810.

Families are also encouraged to register with DFM-In addition to the camping and activities, DFMWR WR by calling 255-9810 if they plan on camping.

## Cook-off, Salute acknowledges Families' strength, contributions

## By Erin Murray Army Flier Staff Writer

Soldiers and their Families enjoyed the fall weather with warm chili and an even warmer thanks to Military Families at Festival Fields Saturday at the 1st Battalion, 14th Aviation Regiment and Army Aviation Association of America Chili Cook-off and 5K. Along with the cook-off and run, several guests were recognized as outstanding members of the community at the Salute to Military Families, hosted by Army Community Services.

"The day was a great success, raising more money this year for the AAAA scholarship fund than in any years past," said Capt. Smith Griggs, coordinator of the event.

The morning began with 20 teams preparing their signature chili dishes while over 75 participants competed in a 5K race. As the race concluded, many of the chili cook-off teams were ready to serve the crowds and compete for best in show and best tasting awards. Among the many decorated booths for the teams were a drive through, a chili pot warmed by motorcycle engines and the "Knights of the Round Chili Pot" castle, which ended up winning best in show.



Three Families of excellence were recognized at the Army Community Services Salute to Military Families for their contributions and commitment to the Fort Rucker Community. Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield, USAACE and Fort Rucker commanding general, and Col. James A. Muskopf, garrison commander, presented the Families with plaques and gift certificates at the event

cook-off while visiting Family in the area

Warrant Officer Brian Williamson was glad to be able to bring his Family and friends to the event, where he ran the 5K and tasted many of the chili offerings, explaining that his favorite was the 6th Military Detachment's "Fire Doggs" chili, which won the best

pretty great and Family-oriented," he said, adding that he felt that the event was a great representation of Fort Rucker's commitment to Family and community.

As the chili was sampled, ACS honored several outstanding community members, including 38 primary and elementary schoolers who participated in art and essay

commanding general, and Col. James A. Muskopf, garrison commander, were in attendance to recognize the special guests.

"I constantly thank our Soldiers, but sometimes our Families don't get the credit they deserve. We want to say 'thank you' to you, because you really are our and off-post activities and orgastrength. As the chief of staff of

ily," said Crutchfield.

Three Families were recognized at the event for "contributing their time and resources to improve the quality of life on Fort Rucker.'

Cindy Beat and her son, Matthew, were recognized for their involvement with Catholic chapel services where their entire Family serve as ushers, altar servers, and council members and also participate in the youth ministry. Father Eric Beat serves as Scoutmaster and den leader and is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Joe Morano, his wife, Jodie, and their children, Julia and Joey, were recognized for their involvement in the Protestant chapel services as mentors, chaperones, drivers and participants in chapel activities

Moses Toyakuk, his wife, Hilary, and their children Thomas, Adrian, Ethan, Anna, Julia, Paul and Marissa, were also recognized for their support of the Protestant chapel, including their involvement in chapel plays and vacation Bible school.

"We've recognized some very outstanding folks here today, our special students and Families of excellence all of whom have contributed a significant amount of time and energy in support of on nizations. They clearly show us

"There's a wide variety of creative ideas, characters and themes. I'm really impressed with it," said Texas for Family day, but they field, U.S. Army Aviation Center of our Army is our Soldier. The presenter for the Salute to Military

tasting award for the day.

contests about military Families.

the Army says, 'the strength of our what it means to live the Army "[My Family] came out from Maj. Gen. Anthony G. Crutch- nation is our Army. The strength values," said Mike Kozlowski, Nancy Turner, who was at the also got to enjoy this event. It was of Excellence and Fort Rucker strength of our Soldier is our Families.



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

## Free meals, more

The Landing Zone Grill and Bar honors active duty servicemembers and military veterans with a free meal on Veteran's Day Friday. Patrons must present a military ID to receive one complimentary meal. The offer is not valid for Family members. Veterans may choose from four different entrees: chicken parmesan with linguini and a side salad, pulled pork platter with roasted red potatoes and coleslaw, brisket platter with roasted red potatoes and coleslaw or chicken tender platter with fries and coleslaw.

For more, call 598-8025. Other specials in honor of veterans:

- · Divots Silver Wings Golf Course invites all active duty and military veterans to enjoy a complimentary signature cheeseburger on Veteran's Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The offer requires patrons to purchase a beverage.
- · Rucker Lanes and Bingo Corner invites all active duty and military veterans to enjoy a special complimentary Burger and Bowl on Veteran's Day from 11 a m to 5 p.m. Burger and Bowl includes two games of bowling, shoes, hamburger, fries and softdrink.
- · Mother Rucker's invites all active duty and military veterans to enjoy complimentary Mother's Nachos with the purchase of a sandwich or entree.

## Ladies Night

The Landing Zone hosts Ladies Night Friday with a dance mix by DJ Dave from 8 p.m. to midnight and specials from 7-11 p.m. The Landing Zone courtesy van offers patrons a free ride home to anywhere on Fort Rucker. The event is open to the public.

For more, call 598-8025.

## Character Dining at The Landing Zone

The Landing Zone hosts Character Dining every Tuesday from 5-7 p.m. and this Tuesday features Kiddie Karaoke.

Children 12 and under eat free from the Kid's Buffet with the purchase of an adult entrée (limit two per adult). The event is open to the public. For more, call 598-8025.



PHOTO BY RUSSELL SELLERS

## **Honoring veterans**

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day to attend. Child care is

For more information or

The arts and crafts center

The social is for aspiring

For more, call 255-9020.

available upon request.

**Creative Social** 

to register, call 255-3898.

Retired Master Sgt. Earl Hamilton, Sr., Veterans of Foreign Wars Enterprise Chapter member, salutes the colors during last year's Veterans Day ceremony. This year, Fort Rucker hosts its Veterans Day ceremony today at 8:30 a.m. at Veterans Park between the Daleville Gate and the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be moved into the museum.

special needs Family memto help people discover ber to attend an informative support group meeting Tuesday from 9-10 a.m. at The Commons, 7th Avenue, Bldg. 8950. The topic for this meeting is "Taking Care of Yourself." Presenters are social workers from Department of Behavioral Medicine and Lyster Army Health Clinic. This is also an opportunity to learn and provide suggestions for future topics for the support group.

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

## Thanksgiving craft making

hosts creative socials every third Thursday of the month The Center Library hosts from 4:30-6 p.m., with the a Thanksgiving craft maknext one Nov. 17. ing activity for children ages 3-11 Tuesday from 4-5 p.m. artists to share ideas, inspi-Space is limited to the first ration and resources, and 65 children to register. Light also serves as an opporturefreshments will be served. For more information or nity to showcase artists' to register, call 255-3885 work. The socials are open to the public.

## Thrift Savings Plan seminar

should register by Monday.

to register, call 255-2594 or

Communication

9631.

