

# ARMY FLYER

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PHOTO BY NAVY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 2ND CLASS TAYLOR DIMARTINO

Sailors signal to the pilots of a UH-60 Black Hawk assigned to the 'Wild Cards' of the Army's 2-2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion during deck landing qualification operations on the flight deck of the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Milius (DDG 69) in October. Milius is under way conducting operations in the Indo-Pacific region while assigned to Destroyer Squadron 15, the Navy's largest forward-deployed DESRON and the U.S. 7th Fleet's principal surface force.

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# BEST OF THE BEST

*TRADOC names 6th MP Det. best in command for fiscal year 2019*

**By Jim Hughes**

*Fort Rucker Public Affairs*

Fort Rucker's 6th Military Police Detachment is the best military police detachment in the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command for fiscal year 2019.

TRADOC announced the unit as the winner of the Brig. Gen. David H. Stem Award Oct. 15, and Capt. Robert Berchild, detachment commander, said it's something all of the unit's Soldiers can take great pride in.

"I told the Soldiers this morning that this is not my award and it's not the first sergeant's award – it's their award," he said. "They're the ones, day in and day out, working the long hours, working all over southern Alabama – whether at the stagefields or pulling patrols – doing the daily things that I just had the chance to highlight to TRADOC. My gratitude for what they do every day is huge, and this just really highlights how lucky I am as a commander to have such a great set of Soldiers."

Lt. Col. Juan-Carlos Segura, commander of the 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment that oversees the 6th MP Det., said the command made the right call.

"The battalion is extremely proud of the 6th MP Detachment's accomplishment in winning the award," he said. "These Soldiers have completely embraced the unique challenges that come with being the largest MP detachment in TRADOC and continue to set the standard in professionalism that Fort Rucker expects of their first responders.

"Their ability to execute a diverse mission set in providing critical site security, fire protection services, military working dog support and law enforcement at five airfields, five stagefields and hundreds of square miles of patrol area is deserving of this recognition," Segura added.

While the Soldiers deservedly bask in the success of being the best in TRADOC, Berchild said there's no time for the unit to rest on its laurels.

"We can't be complacent," he said. "We won the award, but there is always room for us to improve and things we can get better at. We can still enjoy winning the award and the recognition that comes with it, but we also need to stay grounded and keep focused on getting better at what we do every day – this award is further motivation to do just that."

The 6th MP Det. will now compete at the Army level, Berchild said, adding that, as far as he's aware, this is the first time the unit has won the award.

The captain said he is confident in the unit's ability to compete on the "big Army" stage, thanks to the professionalism and skills of the unit's Soldiers, the unit's "aggressive" training regimen, strong community outreach efforts and its diverse mission at Fort Rucker.

That diverse mission includes supporting the Fort Rucker Directorate of Public Safety with law enforcement, security at the post's airfields and fire protection services at its



ARMY PHOTO

**Soldiers of the 6th Military Police Detachment train on responding to an emergency situation. U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command recently named the unit its best MP detachment for fiscal year 2019.**

stagefields, along with 906th MP Military Working Dog Detachment support missions locally, and also worldwide for U.S. Central Command and the U.S. Secret Service, Berchild said.

Like many operations at Fort Rucker, the successful accomplishment of the 6th MP's mission is a team effort that crosses organizational lines, with the unit's Soldiers working closely with their garrison civilian counterparts in DPS while still getting world-class support from the 1-13th Avn. Regt., the captain said.

That teamwork is a big reason for the unit's success, said Staff Sgt. Samantha Melanson, 6th MP operations NCO in charge who put the majority of the award package together.

"A line has always stuck out to me in the NCO Creed: 'I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike.' That really describes this unit," she said. "NCOs work for their Soldiers, they work together, they work to the left and to

the right of them, they work for above and below them, and we work great with our battalion and with our civilian counterparts at DPS. I think working as a team is what makes this unit so great and that's ultimately why we won this award."

Lt. Col. Phillip Lenz, director of the Directorate of Public Safety and a beneficiary of the 6th MP's support, agreed with that assessment.

"The 6th MP Detachment is critical to the success of the Fort Rucker Directorate of Public Safety mission," Lenz said. "These dedicated military police, firefighters and military working dog handlers greatly enhance the overall safety and security of the installation and the entire community. Being recognized as the best MP company in TRADOC is an incredible accomplishment, and demonstrates the excellence that this entire team brings to the mission each and every day – we couldn't accomplish the mission without them!"

