

ARMY FLYER

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U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS JIMMY MCGUIRE

UH-60 Black Hawks take off for training flights in the Texas desert. Wyoming Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk crews are conducting pre-mobilization training at Fort Bliss, Texas, before deploying to various parts of Afghanistan.

SENIOR LEADERS

USAACE forum highlights
Aviation readiness

PAGE 2

'WHAT WE DO'

Army vice chief spotlights
readiness, modernization

PAGE 4

RETIREES

16 Soldiers, 2 civilians retire
during quarterly ceremony

PAGE 5

SAVING LIVES

Post honors police officer for
actions at accident scene

PAGE 7

TEAMBUILDING

Firefighters join FRES students
in exercises

PAGE 8

'A GREAT VENUE'

USAACE forum highlights Aviation readiness

By Kelly P. Morris

USAACE Public Affairs

More than 150 current and legacy leaders across Army Aviation descended upon Fort Rucker to hear from senior leaders and tackle issues that affect the readiness of the Aviation Branch Jan. 29-31.

Each year, the Aviation Senior Leader Forum brings together Army Aviation brigade commanders, command chief warrant officers and command sergeants major across the Army's active duty, National Guard and Reserve components.

This year's theme was, "Army Aviation: Ready Today, More Lethal and Ready Tomorrow."

Event host Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, welcomed participants and provided an Aviation Branch update.

"This is a great venue for everybody across the branch in all components to get reconnected to what's going on not only in the Army, but with the branch," Gayler said. "If there is a question you have and you leave here this week without getting full knowledge of the answer to that question, that's on you. We've got everybody right here that can solve the problem. Take advantage of it."

Gayler said he would not be speaking about "things," or materiel, but rather about

"everything you can do to improve readiness. There's a lot going on in a lot of areas that will improve the readiness of our branch."

This includes the areas of leadership and innovation.

"You have to lead, and that requires confidence – and you have to change. You have to look for areas that you can improve and do better. And because no one likes to change, you have to lead change. That is what Training and Doctrine Command does," Gayler said.

Changes to Aviation doctrine include a draft of 3-04.1, Aviation Tactical Employment, the tactics, techniques and procedures for operations, which in the past centered on counterinsurgency and contained "no collective flavor," Gayler explained.

"We are revamping the entire manual to make sure it talks about fighting at the collective level in support of a maneuver force as a maneuver arm," Gayler said.

The center is also rebooting the gunnery manual, and Gayler called for feedback so improvements can continue to be made in the future.

With the Aviation Warfighting Initiative, the branch looks to reorient to the tactical.

"When you start looking at how we change culture in the branch to get away from being incredibly technically oriented and get back to tactically oriented warfighters, you have to change the Aircrew Training



PHOTO BY KELLY MORRIS

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, speaks to Army Aviation leaders about Aviation readiness during the Aviation Senior Leader Forum.

Manual," Gayler said.

This initiative is the "right step" toward achieving the priorities of reforming the institution, changing the Aviation Branch mentality, and a focus on training combat air crews rather than training pilots, according to Gayler.

Changes to flight school include reinforcing skills like map reading and dead reckoning so aviators do not rely on glass cockpit technology solely in a potentially GPS-denied environment of future operations.

Plans are also under way at Fort Rucker

to run a pilot test of virtual reality simulators with an artificial intelligence instructor pilot and cognitive measuring capability. The Aviation Training Next pilot, which was patterned off a U.S. Air Force pilot training program, looks to use commercial off-the-shelf virtual reality technology to improve training and gain efficiencies. The plan is for test groups to be compared to a control group during the first few weeks of flight school in the spring.

According to Gayler, protection and lethality also continue to be enduring priori-

FORUM *CONT.*

ties for the branch.

Gayler's remarks on the first day nested with an overarching focus on current and future operations. Sessions highlighted the Army's future fight, mission command and maneuver lethality in Multi-Domain Operations, including the roles of Fires and Cyber, as well an update from the Future Vertical Lift Cross Functional Team on the Army's No. 3 modernization priority.

Day 2 continued the focus on current and future operations, balancing commitments and readiness, multi-component training, Combat Training Center lessons learned and observations from the Directorate of Evaluation and Standardization/Aviation Resource Management Survey, as well as updates from Program Executive Office - Aviation and U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command.

Day 3 rounded out the forum with an emphasis on leader development, including risk management and institutional training and doctrine updates from the Directorate of Training and Doctrine here.

Guest speakers for the event represented the Army Aviation enterprise, as well as multiple commands and centers, including Headquarters, Department of the Army, Training and Doctrine Command, Forces Command, Army Futures Command, Army Materiel Command, the Combined Arms Center, Maneuver, Cyber, and Fires Centers of Excellence, First Army Division West, and Aviation and Missile Command, Army Combat Readiness Center, and Special Operations (Aviation) Command.

The Army's senior Aviator, Gen. James C. McConville, vice chief of staff of the Army, in his remarks emphasized Army priorities of readiness and modernization, as the service prepares to shift to great power competition and Multi-Domain Operations of the future.

For Soldiers who have focused on coun-

terinsurgency for most of their careers, "the battlefield is going to get bigger, it's going to become more dispersed," McConville explained.

"In the future, we anticipate we're going to be contested at every single place on the battlefield. We're going to have to change a generation of leaders who have grown up doing something different, who haven't massed fires, who haven't had to worry very much about an intensive air defense capability," McConville said.

For TRADOC, a major focus going forward is bringing Army accessions into the 21st century, according to Gen. Stephen J. Townsend, TRADOC commanding general.

"TRADOC builds the Army," Townsend said, as he referred to a series of presentation slides with photos depicting the recruiting process. "It's remarkable what our Army does to change these young citizens into young warriors."

Other focus areas for TRADOC include improving the quality, rigor and resourcing of Initial Entry Training, as well as Mission Command, Reform, and the Army Combat Fitness Test that looks to improve the readiness of Soldiers.

Lt. Gen. Michael D. Lundy, commanding general of the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, spoke about getting to the Multi-Domain Operations 2028 force and Field Manual 3-0, Operations.

"Really, our focus – if you boil it all down – it's changing our Army from an Army that is focused on counterinsurgency and stability operations to one that can compete and win in large scale combat against a great power," Lundy said.