Effective

Workshop

For more information or

Army Community Ser-

vice's Victim Advocacy

**Comedy Live and** The Financial Readiness





## AFTB Level I

Being new to the Army can be confusing, so Army Community Service offers a class to simplify the transition. ACS hosts Army Family Team Building Level I classes Tuesday and Wednesday from 5-8:30 p.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371F. Topics include: military acronyms, chain of command, customs and courtesies and more.

For advance registration and childcare information, call 255-2382.

## **EFMP** information, support

The Exceptional Family Member Program invites all active duty military Families that have an exceptional or

### band Program host a seminar on

Comedy Live at Rucker "The Thrift Savings Plan: will feature comedic group The Basics" Tuesday from "A Pair of Nuts" Nov. 18 6-8:30 p.m. at Fort Rucker's at The Landing. Doors will Bowden Community Center. Mike Kozlowski, FRP open at 7 p.m. and the comcounselor, will cover the edy show starts at 8 p.m. The show is considered essentials of the TSP, to inadult rated for ages 18 and clude the basics on mutual up. Advanced tickets are fund investing and how to \$10 and are available until allocate investment dollars Nov. 17. Tickets are \$15 at among the plan's funds. the door. Food and bever-Space is limited and people

> purchase. Natalie Stovall will perform at The Landing after the Comedy Live show at about 10 p.m. Cover charge is \$5, but it is waived for patrons who purchased a Comedy Live ticket. the events are open to the public.

ages will be available for

For more, call 255-9810. Program hosts a workshop

## Nov. 19th West Beach, Lake Tholocco

## Begins at 5 pm, Free Admission **Open only to Military ID card holders**

Bring your blankets, tent and sleeping bags because this is going to be a camp out! Of course, for those not as outdoorsy as others patrons can still enjoy the festivities. (camping is optional)

Assertion the first of the second

Tell Me a Story at 7 pm Book: "Night Catch" by Brenda Ehrmantraut Hosted by Col James A. Muskopf, Fort Rucker Garrision Commander

Activities for children of all ages including: Giant sized games, inflatable boxing ring, face painting & s'mores! Free movie provided by The Exchange, after Tell Me A Story.

Families have the option to camp out over night

Please call Family & MWR, 255-9810 to RSVP if you are camping out, or for more infor www.ftruckermwr.com

Fort Rucker FMWR

### MOVIE SCHEDULE 10-13 FC)R RUCKER FOR NOVEMBER

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Golden Corral -- Military Appreciation Monday includes a free dinner, Monday from 5-9 p.m. for military retirees, veterans, and current service members.

Famous Dave's -- Offers for free or discounted meals on Veterans Day vary by location.

Hooters -- All veterans and servicemembers get 10 free wings with the purchase of a drink.

Krispy Kreme -- A free donut is available for all servicemembers, retirees and veteran

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurants -- Sunday, participating McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurants are offering a complimen tary entree to vets from a special menu on a space-available basis. Online reservations are highly recommended.

Outback Steakhouse Now through Tuesday, Outback will offer veterans and military a free Bloomin Onion and beverage

Subway Restaurants -- Free sixinch sub or flatbread available to military vets on Veterans Day.

Texas Roadhouse -- Free meals available to veterans from opening until 4 p.m. on Veterans Day. T.G.I. Friday's -- Veterans and serWe don't!