# 283 years of service

## 7 Soldiers, 3 civilians retire at quarterly ceremony

By Jim Hughes

*Fort Rucker Public Affairs*

With a combined 283 years of service to the nation, seven Soldiers and three civilians retired at the Fort Rucker Quarterly Retirement Ceremony Oct. 25.

Col. George Ferido, 110th Aviation Brigade commander, hosted the event and was assisted by Command Sgt. Maj. Johnathan Logan, 110th Avn. Bde. command sergeant major.

Short write-ups on each retiree follow.

### **LT. COL RICHARD W. ALEXANDER II**

Alexander, the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence commanding general's liaison to the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command commanding general at Redstone Arsenal, entered military service in 1990 as a cannon crewmember. In 1993, he received his commission from Xavier University ROTC as an Aviation officer. He served multiple combat deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. He said the highlight of his career was its length and the opportunity to meet, serve with and befriend some of the nation's best and brightest. He and his wife, Jerrica, have six children, a cat and two mischievous Jack Russell Terriers. They plan to reside in Owens Cross Roads.

### **CW5 JEFFREY T. KIMM**

Kimm, U.S. Army Security Assistance Training Management Organization command chief warrant officer and brigade standardization officer at Fort Bragg, North

Carolina, entered military service in 1988 as an infantry rifleman. In 1996 he was selected for Army Warrant Officer Flight Training. He served multiple combat tours in support of operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. He said the highlight of his career was being the Task Force Saber standardization officer while deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He and his wife, Paulette, have three children. They plan to reside in Enterprise.

### **CW5 SCOTT J. VANHOVELN**

VanHoveln, 116th Military Intelligence Brigade Aviation mission survivability officer at Fort Gordon, Georgia, entered military service in 1989 as a combat engineer. He was selected for Army Warrant Officer Flight Training in 1999. He served multiple combat tours in support of operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. He said the highlight of his career was serving as a standardization officer and Fixed-Wing Branch chief at the Directorate of Evaluation and Standardization at Fort Rucker. He and his wife, Margaret, have two children. They plan to reside in Enterprise.

### **MASTER SGT. LILNELL A. STORM**

Storm, 926th Engineer Brigade health readiness NCO and sexual assault response coordinator, entered military service in 1999 as a combat medic. She served multiple combat tours in support of operations Iraqi and



PHOTO BY JIM HUGHES

**Fort Rucker's latest retirees who retired at the quarterly ceremony in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum Oct. 25. Back: Lt. Col. Richard W. Alexander II, CW5 Jeffrey T. Kimm, Sgt. 1st Class Brandon H. Sprouse, Staff Sgt. Ryan M. Boyer and Edward M. Brown Jr. Front: Harris Whitaker, Sgt. 1st Class Brittina L. Williams, Master Sgt. Lilnell A. Storm, CW5 Scott J. VanHoveln and Debra F. Brown.**

Enduring Freedom. She said the highlight of her career was marrying her wonderful husband, Joseph, and trusting God to direct her path and career. They plan to reside in lower Alabama.

### **SGT. 1ST CLASS BRANDON H. SPROUSE**

Sprouse, D Company, 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment first sergeant, entered military service in 1996 as an infantryman and later reenlisted as a Chinook mechanic. He served multiple combat tours in support of operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. He said the highlight of his career was marrying his beautiful wife, Amy, and having two wonderful children. They plan to reside in Enterprise.

### **SGT. 1ST CLASS BRITTINA L. WILLIAMS**

Williams, senior supply specialist at Fort Rucker, entered military service in 1999 as an automated logistic specialist and later reclassified as a unit supply specialist. She served multiple combat tours in support of operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. She said the highlight of her career was returning from deployments safely to her family. She plans to reside in Enterprise.

### **STAFF SGT. RYAN M. BOYER**

Boyer, Aviation Center Logistics Command quality assurance evaluator, entered military service in 2000 as a heavy wheel mechanic and later reenlisted as a Black Hawk mechanic. He served multiple combat tours in support of operations Iraqi

## RETIREMENT *cont.*

and Enduring Freedom. He said the highlight of his career was marrying his beautiful wife, Stephanie, and having two wonderful children.

They plan to reside in Huntsville.

### EDWARD M. AND DEBRA F. BROWN

The Browns retired together at the ceremony. Edward, Fort Rucker Garrison Resource Management Office chief of Manpower Management and Agreements Division, served on active duty from 1974-76 and entered civil service immediately afterwards. He said the highlights of his career were conducting Army manpower staffing standard studies to improve efficiencies, and having the opportunity to mentor and coach others.