Lundy also clarified the roles of the TRADOC Centers of Excellence in light of the standing up of Army Futures Command.

LT. GEN. ELLIS D. PARKER AWARDS

The U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence announces the winners of the 2018 Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Awards.

The annual awards include category awards for combat support, combat service support, table of distribution and allowances, and an overall top battalion of the year.

The recipient of the 2018 Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Award for Aviation Battalion of the Year (Combat Support) is **1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment, Joint Task Force-Bravo, Coronel Enrique Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras.**

The recipient of the 2018 Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Award for Aviation Battalion of the Year (Combat Service and Support) is **404th Aviation Support Battalion, 4th Combat Aviation Brigade, Storck Barracks, Germany.**

The recipient of the 2018 Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Award for Aviation Battalion of the Year (Table of Distribution and Allowances) is **Special Operations Aviation Training Battalion (Airborne), Fort Campbell, Kentucky.**

The recipient of the 2018 Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Award for Aviation Battalion of the Year (Combat) and Overall Aviation Battalion of the Year is **1-3 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion (Task Force Viper), 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, Katterbach, Germany.**



While some CFTs are colocated with the centers, others are not. The centers remain the force modernization proponent for the Army, as they own the entire continuum for their warfighting functions across the "DOT-MLPF-P" (Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and Education, Personnel, Facilities and Policies). They also remain the branch proponents that deliver the doctrine, training and leader development, according to Lundy.

The standing up of the new command served as a forcing function for cross talk

to ensure the future and fielded force are integrated and that all the conceptual work across TRADOC is on a pathway to the future force. This includes the Army's Future Vertical Lift priority, which requires that the FVL Cross Functional Team and USAACE are "connected at the hip," Lundy said.

"We didn't break what works," Lundy said. "I think we're in a better place than we've been in a long time with requirements development, requirements integration and really having a unified purpose."



'IT'S WHAT WE DO'

Army vice chief spotlights readiness, modernization

By Kelly P. Morris

USACE Public Affairs

"It's our job to be ready. It's what we do."

That's according to the Army's senior Aviator, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. James C. McConville, who explained the Army's topline remains constant as the service prepares for the future when he spoke at the Aviation Senior Leader Forum on post Jan. 29.

McConville emphasized key Army priorities of readiness, modernization and managing the Army's most important weapons system – its people – as he spoke to more than 150 current and legacy Army Aviation leaders gathered at the home of Army Aviation.

The forum, hosted by Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, provides an opportunity each year for Army Aviation brigade commanders, command chief warrant officers and command sergeants major to hear from senior leaders and tackle issues together to ensure a more ready Aviation force.

McConville highlighted the National Defense Strategy as an important read for every leader, because it will "drive everything we're doing" going forward, he said.

While many Aviators for most of their careers have focused on irregular warfare, counterinsurgency and counter terrorism since 9/11, the nation and the military are at an inflection point, he said.

"You have a generation of Soldiers, non-

commissioned officers and officers, who may not be familiar with where we're going," he said. "They've grown up thinking you can go anywhere on the battlefield and as long as you're above 1,500 feet you're uncontested

"In the future, we anticipate we're going to be contested at every single place on the battlefield. We're going to have to change a generation of leaders who have grown up doing something different, who haven't massed fires, who haven't had to worry very much about an intensive air defense capability," McConville said.

With a focus shifting to preparing for "great power competition" and Multi-Domain Operations in the future, "the battlefield is going to get bigger, it's going to become more dispersed, we're going to need

The modernization effort is huge, and it's going to fundamentally change the way we operate.

- Gen. James C. McConville
Vice Chief of Staff of the Army

a different type of Soldier to operate in that battle – a different type of training, a different type of capability," he said.

Going forward, the priority is building a more lethal force, strengthening traditional alliances and building new partnerships, and reforming business practices to ensure the Army remains ready, he said.

Readiness includes ensuring the deployability of Soldiers, and a new Army Combat Fitness Test to help produce a more physically fit force, he added.

"We want to inculcate a culture that if you're on this team we call the Army you need to be able to play at away games, and you've got to do that," McConville said.

The Army also looks to reduce requirements on brigade and below when it comes to tasks that are not related to readiness, and also improving the readiness of general officers, he added.

"We have senior leaders, and a lot of you (here), that have been in combat for 16 or 17 years and we want them to stay around 35 or 40 years. We've got to take care of them," McConville said.

This includes leaders and subordinates making time to take care of themselves and their families, he added.

"We're serious about it because this is a marathon, not a sprint. It's for all of you. There's time to take leave, there's time to get balanced. If you don't want to do it for you, do it for your staff," he said. "We want to make sure people are ready."

The Army's modernization priorities take aim at making Soldiers and units more lethal to win the Nation's wars, and then come home safely, McConville said.

"The modernization effort is huge, and it's going to fundamentally change the way we operate," he said.

Topping that list is Long Range Precision Fires at the tactical, operational and strategic levels, according to McConville.

He emphasized two major programs within the Future Vertical Lift modernization priority – the Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft and a Future Long Range Assault Aircraft, as the Army leaps ahead and looks to increase reach, protection and lethality, and improve agility on the objective.

While technology is changing, Aviation



PHOTO BY KELLY MORRIS

McConville

will always exist to support troops on the ground, McConville said.

Each of the Army's modernization priorities, which also includes the Next Generation Combat Vehicle, Army Network, Air and Missile Defense, and Soldier Lethality, will be funded, according to the general. And each has a dedicated cross-functional team to bring together operators, acquisition, and science and technology all on one team to break away from industrial age processes and reduce the timeline it takes to go from developing a requirement to actually getting the technology in the user's hands.

Another important focus for the Army is improving procedures to identify, manage and retain talent across the force in the future, including Aviation warrant officers, according to McConville.

16 SOLDIERS, 2 CIVILIANS RETIRE AT QUARTERLY CEREMONY

By Jim Hughes

Fort Rucker Public Affairs

With a combined 451 years of service to the nation, 16 Soldiers and two civilian employees retired Jan. 18 at the Fort Rucker Quarterly Retirement Ceremony at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

A short write-up on each retiree follows.