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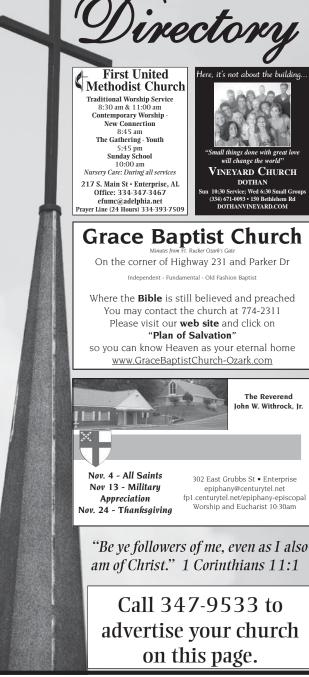
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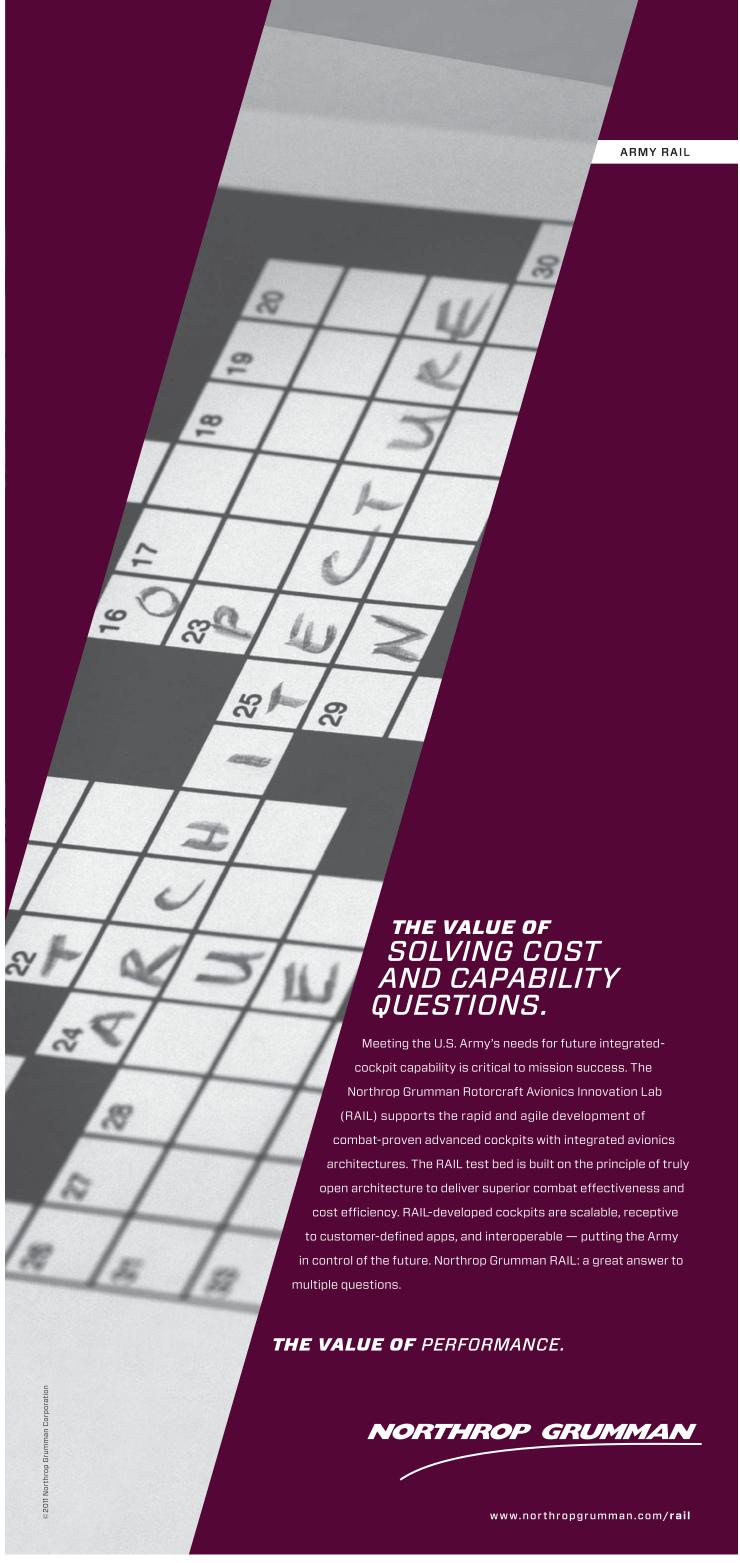
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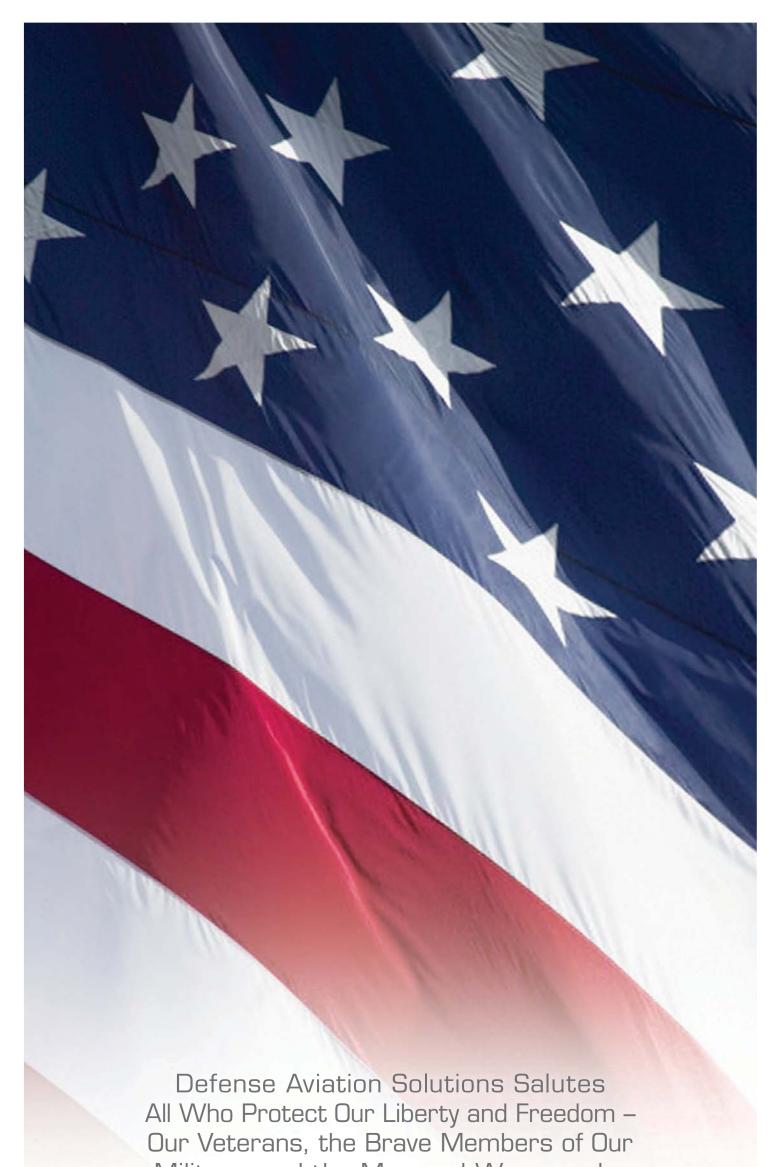
We are a "family friendly, family focused" church where great emphasis is placed on connecting and forming great relationships. We are an all-inclusive congregation and we welcome all who desire to worship with us, we provide an environment that's open and biblical. "The Light" is a Christ-centered church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

Our ministries focus on every aspect of the family... youth, women and brotherhood. We are in partnership with the Dale County 211 Emergency Assistance Program and consider it a great privilege to serve those in need.



Feel free to stop by for a full, hot breakfast every Sunday morning 9:00 am to 9:40 am. We are located at 1366 Hwy 84 East, Daleville, Alabama - across from Karl's German Bakery and may be reached at 334-598-4778 or 334-503-9935. See you Sunday!





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Thank You for Your Service.



DynCorp International (DI) and Science & Engineering Services (SES) have joined forces to create Defense Aviation Solutions (DAS), a joint venture competing for the Aviation Maintenance contract at Fort Rucker.

## **National Peanut Festival ends Sunday**

Below is a schedule of events for the National Peanut Festival in Dothan. For more information, visit http://www.nationalpeanutfestival.com.

## Today

- Senior Citizens' Day noon Sponsored by Southeast Alabama Medical Center
- Military Day
- Gates Open to General Public 4 p.m.
- Alex Maddox on at 7 p.m. and Mustang Sally Concert at 8 p.m. - Amphitheater

### Friday

• Gates Open - 4 p.m. • "Hip, Hop Night" with Queazy - 7:30 p.m.

### Saturdav

- NPF Parade 9:30 a.m. Downtown Dothan
- Gates Open noon Demolition Derby
- Wells Fargo Arena p.m. Sponsored by Schnitzer Steel
- Demolition Derby 7 Wells Fargo Arena p.m.
- Sponsored by Schnitzer Steel

### Sunday

• Gates Open – 1 p.m. · Midway Rides and Midway Concessions Only

- Midway and gates close 6 p.m. · Gate and Ride Specials
- Regular Price Gate Admission (ages 6
- and over) \$7 Ages 5 and under are free

### Today

Seniors (age 55 and over) admitted free from noon until 4 p.m. Military and their Family members with ID admitted for \$5 starting at 4 p.m. Seniors \$5 after 4 p.m. Regular Price Gate Admission for all others. \$20 - Armband

## Friday

Regular Price Gate Admission. \$25 - Armband

## Saturday

Regular Price Gate Admission

### Sunday

2

Ride-a-thon Armbands - \$20

**Livestock Shows** Winn-Dixie Ag Complex

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10 Jr. Hog Show - 8 a.m. Open Hog Show to follow



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12 Youth Meat Goat Show - 9 a.m. Boer Goat Show - noon Advance Sales Ride Tickets

NATIONAL PEANUT FESTIVAL GRAPHIC

One Day Admission Tickets - \$6 Ages 6 and over - under age 6 is free (Save \$1 off gate prices) 22 Ride Coupons - \$12

## EGRASS Community Calendar

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

## ANDALUSIA

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

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

## DALEVILLE

**ONGOING** — 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

SUNDAY - A limited number of free tickets are available on a first come. first served basis to Fort Rucker ID card holders and their Families for the Jim Brickman concert that will be held at the Dothan Opera House at 3 p.m. They will be distributed at Leisure Travel, Bldg. 5700.