Debra, Fort Rucker Commissary supervisor store associate, entered civil service as a sales store checker. She said the highlights of her career were having the opportunity to provide direct, face-to-face assistance to Soldiers and family members on a daily basis, and witnessing the career growth and development of associates who served with her.

They have two children and five grandchildren. They plan to reside in Dothan.

### HARRIS WHITAKER

Whitaker, Fort Rucker Office of the Staff Judge Advocate legal specialist, served on active duty from 1982-2005, and entered civil service in 2006. He worked in the tax center through the 2008 tax season when he was hired as a legal specialist. Whitaker said his favorite hobbies are woodworking, specializing in furniture restoration; computers; jazz festivals; and, most importantly, spending time with his family. He and his wife, Rose, have three children and five grandchildren.

They plan to reside in Enterprise.

## 'THE ARMY GAVE ME A GREAT LIFE'



PHOTOS BY JIM HUGHES

Hundreds of retired servicemembers from the local area and beyond visited Fort Rucker Oct. 25 for the annual retiree health fair at Yano Hall.

## Fort Rucker gives back to those who devoted lives to serving country

By Jim Hughes

Fort Rucker Public Affairs

Fort Rucker gave a little back to those who spent a great part of their lives serving the country when it hosted its 45th annual retiree health fair Oct. 25 in Yano Hall.

The event featured dozens of government agencies and commercial vendors offering a variety of services and information to retired

military members and their families – a true one-stop shop for retirees, according to retired Col. Paul English, co-chair of the Fort Rucker Retiree Council.

“It’s good – everyone’s enthusiastic. I see a lot of smiles and people are hitting every table,” he said. “As you might expect with

this age group, we have a lot of health-related stops and they are keeping very busy.”

Lyster Army Health Clinic, one of the main forces behind making the annual event happen, had several tables set up to provide information to veterans, along with offering flu shots to those interested, which included

## HEALTH FAIR *cont.*

English.

“They weren’t certain until a few days ago that they would have them, but they worked hard to get them here,” he said. “They have very skilled administrators over there – I didn’t feel a thing.”

The Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation also turned out in force with information booths, food and beverages, a cornhole setup and door prizes.

“This really is a total team effort – it has to be to make it work,” English said, adding that Lyster, the garrison and the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence all combine their efforts to put on a first-class event that is greatly appreciated by retirees in the area.

One of those retirees who appreciates the annual event is Larry Banks, a retired Soldier who made a five-hour drive from Pinola,

Mississippi, to attend the event.

“This is a great event,” Banks said. “My wife and I try to come every year because we get a lot of good information that really helps us, and we enjoy meeting other veterans from around the world. I encourage all retired military people to come out every year – it will help you have a better life.”

Banks said he really appreciated organizers including so much information on health-related topics, but also found the veterans organizations booths, financial advising companies on hand and Veterans Affairs benefits advisers valuable, as well.

“It’s great to get the updates each year and find out the latest on what’s being done to help veterans, and also what we can do to help,” he added. “We have so many veterans, and many of them don’t have the informa-



**A retired servicemember checks out the services offered at the Army Wellness Center at the facility’s booth at the Fort Rucker Retiree Health Fair Oct. 25.**



**Retired servicemembers and family members prepare to get their annual flu shot at the health fair.**

tion they need – this is a place they can get so much of that.”

The retiree health council also hosted a luncheon at The Landing, as it does every year, and brought in the chief of Army retirement services to talk about the latest news and updates of interest to retirees, English said.

After the luncheon, retirees on hand were invited to attend the post’s quarterly retirement ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

“I enjoy being a part of this,” English added. “It’s unusual, being in the Army, but I’m starting to be somewhere long enough to be able to recognize people. After doing this about four or five years, I’m starting to recognize a lot of people and they’re recog-

nizing me. It’s kind of fun – like a hometown atmosphere.”

Along with that fun, the annual retiree health fair provides an invaluable service to the nation’s retired warriors, Banks said.

“The Army gave me a great life. Sure, there were times when I was in conflict and I was scared, but the Army is a great way of life. You can’t do anything greater than serving your country and ensuring that we have a country to serve,” he said. “The Army should really keep doing these types of event to help veterans know what their benefits are and help them to have a better life.”

For more information on retiree services at Fort Rucker, call 255-9124.

# IMCOM launches civilian career planning, development site

## Installation Management Command

### Press Release

Installation Management Command launched its new, user-friendly, easy-to-navigate Civilian Career Planning and Development SharePoint site Oct. 16.

Today's civilian workforce requires leader and employee development through education, training, and experience to achieve organizational goals and effective employee performance.