COL. SCOTT R. SHERRETZ

Sherretz, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker garrison command chaplain, entered military service in 1986 as a Transportation Corps officer in the Army Reserve. He later transferred into the Chaplain Corps and then entered active duty in 1998. He served combat tours in support of Task Force Falcon Multinational Force East Kosovo in Macedonia and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He said the highlights of his career were the times he spent performing religious support and ministry in Army chapel facilities with his adoring wife and amazing sons. He and his wife, Christine, have three sons. They plan to reside at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

MAJ. THEO BRITT

Britt, brigade S6 for the 164th Theater Airfield Operations Group, enlisted in the Army in 1993, and in 2005 received her commission through Officer Candidate School. She supported operations in Afghanistan as the officer in charge of the direct signal support team for the 580th Signal Company. She said the highlight of her career was serving as a company commander. She and her husband,

Matthew, have three children and one granddaughter.

CW4 WOLFE R. FITE

Fite, Headquarters and Headquarters Company 110th Aviation Brigade AH-64D/E standardization officer, entered military service in 1990 as an aircraft electrician. He was selected for Army Warrant Officer Flight Training in 1999. He served combat tours in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. He said the highlight of his career was serving as the 110th Avn. Bde. AH-64 standardization pilot and advising the brigade commander. He and his wife, Catherine, have four children. They plan to reside in Enterprise.

CW4 GEORGE ALDRIDGE III

Aldridge, USAACE Directorate of Training and Doctrine training developer and doctrine writer, entered military service in 1990 as a Black Hawk mechanic and crew chief. In 1998 he was selected for Army Warrant Officer Flight Training. He served combat tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and Operation Restore Hope in Somalia. He said the highlight of his career was meeting marrying the most beautiful and understanding woman in the world, Stacey. They have four children and plan to reside in Huntsville.

CW 4 DANIEL FOX

Fox, chief of the Resistance Phase at the U.S.



PHOTOS BY JIM HUGHES

This quarter's retirees honored at the retirement ceremony Jan. 18. Back row: CW4 Wolfe R. Fite, CW4 Blain Fuller, Maj. Theo Britt, CW4 Lucas Whittington, Staff Sgt. Leroy Whatley and Chaplain (Col.) Scott R. Sherretz. Front row: Tony Lascano, Vicki Flowers and CW4 Victor J. Negron.



Back row: Command Sgt. Maj. Troy S. Hubbs, CW4 Daniel Fox, CW4 John I. Williams Jr., CW3 Tyrell White and CW4 George Aldridge III. Front row: Sgt. 1st Class Araceli Hurtado, CW3 Rebecca Pinckney, CW3 Travis Ogburn and CW3 David Bremer.

Army Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape School at Fort Rucker, entered military service in 1993 as an infantry Soldier. He was selected for Warrant Officer Flight Training in 2001. He served combat tours in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. He said the highlight of his career was being personally selected as the pilot to the U.S. Forces Korea commanding general.

He and his wife, Jodi, have three children. They plan to travel the United States and eventually reside in Montana.

CW4 LUCAS WHITTINGTON

Whittington, 1-501st Aerial Reconnaissance Battalion, Fort Bliss, Texas, quality control officer, entered military service in 1998 as an infantryman. In 2002 he was selected for

CEREMONY CONT.

Army Warrant Officer Flight Training. He served combat tours in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. He said the highlight of his career was being a maintenance test pilot and scout pilot with the 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry on three consecutive deployments. He and his wife, Samantha, have three children. They plan to reside in Dothan.

CW4 VICTOR J. NEGRON

Negron, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York, senior logistics and property adviser, entered military service in 1999 as a unit supply specialist. He was selected for Army Warrant Officer Training in 2004. He served on multiple combat tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He said the highlight of his career was being a senior instructor in support of the Warrant Officer Career College at Fort Rucker. He and his wife, Franziska, have two children. They plan to reside in Navarre, Florida.

CW4 BLAIN FULLER

Fuller, standardization pilot with the USAACE Directorate of Evaluation and Standardization, entered military service in 1999 as a rotary wing Aviator. He served combat tours in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, Freedom's Sentinel and Resolute Support. He said the highlight of his career was being able to train, serve alongside and lead so many of America's best officers, warrant officers and Soldiers. He and his wife, Pam, have two children. They plan to reside in Clarksville, Tennessee.

CW4 JOHN I. WILLIAMS JR.

Williams, 1st Battalion, 212th Aviation Regiment safety officer, entered military service in 1997 as a Huey mechanic and crew chief. In 1999, he was selected for Warrant Officer

Flight Training. He served multiple combat tours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He said the highlight of his career was being task force standardization pilot in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with the 1st Infantry Division. He and his wife, Amanda, have three children. They plan to reside in Enterprise.

CW3 REBECCA PINCKNEY

Pinckney, 164th TAOG air traffic control standardization officer, entered military service in 1997 as an air traffic controller. In 2007 she was selected for Warrant Officer School as an air traffic and airspace management technician. She served combat tours in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. She said the highlight of her career was being the air traffic and airspace management technician course chief at Fort Rucker. She and her husband, Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin Pinckney, have two children. Upon retirement, she said she plans to ride until the road ends.

CW3 DAVID BREMER

Bremer, A Co., 1-14th Avn. Regt. instructor pilot and instrument examiner, entered military service in 1996 as an Apache mechanic. He was selected for Warrant Officer Flight Training in 2004. He served combat tours in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and Inherent Resolve. He said the highlight of his career was being one of only two standardization pilots and instrument examiners in the battalion during his time as company standardization pilot at Fort Bliss, Texas, and during three deployments. He and his wife, Sonia, have three children. They plan to reside in Enterprise.

CW3 TRAVIS OGBURN

Ogburn, USAACE G3 command pilot, entered military service in 1999 as an M1 tank armor crew member. He was selected for

Warrant Officer Flight Training in 2007. He served combat tours in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. He said the highlight of his career was being an instructor pilot in multiple different aircraft. He and his wife, Tammy, have four children. They plan to reside in Enterprise.

