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(U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY CAPT. KEITH KRAKER)

An AH-64 Apache assigned to 2-6th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade sits on the flight line while a shooting star falls in the sky on FARP 17, Pōhakuloa Training Area, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, April 13. AH-64 Apaches are an integral part of Lightning Strike, a division-led, joint live-fire exercise that is conducted under the direction of the multi-domain operations concept.

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ARMY AVIATION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ANNUAL SUMMIT 2019

Aviation Branch prioritizes initial training, leadership, innovation



PHOTOS BY KELLY MORRIS

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, USAACE and Fort Rucker commanding general, speaks about Aviation Branch priorities during the Army Aviation Association of America annual summit in Nashville, Tenn., April 15.

By Kelly P. Morris
USAACE Public Affairs

Army Aviation's top priority from a Fort Rucker perspective is resourcing the institution, according to Aviation's branch chief, Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler.

While increased Aviation capability remains a key priority as the Army modernizes, Gayler pointed to other areas for improvement that do not require spending additional money, as part of a branch update during the Army Aviation Association of America's annual summit at the Gaylord

Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville, Tennessee, April 15.

"We know we have to modernize. But we also can do a whole lot to fix ourselves," said Gayler, who commands the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker.

Gayler spoke about recent decisions the Army made to help increase the numbers of aircrew members the training center can provide to fielded units. To help "grow back capability" and increase the student throughput, Army placed a greater priority on aircraft available for training at Fort Rucker, as

well as increasing the priority for parts needed for training, according to Gayler.

"It's a bit of a vicious cycle. If you don't have enough, you fly more on the ones you do have. That means you put more into scheduled maintenance, which means you consume parts at a higher rate; and if you don't have the funding and the parts available and the priority to get the parts, you'll fall behind. Our senior leaders have made a clear decision and prioritization that we've got to resource the institution," Gayler said.

The institution is the starting point for combat aircrew members, he explained.

"Fort Rucker must be resourced to provide aircrew members to the field, so that they can be fine-tuned and honed into that combat capability," Gayler said.

Going forward, Gayler called for leaders to remain laser focused on driving innovation.

"First, you have to lead. And you can't lead unless you're competent. We've spent a whole lot of time regaining some warfighting capabilities and some competencies back at certain levels. Second, that any of us will do inside of a formation, is to improve. And the only way to improve, frankly, is to change. To

ARMY AVIATION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ANNUAL SUMMIT 2019



The chief warrant officer of the Aviation Branch, CW5 Joseph B. Roland, leads a panel session focused on the Aviation warrant officer readiness review during the Army Aviation Association of America annual summit in Nashville, Tenn., April 15.

test, experiment, find innovative ways to do things differently, so we lead and we change. We lead change,” he said.

Some key reforms are also under way as the branch also addresses years of under-accession, an increased attrition rate, a rapidly maturing warrant officer population, as well as competition from a commercial airline industry in need of pilots.

“We have to access more, but we have to retain more in order for that not to be a risk,” Gayler said.

Retention incentives include monetary bonuses for targeted groups, although Gayler believes there are better ways to address the issue.

“I think bonuses are a short-term fix for an acute problem, but we’ve got to start looking at other ways to keep folks in the Army,” he said.

Other potential incentives include boost-

ing flight pay, additional professional pay for Aviators who achieve significant milestones, such as becoming a pilot in command or instructor pilot, and increasing the active duty service obligation for new Aviators from six to eight years.

The federal service maximum for enlisted Soldiers has also been reduced down to eight years (from 12) to bring them into Aviation sooner to potentially increase their length of service in the branch.

The center is looking at the possibility in the future for some captains to remain at Fort Rucker as instructors and adjust their year group by two years so they are still competitive for promotion, to free up warrant officer talent to “fill holes in the field,” Gayler explained.

“The point is we have to start thinking differently about how we manage talent, and differently about how we increase exper-

tise and capability back in the formations,” Gayler said.