Although several workforce development resources exist to train and educate leaders and employees, they are oftentimes not well marketed, difficult to locate and time consuming to navigate.

Additionally, operating in a resource-constrained, high-OPTEMPO environment forces garrisons to use innovation to train and professionally develop their civilian workforce, while balancing competing priorities.

The Civilian Career Planning and Development SharePoint site is IMCOM's latest innovation that addresses these challenges, and bridges the gaps by centralizing available resources into one, well-marketed, easy-to-locate and navigate location.

The Civilian Career Planning and Development site was designed to promote career development as a long-term, on-going strategy to help improve and create a more agile workforce.

The site provides a centralized career planning and professional development platform, sustained by linkage to intuitive online tools and workforce development resources,

while offering leaders and employees 24/7 access to training and educational materials.

These resources are meant to empower employees to take ownership of their career development and aid employees in identifying professional goals, and implementing an action plan to manage and focus their career direction.

The Civilian Career Planning and Development site is divided into five major categories that can be further explored.

\* **Self-Assessment:** Your skills, interests, personality, and values shape your career. This feature will allow you to discover yourself and your best career fit.

\* **Research Career Paths:** Identify your Army Career Program and learn as much as you can about it.

\* **Setting Career Goals:** Create an Individual Development Plan with your professional communities to achieve your goals.

\* **Action Planning:** Explore funded learning and developmental opportunities to maintain and enhance skills to help you achieve career satisfaction.

\* **Evaluate Performance:** Track your progress and identify strengths and weaknesses in an IDP, a Performance Plan, and a Career Plan.

Amongst the many features of the site, quick links are displayed on each page, directly linking users to commonly used websites, and a myriad of other resources for supervisors and employees alike.

Users will also find integrated social me-

dia buttons for Facebook and LinkedIn, as well as milSuite and Army Career Tracker community pages to foster improved awareness and communications with each Army Career Program.

Garrisons have made huge strides in developing their own local programs and opportunities to support leader and workforce development.

Another awesome feature about the site is the user's ability to tap into local programs and events. Site users can use the garrison finder tool to link directly to each of the garrisons' workforce development pages, if available, to keep track of local happenings.

An enormous amount of time and energy was donated to make the site what it is, but it doesn't stop with the launch.

The Civilian Career Planning and Development SharePoint site will be closely monitored to ensure content remains up-to-date and relevant to all users but, we could use your help!

People are welcome to email their questions, suggestions, feedback or comments us-army.jbsa.imcom-hq.mbx.g1-workforce-development@mail.mil.

People are also free to contact Fort Rucker's Workforce Development specialist at 255-1039 for their developmental needs.

The site is available at [https://army.deps.mil/Army/cmds/imcom\\_HQ4/G1/CIVPER/C2P2/SitePages/Home.aspx](https://army.deps.mil/Army/cmds/imcom_HQ4/G1/CIVPER/C2P2/SitePages/Home.aspx).

## FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE

### FOR NOV. 8-23

#### Friday, Nov. 8

Terminator: Dark Fate (R) ..... 7 p.m.

#### Saturday, Nov. 9

The Addams Family (PG) ..... 2 p.m.

Joker (R) ..... 4 p.m.

Charlie's Angels (PG-13) -- (free admission -studio appreciation advance screening) ..... 7 p.m.

#### Sunday, Nov. 10

The Addams Family (PG) ..... 1 p.m.

Gemini Man (PG-13) ..... 4 p.m.

#### Thursday, Nov. 14

Joker (R) ..... 7 p.m.

#### Friday, Nov. 15

Gemini Man (PG-13) ..... 7 p.m.

#### Saturday, Nov. 16

Maleficent: Mistress of Evil (PG) ..... 2 p.m.

The Addams Family (PG) ..... 4:15 p.m.

Joker (R) ..... 7 p.m.

#### Sunday, Nov. 17

Maleficent: Mistress of Evil (PG) ..... 1 p.m.

Once Upon a Time in Hollywood (R) ..... 4 p.m.

#### Thursday, Nov. 21

Zombieland 2: Double Tap (R) ..... 7 p.m.

#### Friday, Nov. 22

Frozen 2 (PG) ..... 4 p.m.

Frozen 2 (PG) ..... 7 p.m.

#### Saturday, Nov. 23

Frozen 2 (PG) (Sensory) ..... 10 a.m.

Frozen 2 (PG) ..... 2 p.m.

Frozen 2 (PG) ..... 4 p.m.

Frozen 2 (PG) ..... 7 p.m.

TICKETS ARE \$6 FOR ADULTS AND \$5 FOR CHILDREN, 12 AND UNDER. MILITARY I.D. CARDHOLDERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE WELCOME. SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 255-2408.