CW3 TYRELL WHITE

White, E Co., 1-212th Avn. Regt. UH-60 instructor pilot, entered military service in 1998 as a microwave communications system operator and maintainer. He was selected for Warrant Officer Flight Training in 2007. He served combat tours in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Freedom's Sentinel and Resolute Support. He said the highlight of his career was being the standardization pilot for A Co., 2-1st GSAB in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Resolute Support. He and his wife, Selin, have two children. They plan to reside in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

COMMAND SGT. MAJ. TROY S. HUBBS

Hubbs, 164th TAOG, entered military service in 1989 as a single-channel radio operator and later re-enlisted as an air traffic controller. He served combat tours in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Restore Hope in Somalia, Uphold Democracy in Haiti and Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He said the highlight of his career was staying married for more than 30 years to his wife, Jamie. They plan to reside in Brundidge.

SGT. 1ST CLASS ARACELI HURTADO

Hurtado, 110th Avn. Bde. S3 NCO in charge, entered military service in 1995 as an Aviation operations specialist. She served combat tours in support of Operations Joint Endeavor, Iraqi Freedom and Inherent Resolve. She said the highlight of her career was having the support and encouragement of her fam-

ily, especially when times were the toughest. She plans to reside in Enterprise.

STAFF SGT. LEROY WHATLEY

Whatley, U.S. Army Cyber Center of Excellence at Fort Gordon, Georgia, entered military service in 1997 as an automated logistical specialist and later re-enlisted as an electromagnetic spectrum manager. He served multiple combat tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He said the highlights of his career were marrying his beautiful wife, Deneque, and receiving his bachelor's degree in information technology. They plan to reside in Tampa, Florida.

TONY LASCANO

Lascano, training product manager for the Collective Training Branch, served on active duty from 1976 to 2000, and began his civil service career as an instructor and writer for the maintenance manager course with the 1-145th Avn. Regt. He said the highlight of his career was leading a group of dedicated professionals who provided the initial doctrine, tactics and gunnery training for the MQ-1C Gray Eagle unmanned aircraft system's quick reaction capability elements and the first five Gray Eagle companies fielded by the Army. He and his wife, Alice, have three children and six grandchildren. They plan to reside in Enterprise.

VICKI FLOWERS

Flowers, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security training support officer, said the highlight of her 31-year career was getting the privilege to serve Soldiers and working with many wonderful people throughout the years. Flowers and her husband, Wade, have two children, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. They plan to reside in Ozark.



SAVING LIVES POST HONORS POLICE OFFICER FOR ACTIONS AT VEHICLE ACCIDENT SCENE

By Jim Hughes

Fort Rucker Public Affairs

A Fort Rucker Department of the Army civilian police officer received the Superior Civilian Service Award Jan. 22 for his life-saving efforts on the scene of a vehicle accident on Alabama State Route 27 within post jurisdiction in July.

Cpl. Justin L. Bowley, Directorate of Public Service civilian police officer, received the award from Col. Brian E. Walsh, Fort Rucker garrison commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Jasper C. Johnson, garrison command sergeant major, in front of his peers and supervisors at the Directorate of Public Safety Jan. 22.

Also attending the award ceremony were Ashlynn Helms, the victim in the crash who is “pretty much fully recovered,” she said, and her grandfather, retired Command Sgt. Maj. Hartwell Wilson.

The ceremony took an emotional turn when Wilson said a few words about Bowley’s efforts on July 2, fully crediting the police officer with saving his granddaughter’s life.

“When you’re in combat, they’re your friends and your comrades and it hurts. But when it’s a family member, let me tell you ... it’s to your heart and your core,” he said. “And had you not done what you did, my granddaughter would not be here. So, I would be proud to have you on a team in combat, or anywhere, and I would recommend you at any time. Thank you.”

And while it was Bowley who arrived on the scene first, immediately rendering first aid and then making the decision to medically evacuate Helms via helicopter rather



PHOTO BY JIM HUGHES

Command Sgt. Maj. Jasper C. Johnson, Fort Rucker garrison command sergeant major, and Col. Brian E. Walsh, garrison commander, present Cpl. Justin L. Bowley, Department of the Army civilian police officer with the Directorate of Public Safety, with the Superior Service Award Jan. 22 for his life-saving efforts at the scene of a vehicle accident within post jurisdiction in July.

than by ambulance, the police officer credited the rest of his team with ensuring everything went just the way it needed to go to save Helms’ life.

“The award is absolutely great, but just seeing her back there in good health is even better,” he said during the ceremony where he also learned he earned the 2018 DPS Police Officer of the Year Award. “(There were) a ton of people and things that went into play for everything to work smoothly. From dispatchers to MEDEVAC crew to trauma surgeons and everything, to other MPs opening Faulkner Gate for emergency vehicles to get through ... so, all kinds of people and all kinds of things happened for this to work out smoothly.”

It was also revealed during the ceremony that Bowley possesses a particular set of skills that make him an ideal person to have

on the scene where there are people in need of advanced medical attention – on top of being the police officer of the year, he is also an emergency medical technician and former firefighter.

“Corporal Bowley was the right person at the right place at the right time,” said Fort Rucker Chief of Police Marcel Dumais. “We’re lucky to have him – the first person on the scene can kind of do a medical evaluation. It’s nothing but a great thing for us. And not just in his medical capacity – he’s a great police officer. Every day he comes to work, he’s motivated – he loves being out in the streets.”

And Helms, who said she’s much better now after months of recovery, said that having Bowley and the rest of the Fort Rucker emergency response team on the job makes her feel like she’s in good hands when on

post.

“I think it’s awesome that he did that. I really might not be here if he hadn’t done what he did. He really deserves the award,” she said. “They all do a good job – I feel safe when I’m on Fort Rucker.”

That sentiment is music to the ears of Bowley.

“It’s part of what we do every day,” he said. “It’s so rewarding to see her come in here – we don’t normally get to see the aftereffects of (what we do). I heard from a third party that she was in rehab and that she was good, which completely blew me away because it was a pretty bad day. I didn’t think it looked good at all.”

While playing a major role in saving one life would be a highlight for pretty much anyone, Bowley did so three times in 2018.

“One guy had a stroke at the gas station mini mall, and I recognized the symptoms and got him care,” he said. “And the other one was a guy who had a heart attack while running on the air assault track. I did CPR on him, established an airway and AED (automated external defibrillator) and got a pulse back. He’s OK now – back in the military again doing his thing.”

But he said it’s not just him, it’s the team at Fort Rucker.