Due to limited numbers available, call Leisure Travel Services to ensure avail-

## ability at 255-3031. ENTERPRISE

NOV. 17 — Disabled American Veterans Chapter No. 99 pre-holiday meal will be at Ryan's Family Steak House, 609 Boll Weevil Circle, Enterprise at 6 p.m. Members are asked to RSVP at (334) 718-5707 no later than Sunday.

ONGOING — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6683, John Wiley Brock Post membership meetings are at the post headquarters, located on County Road 537, every third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

For more information, call Bob Cooper at 347-7076 or visit the VFW Post 6683 on Facebook.

**ONGOING** — The City of Enterprise is partnering with the Disabled American Veterans Chapter No. 9 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6683 to honor Korean War veterans at this year's Veterans Day parade and ceremony.

If you are a Korean War veteran or know someone who is, please contact Tara Leigh Emnett, special projects coordinator 348-2603 or email tarae1@cityofenterprise.net no later than Tuesday.

## GENEVA

**ONGOING** — The Geneva County Relay for Life meets the last Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Citizens ley at 7 p.m., and dancing from 8-10 p.m. Bank. For more information, call 248-4495.

MIDLAND CITY

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

## NEW BROCKTON

ONGOING - Adult education classes are offered in Rm. 12 at New Brockton High School, 210 South Tyler St., Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m.

All classes are free for individuals 16 years old or older who are not enrolled in public school.

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

## OZARK

ONGOING - Dale County Council of Arts and Humanities is sponsoring an art show featuring works by Beverly West Leach at the Ann Rudd Art Center, 144 East Broad Street in downtown Ozark from Nov. 19 to Jan. 7.

DCCAH will sponsor an opening reception for the show, titled "Shaping My Thoughts," Nov. 19 starting at 6 p.m. featuring singing duo Holly and Brantwith music by DJ ED.

A \$5 donation to DCCAH will be accepted at the door.

## PINCKARD

ONGOING - The public is invited to the Cross Country Workshop every Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Pinckard United Methodist Church.

For more information, call 983-3064.

## SAMSON

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

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

## TROY

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

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

For more information, call Janet Motes at 808-8500.

## **Beyond Briefs**

## Eclectic Trade Days 2nd Saturday

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

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

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

## A Day in the Park Benefit

Friends of local man Steven Benton, who is waiting for a liver transplant, will host a benefit concert and day of activities Nov. 19 at John Hutto park in Newton starting at 11 a.m. For more information, contact Jamie at 362-0432 or Joanna at 714-7849

## Scarecrows in the Park

Over 300 scarecrows made by various individuals, businesses, and school groups are spread along the 3 miles of walking trails of Lake Frank Jackson State Park from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. now through Monday. Admission is \$1 for ages 12 and up, and 50 cents for children under 12 and senior citizens. For more information, call 504-1450 or visit www. oppchamber.com.

## W.C. Handy Birthday Celebration

The city of Florence will celebrate jazz musician W.C. Handy's birthday Wednesday at the W.C. Handy Home. Museum and Library from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is free and there will be birthday cake and refreshments along with a performance by The John Wilson Band. The celebration is sponsored by the Handy Cabin Committee and the Florence Department of Arts and Museums. For more information, call (256) 760-6434.

## **ArchiTreats Lecture**

The Alabama Department of Archives and History hosts the monthly Montgomery ArchiTreats: Food for Thought lecture each month. This month's lecture by Fred Gray, entitled "The Civil Rights World in Alabama" is Nov. 17 from noon-1 p.m. Attendants are encouraged to bring a sack lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided by the Friends of the Alabama Archives

For more information, visit www.archives.alabama.gov.

## Galaxy of Lights Walking Nights

Nov. 18-22 from 5-7:30 p.m., Huntsville Botanical Garden hosts Galaxy of Lights, a mile and a half-long holiday light extravaganza featuring animated light displays. Children can visit with Santa Claus at the end of the walk and warm refreshments will be available. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children. For more information, visit www.hsvbg.org

## Saturday Jam Sessions

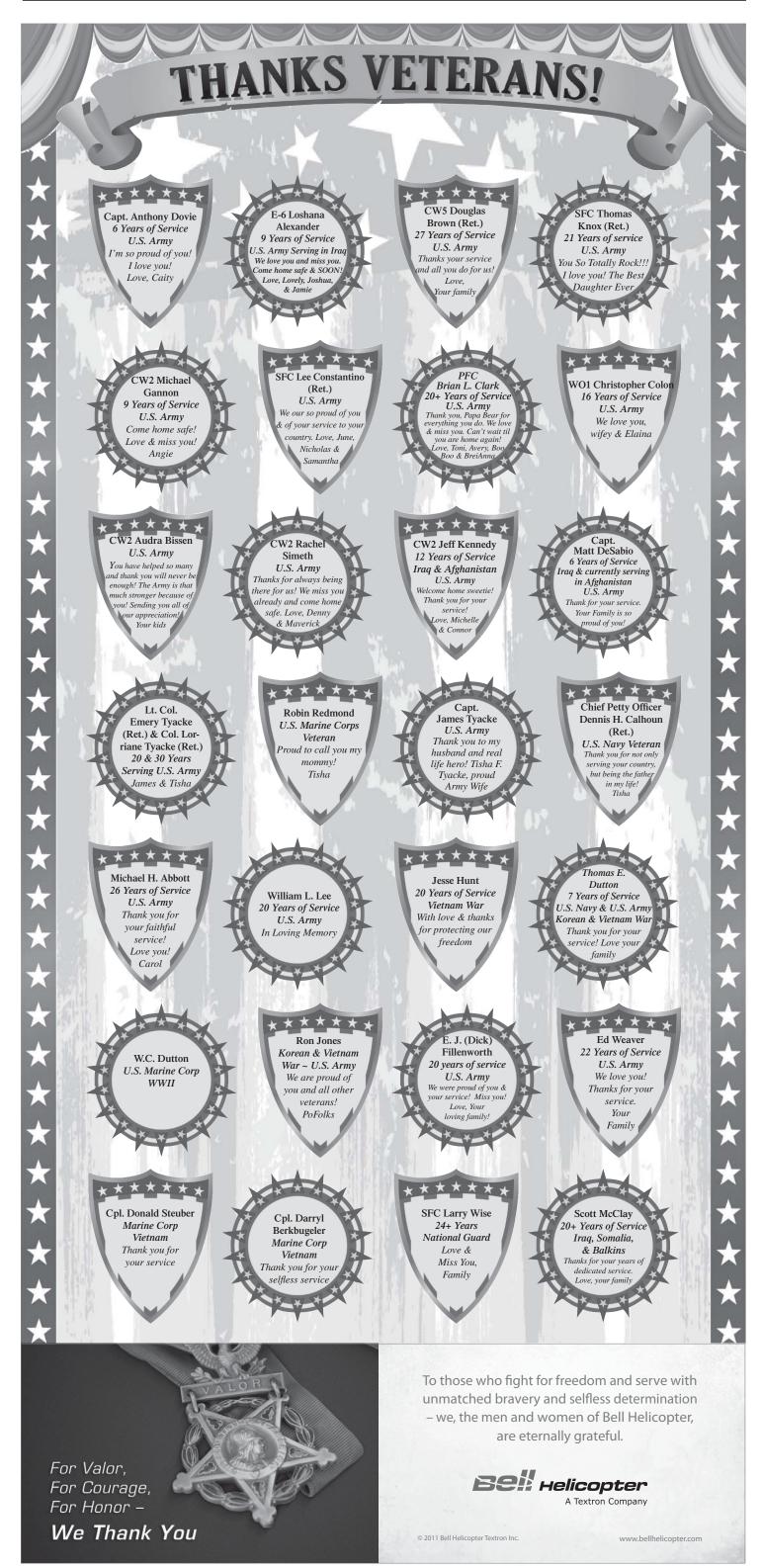
On the second and fourth Saturdays in November, Old Alabama Town hosts Saturday Jam Sessions from 9 a.m. to noon at the historic Rose House. Musicians can bring acoustic instruments and join the fun. Admission to the jam sessions is free. For more information, call 240-4500 or visit www.oldalabamatown.com.