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH



Fort Rucker held the closing ceremony for its National Domestic Violence Awareness Month observation Oct. 25 at the area around Sgt. Ted E. Bear. Soldiers, civilians and family members gathered around Bear to hear the family advocacy program staff and Chaplain (Maj.) Scott Kennis, family life chaplain, talk about the post's efforts to battle against domestic violence and how it is everyone's duty to fight it wherever they witness it. For more information on combatting domestic violence, call the family advocacy program staff at 255-3898. Fort Rucker's domestic violence hotline is available at 334-379-7947.

# Special Forces NCO receives Medal of Honor for heroics in Afghanistan

By **Devon L. Suits**  
*Army News Service*

WASHINGTON -- President Donald J. Trump presented the Medal of Honor to Master Sgt. Matthew Williams Wednesday, for his actions in Shok Valley that saved the lives of his fellow Soldiers and commandos.

Williams is the second member of his detachment to receive the Medal of Honor for the same operation. Former-Staff Sgt. Ronald Shurer II, the team's medic, was recognized for his lifesaving actions Oct. 1, 2018.

"The battle of Shok Valley is a testament to the overwhelming strength, lethal skill, and unstoppable might of the United States Army Special Forces and all of our military," Trump said.

Then-Sgt. Williams served as a weapons sergeant with Operational Detachment Alpha 3336, Special Operations Task Force 11, Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan, during the operation on April 6, 2008.

On that day, Williams joined other U.S. Soldiers and Afghan commandos as a member of the rear-assault element. Credible in-



ARMY GRAPHIC

telligence had led the team to the valley in Nuristan Province, Afghanistan, where they dropped in by helicopter and quickly moved toward their objective.

"When the first Americans reached the edge of the valley, at the base of a 100-foot mountain, a handful of Special Forces scouted ahead," Trump said. "The lead group was 60 feet up the slope when roughly 200 insurgents savagely attacked. It was a big surprise -- a very unwelcome surprise."

Calls from the first element started coming in -- they had sustained several casualties and were pinned down at a higher elevation. Shurer and Master Sgt. Scott Ford joined Williams as he organized his Afghan commando force and led a counterassault against the enemy, Trump said.

Eventually, the weapons sergeant and his team made their way to the base of the mountain with three wounded Soldiers. He and the Afghan commandos continued to



COURTESY OF MASTER SGT. MATTHEW WILLIAMS

**Then-Sgt. Matthew Williams with Staff Sgt. Ronald Shurer II assigned to 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne), sit outside a small village in Eastern Afghanistan in May 2008.**

## MOH *cont.*

provide a counterattack, as the enemy tried to overrun their casualty collection point.

As medical evacuation helicopters arrived, Williams risked his own life to help move the casualties. Through it all, he continued to direct commando fires, which enabled the safe evacuation of the wounded and dead.

"[Williams's] incredible heroism helped ensure that not a single American soldier died in the battle of Shok Valley," Trump said.

"His ground commander later wrote, 'I've never seen a troop so poised, focused, and capable during a fight in matters without question and reservation. [He is] one of the bravest soldiers and people I've ever met,'" Trump added.

During the White House ceremony, Matt was accompanied by his wife Kate, his father Michael, mother Janet, brother Cody and sister Amy.

"Each of you has strengthened our nation through your steadfast love and support, and we want to thank you," Trump said.

"They have a young son, Nolan, who will turn 3 next week," the president said. "In the years to come, Nolan will learn that his father stands among the ranks of our nation's greatest heroes."

Many of Williams' teammates were able to attend the White House ceremony, to include: Shurer, Luis Morales, Karl Wurzbach, Seth Howard, David Sanders, John Walding, Dillon Behr, and Ryan Wallen. Two Afghan translators that helped support the ODA's mission were also at the event.

"For more than a decade, Matt has stared down our enemies, fought back the forces of terror, and exemplified the virtue and gallantry of the American warrior," Trump said. "He has completed five tours in Afghanistan, a deployment in Africa, and he continues to serve our country on active duty today."

### BATTLE BROTHERS

The Medal of Honor is more than just one person, Williams said during a media event Tuesday. The medal represents a story of teamwork, trust and brotherhood, and how the team never chose to quit during the operation.

Williams joined ODA 3336 shortly after graduating from the Special Forces Qualification Course -- just weeks before the detachment's scheduled deployment, said retired Master Sgt. Scott Ford, who also attended the White House ceremony.