“This is the greatest department ever – honestly,” Bowley said. “The people that work here ... just perfect. We all mesh well, everything just runs really smoothly – I love it here. Between the firefighters and EMS (emergency medical services) personnel, the police officers, law enforcement, MEDEVAC – we’re one big family and really cohesive with what we do.”

Firefighters join elementary school students in teambuilding exercises

By Jim Hughes

Fort Rucker Public Affairs

From kicking a giant red ball while crab walking to seeking differently colored bean bags hidden under flying discs to showing off their dance moves, it was hard to tell who was having more fun – the more than 70 Fort Rucker Elementary School students in physical education class or the four Fort Rucker firefighters on hand to help the youth with their teambuilding skills.

Not that it matters, since school staff, firefighters and students all agree this latest push into increasing the fire department's community outreach received an A+, according to Fort Rucker Elementary School physical education teacher Jim Fenn.

"Today ... it was just great. It was great for the kids to see them here and playing with them -- not just watching, but actively getting out there with them," said the 24-year veteran

of the post's primary and elementary schools. "It makes the students feel like the school's important. If firemen are coming here to join and play and spend time with them, it makes the kids feel important. I think they appreciate it, and I know I appreciate it."

And the students, of course, are important, said Department of the Army civilian firefighter Lt. Scott Reid, who heads up the fire department's outreach efforts.

"We wouldn't be here if it weren't for all of the great Soldiers and families that we have here," he said. "We figured they support us all the time, so we thought we could give back a little more to support the Soldiers the way they support the fire department."

Reid and other fire department officials worked with Dr. Vicki Gilmer, Fort Rucker Elementary School and Primary School prin-

cipal, to devise a plan to increase the department's presence at the school in a way that would help all involved. Reid said the plan is for at least monthly visits with the various grades at the school.

While it's nothing new for firefighters to be at the school, this is the first time anyone involved could recall department members being there to take part in activities and help teach teambuilding, and not there to instruct on fire prevention.

"This visit was more fun – definitely different and more laid back. I think the firefighters had more fun than the kids did," Reid said of his fellow firefighters, Travis Godwin, Sam Wilks and Joe Winter. "It's fun for all of us – we can get out in the community and help the kids at the same time. We're teaching them the teambuilding exercises and how to work as a team, rather than just giving them instructions on what to do if something bad happens with a fire or anything like that."

And that's exactly what Reid's boss, Assistant Fire Chief Shayne Brown, said he is looking for.

"Ultimately, we're trying to make a difference in the community," Brown said. "If we can reach one person when we go out, we feel like we have done something good, done something positive. If we can make one kid or adult smile, and open up to us and tell us what is going on with them, we feel like we've done our job. And kids teach us, as well. You can never be too young or too old to learn something."

Brown and Reid said the department has other plans to increase its community outreach, including working with Corvias, the post's housing contractor, for various events and activities.

"We want the community to know we're here for them," Brown said. "We support those who defend us. That saying has been around for a long time, but it's near and dear to our hearts. We want to provide the best



Sam Wilks, Fort Rucker firefighter, points out where he believes a beanbag of the color needed to help his team win is located to a Fort Rucker Elementary School student at the school Jan. 28.



Lt. Scott Reid, Fort Rucker firefighter, plays group soccer with Fort Rucker Elementary School students Jan. 28 at the school.

PHOTOS BY JIM HUGHES

service that we can and to let them know that any time they need us, we will be there for them to call upon."

And that sounds like a solid game plan to Fenn.

"I know these guys -- you see them at the gym, you see them all over the post," he said. "They're not just at the fire department, they're everywhere. And I think that's what a community needs, and Fort Rucker is a great community. They are welcome back any time."

Reid added that the Fort Rucker Fire Department's Station 1 offers tours to people. He said to just call 255-2217 and ask for someone from fire prevention, give them the date and time they want to visit, and they will work to get it approved, adding that the tours are for all ages. "From 6-60 – it doesn't matter to us!"

Special ops general shares wisdom with Aviation students as they embark on an **‘INCREDIBLE JOURNEY’**

By Jim Hughes
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

The commanding general of the U.S. Army Special Operations Aviation Command stopped by The Landing Jan. 31 to share with flight school students receiving their aircraft assignments some of the wisdom he's gleaned from a distinguished career in Army Aviation, adding that he envies the journey they are embarking on.

"For all the individuals who just got their aircraft selection – congratulations! You're about to start an incredible journey," said Brig. Gen. Allan M. Pepin immediately after the 1st Battalion, 145th Aviation Regiment Student Aircraft Selection and during the Army Aviation Association of America meeting that followed. "It's an incredible part of the Army you're joining right now in a complex world. It seems like yesterday we (more senior Aviators at the meeting) were here, and I'd change places with you in a heartbeat and start this great journey again."

Pepin's talk focused on 10 points. "I didn't prioritize them, they're just 10 random things that go through my mind and continue to go through my mind any time I engage an audience," he said.

1 - PRE-SERVE

"We all have the obligation to preserve the legacy of those who served before us," the general said. "It is not just a word, it's a responsibility. Preserving the legacy is also about you not

assuming that prior generations didn't have it as hard as you. Because we continue to have really the same challenges they did. Some of the things they fought for – night vision goggles, terrain-following radar systems, precision fire, all of those things exist because the people who fought before us said, 'We're doing great, but we have a gap.'

"And you'll be the next generation that will go out and do things and say, 'Hey, we're doing great, but we have a gap.' And the things in the Aviation enterprise that connect it is those fighting to have research and development, those fighting for resourcing is a huge thing. So, preserve the legacy because the last thing we can do is to lose the trust in Aviation to do this mission."

2 - TEAM

"This is a team sport, with the uniqueness that in this sport people die," Pepin said. "If you, as a new Aviator or a more senior level leader, think you're going to be able to do this alone, you will fail miserably. It will take in Aviation the crew chiefs who maintain the aircraft; the people doing the staff work to get things done, and get you the information and products and providing the operational orders and synchronizing on the battlefield; it's going to be crew members – this is the team of teams. And the second you think you can do this alone, then you will be alone, and maybe not afraid, but you will definitely be alone and stupid, and you won't get very far."

3 - THE GROUND FORCE

"We exist to support the

ground force," he added. "We exist so we can ensure the ground force has the capability that makes them more lethal – giving them greater maneuver and mobility on the battlefield."