## Hunter Appreciation Day

The city of Pine Apple will host the 16th annual Hunter Appreciation day Nov. 26 in downtown Pine Apple from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. The event is hosted to thank the many hunters and their families who make the Pine Apple area their recreational home and to celebrate the opening of hunting season and features area cooks, artists, merchants, craftsmen, traders. There will also be an antique car parade at noon and big buck contest at 6:45 p.m. For more information, visit http:// www.pineapplealabama.com/hunterapp.htm.

## **Run/walk for arthritis**

Huntingdon College in Montgomery hosts the Jingle Bell Run/Walk benefiting Arthritis research on Dec. 3 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The family event features a 5k competitive run, a free tot trot, family run and 1 mile Santa Chase for children under 8. To register or for more information, call 244-1179 or visit www.arthritis.org.



On this day, it's our great honor to recognize the courage and sacrifice of our Veterans and their families.





# **SPORTS**



**NOVEMBER 10, 2011** 



## Midway point brings answers, questions, guesses

## **ByJim Hughes**

Command Information Officer

As the NFL passed the midway point for most teams, Week 9 along with the previous eight weeks have answered some questions, posed some new ones and offer a great opportunity to throw out some more guesses...err... expert predictions.

Answered - The Chiefs are not back. The Colts are atrocious. The Bucs are not to be taken seriously. The Saints are to be taken seriously. The Bengals are great at beating teams with losing records. The Texans are for real. The Broncos and Raiders aren't for real. The Giants are good. The Patriots have issues. The Packers can score as many points as they want to. The Ravens, short of a major collapse, look ready to finally get a home playoff game. Making Matt Forte the go-to guy instead of Jay Cutler is the only way the Bears get into the playoffs. The Eagles are done. Tim Tebow is a very good runner, but a mediocre-at-best passer, and the Broncos are missing a lot of other parts.

Not answered - What are the Bills? What are the Cowboys? Can anyone stop Green Bay?

I rarely brag or boast -- usually because I have absolutely no reason to -- but I will add that in this column at this point last year, I successfully predicted the Super Bowl teams by writing the Steelers would beat the Packers. Par for course, I get lucky on one thing, and then proceed to get several others wrong - Green Bay won and several of my division picks didn't pan out.

Getting back to 2011, let's take a look at each division and make some predictions for the second half as far as playoffs go.

### AFC East

A three-team race with the Patriots, Jets and, remarkably, the Bills all tied at 5-3. It's tempting to discount the Bills in this race by saying, 'well, they're the Bills.' But Buffalo's remainder of schedule is fairly reasonable. That said. I look for the Jets to fly high and win the division as they're showing the most balance of late, while the Patriots fade away to third thanks to an abysmal defense, and the Bills cross the line in second and earn a wildcard berth.

### AFC North

The Bengals and Ravens lead the division at 6-2 with the Steelers trailing the Ravens by a game and a half. I say "trailing the Ravens" because the Bengals just aren't going to win the division or even get a wildcard. Cincinnati built a 6-3 record thanks to an easy schedule, but its second-half schedule is brutal. Ravens guarterback Joe Flacco is one unpredictable dude, but his team will go only as far as he can take them. With their stellar defense and great running attack, he just needs to be mildly efficient and avoid losing games singlehandedly. Of course, awesome game-winning drives, like the one in Week 9, just help all the more. The Steelers, in effect, handed the Ravens the division by letting Baltimore sweep them this year, but will probably still earn a wildcard berth. AFC South

Finally. Houston looks poised to earn a division crown. Of course, it took the collapse of the Colts to open the door to a division win, but the Texans actually look pretty good this year. They're doing just fine with No. 1 receiver Andre Johnson out, and he should be back soon for more offensive goodness. The Texans defensive turnaround from last year is amazing - Wade Phillips is definitely a better coordinator than head coach. The Titans have looked promising at times, but they sit at 4-4 and will sit at 8-8, at best, once the season ends. The Jaguars have no shot at catching Indy for the No. 1 draft pick. AFC West

Similar to the 2010 campaign, it's anyone's race - except this year even Denver is only a game out at the halfway point. That said, the Broncos will be lucky to win two more games the rest of the way. All four teams have a very similar remainder of schedule. I have absolutely no idea who will win since these teams are completely unpredictable week to week, but I'll go ahead and predict

### San Diego as the Chiefs' schedule looks the hardest, and the Raiders look baffled by life in general. NFC East

Not really going out a limb too much with this pick. but this is the Giants' division to lose - and they certainly have shown a penchant for doing that with late-season swoons in recent years - but I don't think they'll lose it. Philadelphia gave New York too much of a head start this

year and Dallas is so Jekyll and Hyde, they could take their 4-4 record and go 10-6, or even 4-12. Washington is a train wreck. No wildcard berths out of this division. NFC North

No limb to go out on in this division either as in the NFL it's currently Green Bay way up top, and then all the others. The Packers win the division by outscoring everyone, while the Lions place second and the Bears wait for the tiebreakers to see if they beat Atlanta out for the wildcard berth. I do think both the Lions - who get two shots - and Bears - who lost once to the Pack already have a shot at keeping the Packers from going 16-0. But other than a matchup with the Giants, the Packers have a pretty favorable second half schedule.