"He missed a huge part of our train up," said Ford, the detachment's former team sergeant. "Training for him started in combat. Being one of the youngest members within the detachment, I gave him as much responsibility as I would for my most senior members, early on. I recognized his potential and maturity as a leader."

Williams was "always trying to find work," Lt. Col. Kyle Walton recalled. Then-Capt. Walton served as the commander during the Shok Valley operation. He was also at the White House ceremony to show his support.

"When Matt completed one task, he showed right back up -- all of it under fire, and all of it under extreme physical stress with enemy activity around us," Walton said.

"We had approximately 70 close airstrikes, to include one right on top of our position," Walton said. "And through the clouds and the dust, Matt would reappear looking for more work. His actions demonstrated that 'refusal to quit.' Traits we look for in our Green Berets."

Through the near-seven-hour operation, Williams always found a way to move safely around the battlespace, Shurer said. His actions helped save the lives of four critically wounded Soldiers.

Ford was one of the Soldiers injured



SGT. KEISHA BROWN

**President Donald J. Trump presents the Medal of Honor to U.S. Army Master Sgt. Matthew O. Williams during a ceremony at the White House Oct. 30 for his actions in 2008 while serving in Afghanistan.**

during the operation. He was initially knocked to the ground after a sniper round made contact with his chest plate. Another sniper bullet penetrated through his left arm moments later.

"Everyone else was either hit ... or wounded by enemy fire," Walton said, explaining the severity of the situation.

With a tourniquet applied to his injured limb, Ford said he was determined to move down the mountain without assistance, but Williams was there to provide support.

"Matt was the one that came to me and said, 'Hey, you're going to need help getting down the mountain.' I didn't even realize how much my balance would be off," Ford said. "I just didn't want to take another gun out of the fight at that moment."

Through a barrage of fire, Williams grabbed Ford and assisted him down the mountain and handed him off to then-Staff

Sgt. Seth Howard for support.

"We trained hard to be ready for that day," Ford said. "We had to react to the situation as it developed. There was no option to give up. It took everybody stepping up at another level."

The joint force was responsible for taking out more than 200 insurgents during the battle. However, at the end of the day, "the enemy gets a say, and they chose to fight hard that day," Walton said.

"I think a lesson learned... is that our Soldiers will never quit, and they will never leave someone behind," Walton said.

"These awards ... demonstrate the kind of quality of guys that we have, and the values of the American Soldier," he added. "ODA 3336 is still out there right now, and they are doing missions on behalf of the nation. Missions everyone would be proud of if they knew what they were doing right now."

# FROM DFMWR



Visit Fort Rucker Army Community Service on Facebook for a calendar of our activities!

## FORT RUCKER BIG BUCK CONTEST

Outdoor recreation continues its Big Buck Contest through Feb. 10. Participants must be registered before harvesting their buck and the buck must be harvested on Fort Rucker to qualify. Fort Rucker requires that individuals ages 16 and older have an Alabama State Hunting License, a Fort Rucker Post Hunting Permit – available at [isportsman.net](http://isportsman.net) – and a Hunter Education Card. Entry fee is \$25 per person and open to the public.

For more information and to register, call 255-4305.

## INFANT MASSAGE CLASS

ACS is offering free infant massage classes Nov. 12, 19 and 26 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the new parent support office in Bldg. 8950. Beyond the joy of spending quality time bonding with a new baby, infant massage has been shown to provide many benefits to the baby, the parents, and to the rest of the family. Expectant parents are also welcome to attend. Recommended for children ages birth to pre-crawling. Registration is limited to 10 participants.

For more details or to register, call 255-3359 or 255-9805.

## OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Fort Rucker will host its open flag football 7vs7 tournament Nov. 9 at 8 a.m. at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center. Deadline to register a team at the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center is Nov. 1. Registration fee for the double-elimination tournament is \$225. The tournament is open to the public – ages 18 and older, non-high school, are eligible to participate. At least six teams must sign up to play for the tournament to be held. Rosters are limited to 15 players, including coach or

team manager.

For more information, call 255-2296.

## LITERARY LEAGUE

The Center Library's book club for adults is back with a new name and a new attitude – the Literary League. The club will meet the third Tuesday of every month from 5-6 p.m. for an evening devoted to the appreciation of literature. Enjoy good books, intelligent discussion and light refreshments. The club is for people ages 18 and up.

For more information, visit the Center Library or call 255-3885.