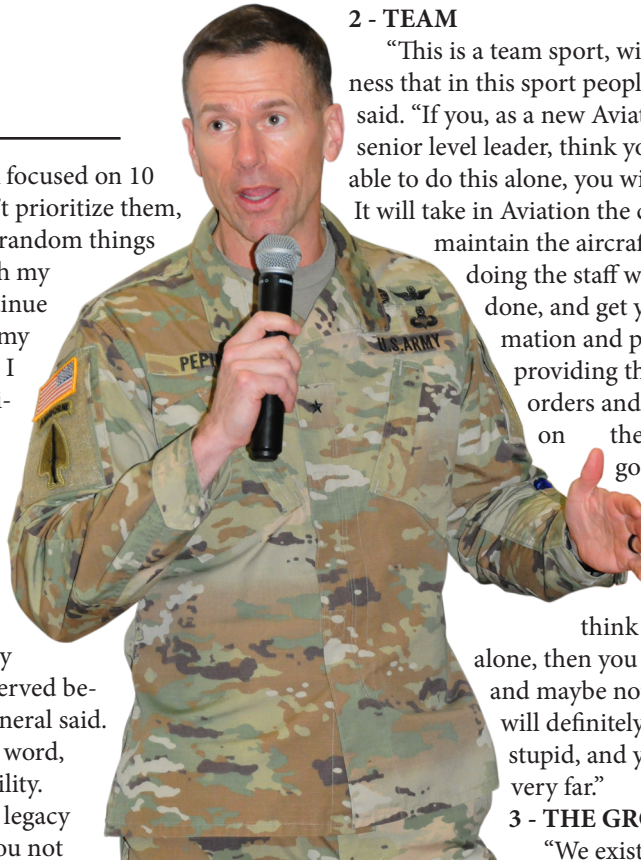
"And we can never lose the trust of the ground force. We have fought valiantly in 17-plus years of war to ensure the ground force has that trust, so that when they get on the radio for MEDVAC, when they make contact with the enemy and they need fire because they are in a difficult situation, when they get on the radio they have the trust that we are going to show up and provide lethal fires, timely fires and more importantly accurate fires," he added. "But just because we've done it well for so long, it can still be broken pretty fast."

"You're the new generation that's going to build that trust that's going to make the next generation of ground force commanders say, 'We can't do the mission without them,' and you're going to build your own legacy," Pepin said. "But we can never break the trust of the ground force because without them, if they're not asking for us, we do not exist. This is not a flying club."

4 - STANDARDS

"There's probably no branch in the Army that is better focused on standards than the Aviation branch, and we have to," he said. "Standards aren't just about your standards on personal conduct, it's on how we do maintenance, it's based on how we do planning, and the reason why we have doctrine and standards is so we all have a start point, a known reference on where we're going to start from, and then if we're going deviate from a doctrine or standard, we do it for the right reasons."

"What we see in Aviation is when we have bad things happen, often it is because somewhere along the line we deviated from a standard," Pepin added. "It may not just



JOURNEY CONT.

be one standard. It may have been multiple small standards being modified for no good reason, and the cumulative effect of that has reduced our ability and safety.

"It goes back to the trust in the ground force, where we're a disciplined force that relies on standards and reinforces them, and holds ourselves to the highest standards to execute the mission," he said. "That's when we're better."

5 - SOLUTIONS

"The reason I put solutions up there is we all deal with problems – we have to figure out solutions and options at every level," Pepin said. "For new aviators and leaders – you're going to identify problems, and make sure you have a solution. You often have a better solution from the ground up (rather than relying on higher level officials who) don't have the perspective of context to be able to solve that problem."

"We do need to ID problems, but without (proposing) the solution, we're just passing the problem off to someone else who doesn't feel it, is not going to be emotionally connected to it, and probably won't even have the desire to fix it if you're not part of the solution," he added.

6 - ATTITUDE

"I think attitude is a combat multiplier," he said. "There used to be an old saying that false motivation is better than no motivation. The one thing we can do as the human in the loop is actually being motivated – our attitude towards whatever the problem is."

"It starts every time we wake up in the morning," Pepin said. "Like I told the Captains Career Course (students) and a few other folks today, if the first thing you do when you wake up is not either self-studying or physical training to make yourself better,

then you're part of the problem."

"Again, one thing I also told some of the junior leaders is that part of that attitude is the place you're in, the unit you're in, the job you're in is the best location and the best job you've ever had because you have to have that attitude," he said.

7 - READINESS

"Readiness is just a word – we have to actually make it a verb and then get after it," he said. "It's much harder than the word itself, it takes a lot of time and effort, and (Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general) and the enterprise are fighting to make sure you have the resources to ensure you (have what you need for) readiness. Readiness is not about just being Aviation ready and having green markers on charts – readiness actually ties to the ground force's ability to execute the mission. Again, that is what we are designed for and that's what we are committed to."

8 - LEAD OR FOLLOW

"Even leaders have to follow," he said. "Sometimes we get guidance from the tower, and part of that attitude is you've got to embrace that guidance unless it is immoral or unethical."

"Early on in my time as a Night Stalker, many of these things were inculcated into the formation. As a young captain, you kind of knew the standards, you knew about the attitude and you knew about readiness, it was inculcated by another generation of leaders who passed it down," Pepin added. "When you're not in a leadership position, it is just as important to be a good follower to ensure that leader can actually execute the mission."

9 - COMMITMENT

"You've got to be committed to the leader's mission, and again, this branch has done an incredible job," he said. "General Gayler, thank you for your personal leadership in driving change in the branch, and this six-pack enterprise, to motivate and change processes, and how we think about these complex problems, and the commitment to preserving the legacy of this Aviation branch, and bringing it further into the future and being ready for the future."

10 - HONOR

"Every one of us has lost teammates in this long war," Pepin said. "And again, for our veterans from the prior wars who have lost teammates in previous conflicts. We continue to serve today, and we continue

to improve ourselves and our formations because the honor of serving with America's finest sons and daughters, working and serving along with our coalition partners – no day goes by that we don't realize what an incredible honor that was."

"And that's why we continue to serve," he said. "And we have many people who are now serving in a different capacity, as civilians or just helping and being a part of our society to inform on what this military does and what this Aviation Branch does. Thank you. It's been my personal honor to continue to have this opportunity to serve amongst you and ultimately to ensure that those who made the ultimate sacrifice – we carry their honor – and their Gold Star Families realize it was not for a lost cause."