### NFC South

Tampa Bay will be lucky to finish above .500 this year. which leaves the Saints and Falcons to battle it out again. It's a hard call on who will win the battle because while both teams have pluses, they both have glaring minuses as well. New Orleans' defense is highly suspect, while inconsistency is a hallmark for Atlanta on both sides of the ball - plus the Falcons have only beaten one team with a winning record so far this year. I'll go ahead and take the Saints just because of Drew Brees. They play each other twice during the second half of the season, with the first matchup this week in Atlanta.

### NFC West

The 49ers are running away with this one and it will be nice to see a team come out of this division with a winning record. Many people thought Jim Harbaugh would have a tough time turning around the 49ers, and he took some heat for not dumping QB Alex Smith. But he has the team playing 7-1 over the first half – second only to Green Bay. And given this team's defensive style, I give San Francisco the nod as the team most-likely-to-maybegive-Green Bay-a-run-for-its-money in the playoffs.

Super Bowl Hail Mary II - Green Bay Packers over the Baltimore Ravens.

Race to Lose for Luck – I'll take Indy earning the first overall draft pick in a close finish with Miami and St. Louis. If a franchise that is already 0-9 has a chance to follow Peyton Manning with Andrew Luck, I think they really need to go for it and just lose, baby!

PICKS	Tessan Tan	INDA BOO BU	us® Dollas Soi	nts@ Allonta St	eelers mati	unts @ Lico	ns@ Bears Patriots @NY.Jets
Jim Hughes Fort Rucker Public Affairs (41-22)	5		F	Steelers		Y.	JETS
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Sharon Storti Network Enterprise Center (37-26)	5	$\bigstar$	A Contraction	Stellar	ny	Y?	****





Super Crossword

HOG WASH



by Dave T. Phipps

1. MUSIC: What artist is the subject of a 1970s Don McLean song that begins, "Starry, starry night"? 2. HISTORY: When and where did the first African slaves arrive in Amer-

ica? 3. ANIMATION: What was the name of the craggy peak overlooking Whoville in "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"?

4. MEASUREMENTS: What is absolute zero measured in Celsius? 5. MOVIES: What was the home planet of the "Transformers" alien robots (2007) who came to Earth? 6. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a

baby horse called? 7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president proposed the Great Society? 8. LITERATURE: Who wrote "The Canterbury Tales" in the late 14th cen-

tury? 9. MEDICAL: What is the tine test used to diagnose?

SCIENCE: What elements 10. were discovered by Pierre and Marie Curie?

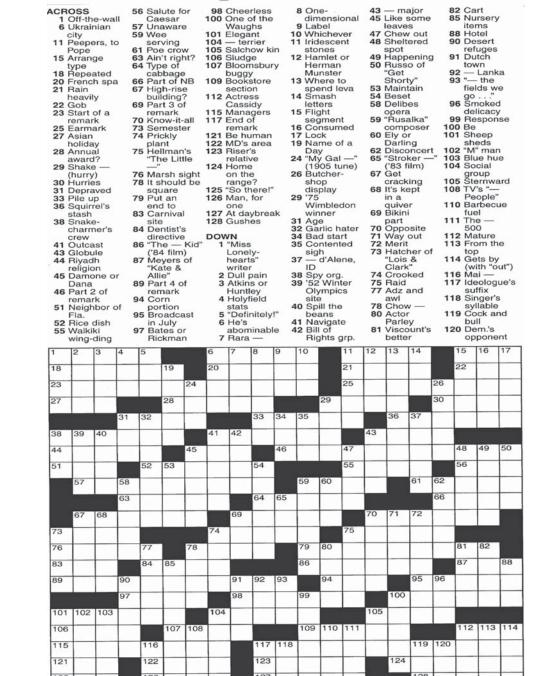
See Page D4 for this week's answers.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by	Linda	Thistle
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		5			2		7	
9			6	1		4		
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7			2					4
	9			3			1	

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging \* \* \* HOO BOY!





See Page D4 for this week's answers.

See Page D4 for this week's answers.

# KID'S CORNI



DON'T BE SCARED OF THIS ONE! Hidden in the above frame is an old saying. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around it clock-wise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Nustrated by David Coulso

TRY SEWING THIS ONE UP IN FIVE MINUTES! To solve this problem you must replace the letters in our AlphaMath puzzle with the digits 0, 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition expression. The same letters get the same digits. Try to get a higher total than we did. O TEAR + MOM MEND Our answer: T=8, E=7, A=6, R=1, M=9, O=5, N=2, D=0, (8761 + 969 = 9720.)

CHAIN REACTION! Take the seven letters printed below our diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read, top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.



80

Η

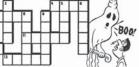
U

Answers: Top to botton, telt to right Mako, make, male, malt, mole, molt, moat, mo



Junior White

by Charles Barry Towns



Below are 15 words associated with scary stories and places. You must place them in the crossword puzzle grid shown above. Use the trial-and-error method, and keep a good creare hardw. eraser handy. COVDT MOANS

BEAST	CURSE	MUMN
BODY	GHOST	OWLS
CRASH	GLOOM	RATS
CROSS	HOWL	YELLS

Anwers: (Across) 1. Crash. 4. Body, 7. Gloom. 10. Hats. 11. Mouns. 12. Cross. 13. Crypt. (Down). 1. Curse. 2. Altic. 3. HowL 5. Owis. 6. Yells. 7. Glost. 8. Mummy, 9. Beast

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Ν	F	S	Y	E	0	Е	Е	В	0	Y	Κ	R
4	8	5	3	7	2	7	4	3	7	4	8	7
Ν	U	1	Т	Α	Α	S	Е	Н	Y	W	С	G
3	8	4	8	7	3	6	7	6	8	3	5	6
Е	0	Т	Μ	0	Т	0	1	U	Ρ	R	Е	G
2	6	2	6	8	6	4	3	7	5	8	2	6
R	Α	R	1	1	Ν	Н	U	Ν	Ν	L	1	S
5	7	8	3	8	2	3	6	4	2	6	2	6
D	G	E	Т	W	Е	н	Т	0	R	R	Т	Е
2	6	5	4	2	5	8	4	6	4	2	5	2
0	Ν	S	U	0	V	Е	G	G	Н	Н	1	1
8	6	8	2	8	6	8	2	5	4	5	4	5
А	Т	L	G	Т	Н	н	Н	S	Т	1	S	Т

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the up-per left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked faures give up up to right. Then read the checked figures give you.





table. 2. Woman's bow is missing. I. 4. Box is different. 5. Shoes are

## 'Rematch of the century' ahead?

## By David C. Agan Jr. Fort Rucker Public Affairs

The smoke has finally cleared in Tuscaloosa after the so-called "Game of the Century.'

The bands, players and tailgaters have all packed and gone. The No. 1-ranked LSU Tigers, having defeated the then-No. 2 Alabama Crimson Tide, have the inside track to both the Southeastern Conference Championship Game and the Bowl Championship Series National Championship Game, right?

Well, probably.