## VETERANS DAY GOLF CHALLENGE

Silver Wings Golf Course will host its Veterans Day Golf Challenge Nov. 11 with breakfast and the driving range open at 7 a.m. and a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Lunch and awards will immediately follow play. Cost is \$60 for non-members and \$50 for members. Fee includes 18 holes of golf, cart, driving range balls and lunch. Format is four-person team scramble. There will be a limit of 36 teams. Priority for team slots will be given to active-duty Soldiers. Deadline to enter is Nov. 8.

For more information, call 255-0089.

## NEWCOMERS' WELCOME

The next newcomers welcome is scheduled for Nov. 16 from 9-11:30 a.m. at The Landing. Active-duty military, spouses, foreign students, Army civilians and family members are all encouraged to attend this informative event. A free light breakfast and coffee will be served. For free childcare, register your children at the child development center by calling 255-3564. Reservations must be made 24 hours prior to the newcomers welcome.

For more information, call 255-3735.

## TIMELESS TURKEY 5K PREDICTION RUN

The Fort Rucker Timeless Turkey 5K is scheduled for Nov. 16 from 8-10 a.m. at the Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center. The Timeless Turkey Prediction Run is not about being the fastest runner, but rather about people accurately predicting their finish time. Those with the most accurate predictions will win a frozen turkey. The exact course route will be kept a secret until race day. Watches, cell phones or other time-keeping devices are not allowed and the finish clock will not be visible to runners.

Cost is \$20, which includes a T-shirt and participation medal. The first 200 registered runners are guaranteed a T-shirt and participation medal. Children 12 and younger can run non-competitively for free. Patrons can register and enter their predicted times at either PFC. Bibs will be available for pick up on race day.

For more information, call 255-2296.

## BABY SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS

The Fort Rucker New Parent Support Program and Parent to Parent are inviting all active-duty military, retired military, Department of Defense employees and their family members to a parent and child interactive baby sign language class scheduled for Nov. 21 from 10-11 a.m. in the Spiritual Life Center, Rms. 19 and 20. The free class teaches expectant parents and those with young children how to communicate with their children and avoid frustrations associated with language development. Pre-registration is required and the event is open to the first 15 registrants.

To register or get more information, call 255-

9647 or 255-3359.

## RIGHT ARM NIGHT

Leaders, bring your right-hand man or woman out for Fort Rucker Right Arm Night hosted by the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence Nov. 21 from 4-6 p.m. at The Landing. Fort Rucker Right Arm Night is an old Army tradition, promoting a night of camaraderie and esprit de corps as leaders come together and treat those standing to their right – the ones helping them get through daily missions. Complimentary appetizers will be served while supplies last. Fort Rucker Right Arm Night is held every month. Both military and civilians are invited to attend.

For more information, call 255-0768.

## THANKSGIVING TURKEY SHOOTOUT

Silver Wings Golf Course will host its Thanksgiving Turkey Shootout Nov. 23. The format will be a four-person team scramble with tee times from 7-9 a.m. This is a Stableford Tournament with a \$20 fee, plus cart fees and green fees if applicable. For individual stroke play, U.S. Golf Association handicap or Weekend Dogfight points will be used. Gift certificates and turkeys will be awarded as prizes. Individuals must register prior to tee off Nov. 23.

For more information, call 255-0089.

## EMPLOYMENT READINESS PROGRAM WORKSHOP

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the next scheduled employment readiness program workshop scheduled Nov. 26 from 9-11:30 a.m. at Bldg. 5700. Patrons will meet in Rm. 350 at 8:45 a.m. for paperwork prior to the session. You'll get the essentials about how to conduct a successful job cam-

paign, to include crafting a winning resume, prepping for job interviews and other helpful tips. Advance registration is required.

For more information and to reserve your seat, call 255-2594.

**THANKSGIVING FEAST**

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, have you found yourself wishing you could have a delicious Thanksgiving meal without all the work? You can. Relax while The Landing takes care of the cooking for you, so you can enjoy time with family and friends Nov. 28 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The

Landing. The Thanksgiving Feast will be buffet style, featuring delicious Thanksgiving favorites. Reservations are highly recommended. When making your reservation, include how many adults and children will be in your party.

For more information or to make a reservation, call 255-0769.

**BIGGEST BOWLING BARGAIN!**

People can get two games of bowling and shoe rental for \$2.22 during the Biggest Bowling Bargain Sale at Rucker Lanes Nov. 29 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. For more information, call 255-9503.

mation, call 255-9503.

**TURKEY BURN**

Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center will host its annual Turkey Burn Dec. 2. Door prizes will be awarded. Also, fruit and water will be available to all participants. These three-hour fitness marathons are designed to help you burn off those extra dinner calories. The marathon will include a variety of classes with a mixture of instructors. There is no cost for this event. Two sessions are available: 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 5-8 p.m. Classes will include: Spinning, Strong Bodies, TNT,

Bootcamps, AB Lab, HIIT and Yoga. The event is free to authorized patrons.