SPEEDING ON POST? IT CAN COST YOU.

Soldiers and civilians alike face steep fines if caught speeding on post. If found guilty of speeding, drivers face a **\$35** court fee and additional fines, including:

11-15 MPH OVER: \$125

16-20 MPH OVER: \$150

21-25 MPH OVER: \$175

Traffic points are also assessed for each offense, and a person's driving privileges could be suspended if enough points are accumulated during a 12-month period.

SLOW DOWN. STAY SAFE.



Officials strive to protect MWR programs amid funding reductions

Fort Rucker Public Affairs

Staff Report

Leaders at Fort Rucker remain committed to preserving quality of life on the installation despite the impact of the Army's ever-tightening budget on Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs across the service.

With readiness remaining the Army's top priority, the Army and its Installation Management Command are looking for ways to respond to declining resources while maintaining a high level of service and readiness, said Wayne Bardell, director of Fort Rucker Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

"MWR has a direct impact on the readiness and resilience of service members and their families, and are a decision point for many to remain serving strong," he said. "On a daily basis, we provide a safe, controlled environment for many to reduce stress, and develop themselves both physically and emotionally."

Since 1989, Congress has appropriated funds to cover MWR programs with a direct link to readiness: fitness centers, community centers and library programs, Bardell said.

Army facilities such as outdoor recreation, auto skills centers, travel offices, arts and crafts centers, and child and youth programs are less impactful on readiness and receive a lower level of appropriated fund support – they must typically cover the majority of their costs with user fees, he added.

Meanwhile, "nice to have" programs, such as bowling centers, golf courses and clubs, must be self-supporting with user fees covering all costs, Bardell added.

But things may change for the less impactful on readiness programs if current

budget projections hold true, Bardell said.

"Non-CYS MWR programs with less impact to readiness – identified as outdoor recreation, auto skills centers, arts and crafts, travel offices, special events, recreation areas and entertainment – have the capability to generate revenue, and beginning next fiscal year must sustain themselves without appropriated fund support," Bardell said. "And this could lead to the closure or severe scaling back of any of those activities or programs that cannot generate sufficient revenues to support their labor and operating expenses."

The bottom line, he added, is if people find any of these programs of value, they need to support them.

"It's boiling down to a use-it-or-lose-it situation," he said. "If you value the service, be sure to use it. And rest assured we will be

doing everything we can to maximize efficiencies, minimize costs and offer the best product we can."

The Army's possible budgetary reductions in MWR may also impact other programs directly linked to readiness, such as Army Community Service, he said.

"ACS provides prevention- and education-type programs, such as family advocacy, relocation, financial readiness, exceptional family member and employment readiness, as well as managing the installation volunteer program," Bardell said. "The Army is monitoring these programs' contribution to Army readiness."

The Army is also looking at possibly transitioning to alternate forms of service delivery, including leveraging on-line capabilities, and also looking to broaden employee skill-

sets to cover multiple areas instead of favoring specialists, he added.

Over the next couple of months, Fort Rucker leaders will closely scrutinize all local MWR programs to determine which are affordable and popular, according to the director.

"We have systems in place in our MWR facilities that track customer participation, we have past financial performance data, we will consider each program's ability to generate revenue, we will look at what is available outside the gate, and we will consider what our Army and Air Force Exchange Service partners can provide to avoid duplication of services," Bardell said. "Those that can be self-sufficient through the generating of revenue and are well used by our community will earn a higher priority."

Local initiatives to bring outside patrons to the golf course, bowling center and the Landing Zone have increased the profitability of those programs, and for the first time in several years the Silver Wings Golf Course is operating at a profit, according to Bardell.

New partnerships will also be explored by MWR leaders to help to keep services going despite budget cuts, and a collaboration with on-post housing contractor Corvias will be addressed to possibly provide community residents with incentives at various MWR facilities to increase participation, he added.

"We are trying to be creative in what activities we offer, focus on customer service and generate the income needed to offset the potential loss of appropriated funds," Bardell said. "We believe MWR makes for an overall healthy living lifestyle, and supports those military members and families who are committed to serving our nation."





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IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!

We all play a role in keeping our communities safe. Don't be afraid to say something if you see something that doesn't seem right. Stay vigilant and say something when you see signs of suspicious activity.



TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY, CALL 255-2222 OR 9-1-1

Breakfast served ALL DAY

Saturday, Sunday and Holidays



DIVOTS

RESTAURANT & GRILLE

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE

FOR FEBRUARY 8-24

Friday, Feb. 8	
Bumblebee (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 9	
Mary Poppins Returns (PG)	4 p.m.
Bumblebee (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 10	
Spider-Man: Into the Spider-verse (PG)	1 p.m.
Welcome to Marwen (PG-13)	4 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 14	
Holmes & Watson (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 15	
Escape Room (R)	7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 16	
Bumblebee (PG-13)	4 p.m.
Escape Room (R)	7 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 17	
Spider-Man: Into the Spider-verse (PG)	1 p.m.
Aquaman (PG-13)	4 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 21	
Escape Room (R)	7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 22	
The Upside (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 23	
A Dog's Way Home (PG)	4 p.m.
The Upside (PG-13)	7 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 24	
A Dog's Way Home (PG)	1 p.m.
The Upside (PG-13)	4 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.

FROM DFMWR



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

YOUTH SPORTS REGISTRATION

The child and youth services youth sports and fitness program continues its registration for youth baseball, softball and T-ball through Feb. 15 at parent central services, located in the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 5700, Rm. 193, or online using Webtrac. A current sports physical and a valid CYs registration are required for participation. Additional children will receive a percentage discount to be determined at parent central services during registration. Special requests for coaches and players cannot be honored. There will be a parents meeting Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. in Bldg. 2800, the youth center. To register, visit parent central services or use Webtrac. For costs, age groups and more information, call 255-9638 or 255-2254.