Saturday night's game was the first time that a consensus No. 1 and No. 2 from the SEC had faced each other during the regular season and, for most, it lived up to the hype. As expected, it was a defensive struggle from start to finish with neither team managing to find the end zone all night.

I hate to repeat the phrase "Instant Classic," but that's exactly what it was. It was good, oldfashioned SEC football at its best. After the game, though, the Internet was abuzz that it was a boring, disappointing affair. I guess that assessment is fair from a certain point of view. High-scoring, spread offenses have certainly been en vogue over the past few years and most people would rather see homeruns than a pitchers' duel.

But, like the old adage says, it's still defense that wins championships. And, with a little help from some questionable coaching decisions from Alabama Head Coach Nick Saban, LSU's defense won this contest in the trenches. It was smash mouth football at its finest and we aren't likely to see another game like this for a long, long time.

Or will we? On Sunday evening we learned that the computers did not severely punish the Crimson Tide for losing to No. 1 LSU - Alabama had only dropped one spot to No. 3 in the rankings, ahead of the stillundefeated No. 4 Stanford Cardinal So, like it or not the door remains open for a rematch between LSU and Alabama for the BCS national title. But quite a few things need to happen before we have an all-SEC fight-to-the-death in New Orleans come January.

For starters, the No.2-

Do the Cowboys have championship-caliber offense? Yes. They rank second nationally in total offense, sandwiched between Houston and Stanford, led by all-time great college quarterbacks Case Keenum (college football's all-time passing leader) and Andrew Luck (the sure-to-be first pick in 2012's NFL draft) respectively. They're certainly impressive, but they can't seem to stop anyone on the other side of the ball.

But you don't always have to stop your opponent when your offense hangs 50 points on them week in and week out. Looming large on the horizon for Oklahoma State is the annual Bedlam Game with cross-state rival Oklahoma. The No. 7-ranked Sooners still have a lot to play for this season. After their embarrassing loss to Texas Tech a couple of weeks ago, I said it would take a miracle for them to make it into the national championship game. It might only take beating the Cowboys on Dec. 3 for them to make their way back into one of the top two spots of the BCS.

How likely is that to happen? It's hard to say. Oklahoma has a very good defense. Not quite as elite as the ones on display in season. Tuscaloosa last Saturday

night, but very good, Will it be enough to slow down Oklahoma State's prodigious offense? Let's take a look at it

from another perspective:

Will the Sooner offense manage to outscore the Cowboys without wide receiver Ryan Broyles? Broyles, who is responsible for over 30 percent of Oklahoma's receiving yards this season, suffered a season-ending knee injury against Texas A&M last weekend.

Even if the Sooners manage to beat Oklahoma State in the Bedlam Game, they've still got to overcome that loss to Texas Tech. which is hanging around their neck like the proverbial albatross. Maybe it will be far enough in the past for the voters and computers to recall, but Texas Tech has been getting pounded every since beating the Sooners in October, which certainly isn't helping Oklahoma's chances.

What else would it take to see a rematch between LSU and Alabama for the BCS National Championship? If Oklahoma State were to lose, that leaves us with No. 3 Stanford. The Cardinal have quite a challenge waiting for them this weekend when the No. 6-ranked Oregon Ducks come to town. This game will most likely decide who represents the PAC-12 North in the league's firstever championship game and could have wider implications by the end of the

Obviously, if the Ducks can get out of Stanford Stadium with a win on Saturday night then the Cardinal's chances of playing for the BCS title are over. Oregon hasn't lost since

their first game of this sea- make up two-thirds of the November of 2009 when onship. they lost to...Stanford. With that in mind, check dinal currently enjoy the longest winning streak in the nation and have only lost one out of their last 21

valry has been almost com- pionship Game? pletely devoid of defense. Oregon running back La-Michael James is healthy again and just became the first Duck to gain 1,000 rushing yards in three consecutive seasons. But Stanford has one of the best rushing defenses in the nation, ranking behind only Cincinnati and, you guessed it, LSU and Ala-

bama. Who's going to pull this one out in Stanford, Calif., this weekend? Again, it's very tough to call. Neither team apparently loses much unless they're playing each other, so flip a coin But if Stanford beats Oregon this weekend, wins out and then wins the PAC-12 championship, I cannot imagine that the Alabama Crimson Tide will be remain ahead of them in the BCS. I can't predict what the computers would do, but

I can just about guarantee

the human voters, who

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in the Cowboys Classic, see if Stanford quarterback of the horse. the Ducks hadn't lost a Andrew Luck can lead his regular season game since team to a national champi-

knocks Stanford out of recall, were the only loss on this out: the Stanford Car- the BCS race this week- LSU's schedule last season end, and let's imagine that besides eventual BCS Na-Oklahoma beats Oklahoma tional Champions, the Auregular season games. That eight years...could Ala- the small matter of the Iron loss was at the hands of the bama possibly end up with Bowl Nov. 26 that Alabama Oregon Ducks last season. the opportunity to face LSU In recent years, this ri- in the BCS National Cham- want to keep their chances

Sure, it's possible. But son. Before losing to LSU BCS equation, will need to let's not put the cart in front

> LSU still has to face the Arkansas Razorbacks the day after Thanksgiving. Let's say that Oregon The Razorbacks, if you'll State in the Bedlam Game burn Tigers. Speaking of the like they have for the last Auburn Tigers, there's still will have to survive if they for a rematch alive.



Your ad could be here for only \$96 per month. Call Ashley Latimer for more information at 334-393-9710

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## Call 393-4471

Your donation of clothing, furniture, house-hold items, autos, etc. helps to provide the following services for the homeless and hungry...shelter, food, hot meals, for home-bound, emergency utility assistance and residential substance abuse program. All donations are tax deductible

307 N. Main Street ~ www.christmissions.com



ranked Oklahoma State Cowboys will need to lose at some point. They remain undefeated, but, man, they've come awfully close to losing more than once this season. Of course, that doesn't necessarily mean that a team is destined to lose. In fact, many times that only proves a team's "scrappiness" or, to use one of the more dubious of college football's terms, that they "refuse to lose." But it usually indicates that there's a problem somewhere. With Oklahoma State, that problem lies squarely with its defense. The Cowboys barely made it out of last weekend with a win against then-No. 14 Kansas State. It took a touchdown by run-

ning back Joseph Randle with 2:16 left in the game

to boost the 'Boys ahead

of the Wildcats. In the pro-

cess, Oklahoma State quar-

terback Brandon Weeden

threw for a school-record

502 yards and four touch-

D4 \* NOVEMBER 10, 2011 | ARMYFLIER.COM



## PUZZLE ANSWERS

Weekly SUDOKU \_\_\_\_

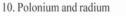
Answer

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

## TRIVIA

Answers 1. Vincent Van Gogh

- 2. 1619 (Jamestown, Virginia)
- 3. Mount Crumpit
- 4. -273 degrees 5. Cybertron
- 6. A foal
- 7. Lyndon Johnson
- 8. Geoffrey Chaucer
- 9. Tuberculosis