For more information, call 255-2296 or 255-1951.

**CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING**

The annual Fort Rucker Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled for Dec. 5 at 5 p.m. The event will feature music, hot chocolate, the lighting of the post Christmas tree and a special visitor from the North Pole. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 255-1749 or visit rucker.armymwr.com.



**DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT**  
 Friday, Nov. 15 at 5:00 pm  
 Fortenberry-Colton PFC

**\$45 per team**

- Team includes a minimum of 6 players. 10 team minimum.
- Free t-shirts sponsored by USAA to the first 8 teams that register.
- Double elimination tournament.
- Trophies awarded to the top 2 teams.
- Teams can register at MWR Central by Nov. 13. Tournament may be cancelled if not enough teams register.

**USAA**  
 Sponsorship does not imply Army or DoD endorsement.

Fort Rucker MWR  
 rucker.armymwr.com

**FORTENBERRY-COLTON PFC**  
 Bldg. 5900, Skychief (334) 255-3794



**TIMELESS TURKEY 5K PREDICTION RUN**

**NOVEMBER 16 | 8:00 AM**

**COST: \$20 (includes a t-shirt and participation medal)**

- The first 200 registered runners are guaranteed a t-shirt and participation medal.
- Children 12 & Under can run non competitively for FREE.

Make plans to be a part of Fort Rucker's Timeless Turkey 5K at the Fortenberry-Colton Physical Fitness Center on Saturday, November 16 beginning at 8:00 am.

The Timeless Turkey Prediction Run is not about being the fastest runner, but rather about the most accurately predicting your finish time. Those with the most accurate predictions will win a frozen turkey just in time for Thanksgiving. The exact course route will be kept a secret until race day. Watches, cell phones or other time-keeping devices are not allowed and the finish clock will not be visible to the runner.

**SPONSORED BY:**  
 Academy SPORTS OUTDOORS, MITCHELL AUTOMOTIVE

Patrons can register and enter your predicted times at either Fortenberry-Colton or PFC.

**PHYSICAL FITNESS CENTER**  
 Bldg. 4605, Andrews Ave. (334) 255-2296 / 1951  
 Bldg. 5900, Skychief St. (334) 255-3794

Fort Rucker MWR  
 rucker.armymwr.com



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# NEWS IN BRIEF

## VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Fort Rucker will host its Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 8 at 11 a.m. at Veterans Park. All are invited to attend and honor the nation's service members.

## ROWA MEETS

The Retired Officers' Wives Association will host a luncheon at The Landing in the Saint Michael's Dining Room in honor of the nation's veterans Nov. 12. The program will be "Legacy & Legends" with retired Col. James Muskopf as the guest speaker, featuring Honor Flights. To RSVP, call 334-347-4966. For more information about ROAW, send an email to esse4him@gmail.com.

## CORVIAS SCHOLARSHIPS

Corvias Foundation recently began accepting 2020 scholarship applications from mil-

itary spouses and children of active-duty service members. The application process for the military dependent student scholarship will close Feb. 14, while the military spouse scholarship application process will close May 8. Both scholarship programs offer financial support for eligible applicants pursuing higher education degrees. The military-dependent student recipients will each receive a four-year college scholarship of up to \$50,000. The military spouse scholarships will be awarded to 20 individuals who will each receive an award of \$5,000. These funds can be used for any need that will help the recipients complete their degree, such as tuition, childcare or gas for transportation. Individuals who are interested in applying can visit [corviasfoundation.org/apply-now/](http://corviasfoundation.org/apply-now/) to review eligibility criteria and access the application.

Fort Rucker Reel Time Theater in partnership with the Exceptional Family Member Program present

A **Sensory Friendly** showing of

# FROZEN 2

**Saturday, Nov. 23 10 a.m.**  
**Post Theater**

Theater lights will be dim but not dark, volume will be reduced and children are free to be free!

Open to military, retirees, DOD civilians and their guests  
Adults: \$8 • Children: \$7 • All guests are welcome!

Devices to help those with hearing impairment available upon request at no charge.



# ARMY FLIER

## COMMAND

**Maj. Gen. David J. Francis**  
Fort Rucker Commanding General

**Col. Whitney B. Gardner**  
Fort Rucker Garrison Commander

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The PAO staff reserves the right to edit submissions selected for publication. For more information about the "Army Flier," call (334) 255-1239.

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**Deadline for submissions is one week before publication.**