START SMART BASEBALL REGISTRATION

Registration runs Feb. 1-28 for the National Alliance for Youth Sports and Fort Rucker Youth Sports Start Smart Baseball program. Start Smart is a six-session instructional program that helps children learn the basics of baseball: throwing, catching, batting, and running and agility. The program helps prepare children for organized baseball using safe and fun equipment to teach them the basic motor skills. Open to children ages 3-4 years. Requires 100-percent parent participation. The program will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays for three weeks beginning March 5 from 5-5:45 p.m. at Youth Center Baseball Field 3. Cost is \$25 per participant and includes a T-shirt. A parents meeting is Feb. 28 at 5 p.m. at the youth center gym, Bldg. 2800. People can register at parent central services or through Webtrac.

For more information, call 255-9638.

VALENTINE'S UNLIMITED BOWLING

What's better than a date night? A date night where you save a couple bucks. Feb. 9 from 8-11 p.m. Rucker Lanes will offer unlimited bowling where people can bowl as many rounds as they'd like for \$8 per person. Shoe rental is included. For more information, call 255-9503.

SKETCHING AT THE LIBRARY

The Center Library invites sketching artists of all levels to come out Feb. 9 from 2-3:30 p.m. for this free event designed to help them wind down from their week. All people need to bring is their enthusiasm for art. This event is Exceptional Family Member Program friendly and is open to authorized patrons. For more information, visit the library or call 255-3885.

FUN RUN, RESILIENCY FAIR

The Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center will host the Fort Rucker Fun Run and Resiliency Fair Feb. 9 at 9 a.m. This free event offers a 5K fun run and 10K bike ride along with fun activities for the entire family. Participants can run or walk, or just stop by to visit the numerous resiliency fair booths. The event promotes resiliency for the Fort Rucker community, and will showcase information to improve physical, mental, spiritual and social well-being. The event is open to the public. For additional information, call 255-2296. People can pre-register at either the Fortenberry-Colton PFC or MWR Central.

USBC CITY TOURNAMENT

Rucker Lanes will host the U.S. Bowling

Congress City Tournament for Southeast Alabama USBC Feb. 10. Lanes will be limited during this event. People wanting to bowl that day should call ahead to ensure open lanes are available. For more information, call 255-9503.

VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFT

The Center Library will host a Valentine's Day Craft activity Feb. 12 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for children ages 3-11. Space is limited to the first 40 children to register. Call 255-3885 for more information or to register.

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER

Grab dinner before the Dueling Pianos show! The Landing Zone will be hosting a Valentine's Day Dinner Feb. 14 from 5-8 p.m. This three-course dinner offers your choice of appetizer, two entrees and dessert. Enjoy this meal for two for \$45. Reservations are highly recommended. For more information or to reserve your seat, call 255-0767 or 255-0769.

DUELING PIANOS

The Dueling Pianos show is back at Fort Rucker Feb. 14 from 7-10 p.m. at The Landing Ballroom. The event is billed as a high-energy, all-request, sing-along, clap-along, rock n' roll, comedy piano show where you and your friends are just as much a part of the show as the entertainers. Make sure to purchase your VIP tables or advance online tickets by Feb. 12. A limited number of tickets may be available at the door while supplies last. This event is open to the public, ages 18 and over, with a 100-percent ID check at the door. For more information, call 255-1749 or 255-0767. General admission tickets start at

\$10. Seating is located on the upper levels from the main floor. Reserved seating is not available for general admission. Four-person VIP tables cost \$60 – price of VIP table includes premium upper-level reserved seating, one bottle of chilled champagne and dessert cheese platter. Ten-person VIP tables cost \$150 – price of VIP table includes premium lower-level reserved seating, two bottles of chilled champagne and dessert cheese platter. People can purchase tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dueling-pianos-at-the-landing-tickets-54170178462>.

RAISING RESILIENT CHILDREN IN THE MILITARY

The Fort Rucker New Parent Support Program will be partnering with Parent to Parent to offer the Raising Resilient Children in the Military Workshop - Part 1 Feb. 14 at the Center Library and March 21 for Part 2 at The Commons from 10-11 a.m. Free childcare with pre-registration by Feb. 7 is available by calling 255-3564. For more information, call 255-3359.

EMPLOYMENT READINESS PROGRAM WORKSHOP

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the Feb. 14 Employment Readiness Program Workshop from 9-11:30 a.m. at Bldg. 5700. Patrons will meet in Rm. 350 at 8:45 a.m. for paperwork and attendance prior to the session. People will get the essentials about how to conduct a successful job campaign, to include crafting a winning resume, prepping for job interviews and other helpful tips. Advance registration is required. For more information and to reserve a seat, call 255-2594.



NEWS IN BRIEF

AUDIE MURPHY ASSOCIATION INDUCTION

Fort Rucker will conduct a Sergeant Audie Murphy Association Induction Ceremony Feb. 22 at 3 p.m. at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

All are welcome to attend and honor the newest members of the association.

TAX CENTER OPENS

The Fort Rucker Tax Center is open Mondays-Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Bldg. 5700, Rm. 371F to provide professional-level federal and state preparation and filing services for no fee to active duty and retired military.

People need to make an appointment to receive the service and can do so by visiting the center or calling 255-2937 or 255-2938.

The services are only available to active-duty military, retired military, medically

retired military or members of the reserve components on active orders and their family members. People need to bring their military ID card, Social Security cards, previous year's return and all documentation they think they might need to get their taxes done.

SUPPLY INVENTORY

Logistics Readiness Center, Supply Support Activity, Bldg. 1212, will conduct its wall-to-wall Inventory Feb. 11-15. All turn-ins must be in by 2 p.m. Feb. 7. Normal operations will discontinue at 4:15 p.m. Feb. 8. Normal operations are expected to resume Feb. 19. Customers will be notified by the accountable officer. During this period, the SSA will only accept emergency requisitions. For more information, call 255-9405.



PHOTO BY JIM HUGHES

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Sgt. Christopher Green, 164th TAOG paralegal, interviews Corine Crayton, an Opp resident who assisted civil rights activists Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Ralph Abernathy, at the Fort Rucker Black History kickoff event Feb. 1 at the AAFES food court. Upcoming events for the month include a free book reading for children Feb. 15 at 10:15 a.m. at the Center Library and a luncheon featuring guest speaker Dr. Irma Townsend Feb. 26 at 11:30 a.m. at The Landing. Luncheon tickets cost \$12 and are available from unit equal opportunity advisers, or by calling 255-9950 or 255-3178.

ARMY FLIER

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