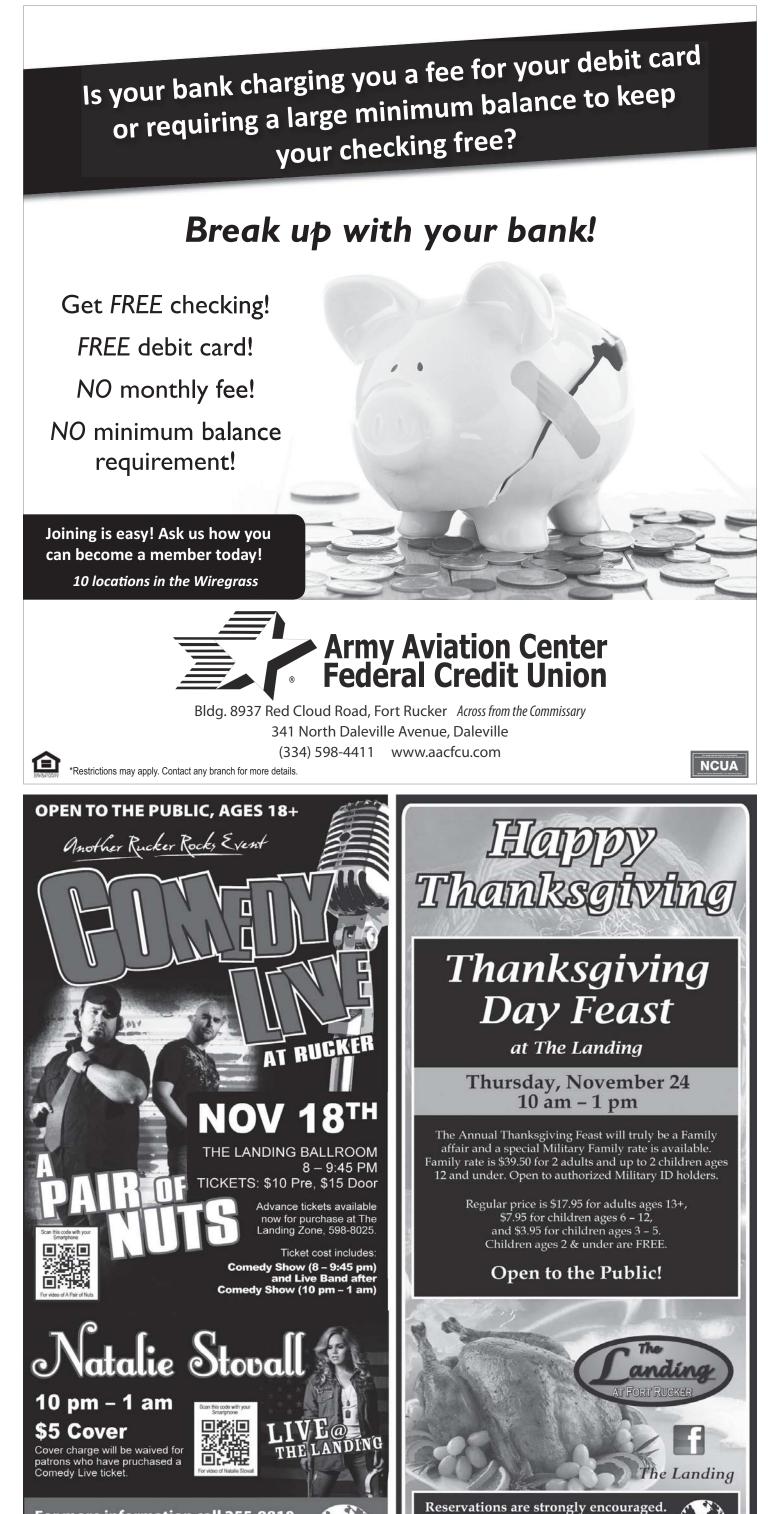




## DESTIN 50 BEACH ULTRA **19** FEBRUARY

2012





For more information call 255-9810. www.ftruckermwr.com **EFMP Friendly** 

Fort Rucker FMWR

MWR

For details or to make reservations please call The Landing at 598-2426.

MWR

### Youth sportsman deer hunt

Outdoor recreation hosts a youth sportsman deer hunt for youth ages 7-15 Saturday at the range off Highway 27 from 4:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$15. Trophies will be awarded to the top three hunters. Lunch and door prizes will be provided. Parents and escorts of the youth hunters must have an Alabama State Hunting License, and a Hunter Education Course completion card. Registration is held at outdoor recreation in Bldg. 24236 at West Beach, Lake Tholocco. The event is open to the public.

For more information, call 255-4040 or visit outdoor recreation at www.ftruckermwr.com.

### Winter Golf Intramurals

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Winter Golf Intramurals begin Sunday with a 1 p.m. Shotgun Start at Silver Wings Golf Course. The format is a fourperson scramble. Costs are a \$10 one-time league fee and a \$5 cart fee per player per outing.

For more information about the league or questions about

### eligibility, call 598-2449.

### Hunter education courses

A hunter education class will take place Tuesday from 5:30-9:30 p.m. in Adams Hall, Bldg. 5419, Rm. 120. The class accepts a maximum of 60 students. Attendance of this class requires completion of internet or CD course prior to the class. Participants must bring a printed report to class (report does not need to be notarized). For more information, call Fort Rucker Outdoor Recreation at 255-4305.

### **Turkey Shootout**

Silver Wings Golf Course hosts the annual Turkey Shootout Nov. 19 from 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Turkey Shootout features individual stroke play, and prizes, including a Thanksgiving Turkey, will be awarded to gross and net winners. Cost is \$20 per player, plus cart and green fees if applicable. The event is open to the public. For more, call 598-2449.

### Turkey Trot 5k/10k Run

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Facility hosts the annual Turkey Trot 10k, 5k and 1-Mile Fun Run Nov. 19.

Race Day registration begins at 7:30 am and the 5k and 10k runs will start at 9 a.m. Participants are encouraged to pre-register at either the Fortenberry-Colton or Andrews PFF.

Forms are available at either PFF or printable off the website at http://www.ftruckermwr.com/physical\_fitness\_center.htm. The free fun run will begin after the 5k/10k race and is open to all children. Each Fun Run participant will receive a medal.

The costs are \$120 per person (no shirt option), \$100 for teams of eight (each additional person pays normal registration fee, includes shirt), and \$20 per person (with shirt) by Saturday, or \$25 (with shirt) per person any day after Saturday.

People registering after Saturday will receive T-shirts while supplies last, while all pre-registered people will receive Tshirts. Refreshments will be provided and the event is open to the public.

For more, call 255-3794.



- Have a Family disaster plan and supply kit.
- Build or identify a safe room in your home.
- Purchase and use a NOAA weather radio with a tone alert feature. This will alert you to warnings issued by your local National Weather Service office.

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