Gayler emphasized the center’s focus on producing aircrew members, (rather than pilots).

“That was one of the drivers for the Aviation Warfighting Initiative, to make warfighting skills critical –not technical knowledge, but combat knowledge,” he said.

To that effect, the USAACE has rewritten most of its doctrinal manuals.

“If we don’t start regaining collective warfighting skills, in 10 years there will be no intuition and no gut feeling of senior leaders because they’re not expert at it. You can’t have that ‘I sense that this is going to happen’ (gut feeling) if you haven’t trained it to such a level that you’re expert at it,” he said.

The center has also placed increased emphasis on ensuring flight school students understand the standard operating procedures,

FORT RUCKER MOVIE SCHEDULE

FOR APRIL 26 - MAY 9

Thursday, April 25

Captain Marvel (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Friday, April 26

Avengers: Endgame (PG-13) 3 & 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 27

Avengers: Endgame (PG-13) 3 & 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 28

Avengers: Endgame (PG-13) Noon & 4 p.m.

Thursday, May 2

Avengers: Endgame (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Friday, May 3

Avengers: Endgame (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 4

Wonder Park (PG) 4 p.m.

Shazam (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 5

Wonder Park (PG) 1 p.m.

Captive State (PG-13) 4 p.m.

Thursday, May 9

Wonder Park (PG) 7 p.m.

Friday, May 10

Us (R) 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 11

Wonder Park (PG) 4 p.m.

Us (R) 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 12

Wonder Park (PG) 1 p.m.

Captain Marvel (PG-13) 4 p.m.

Thursday, May 9

Wonder Park (PG) 7 p.m.

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The Aviation Branch command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Brian N. Hauke, provides an enlisted update during a working group session at the Army Aviation Association of America annual summit in Nashville, Tenn., April 15.

ARMY AVIATION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ANNUAL SUMMIT 2019

which included providing a battle book and SOP to lieutenants and warrant officers in flight school, and giving them an opportunity at Fort Rucker to plan, brief, rehearse, fly the mission in simulations and complete an after action review.

The goal is, once they get to their unit, “you’re able to teach them more and take them further in a quicker period of time,” Gayler said.

The center also plans to experiment with new virtual reality simulations training this summer to produce a better aviator faster.

“I want a better product with increased student throughput velocity at Fort Rucker to fill holes in the field. If we can meet that, we’re making progress,” Gayler said.

Another key priority for the branch is a

style of positive leadership that aims to impact a generation of new Soldiers coming into the Army who may not have ideas of staying in one career for more than a few years.

“You’ve got to motivate somebody to want to replace you,” Gayler said.

Gayler thanked leaders across the Aviation enterprise for their friendship and teamwork tackling issues facing the branch, as well as industry partners and the broader Army for the ability to participate in the summit annually.

“This is critical for us, this opportunity to have dialogue to see what is in the realm of the possible,” he said.

He emphasized the importance of support from family members at “an incredible time in our global history.”

“For every Soldier there’s a family member sitting at home, there are children, wives,

husbands, mothers, fathers that all worry about these Soldiers when they deploy. Thank you to the families for allowing your Soldiers to do our nation’s business,” Gayler said.

Gayler also commended the staff at USAACE.

“I don’t think people realize the USAACE has a staff about the size of a combat aviation brigade staff. And we’re flying six plus CABs’ worth of aircraft every single day,” Gayler said. “And frankly, they’re the finest staff I’ve ever seen in the world.”

During the event, the Aviation Branch command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Brian N. Hauke, conducted a special enlisted update working group session, and the chief warrant officer of the Aviation Branch, CW5 Joseph B. Roland, led a panel session focused on the Aviation warrant officer readiness review.



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'NO REGRETS'

DPW director's 'great run' at Fort Rucker comes to a close

By Jim Hughes
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

While cutting kudzu with a sling blade in the sweltering Alabama heat in 1968 as a summer hire on Fort Rucker, a Samson teenager set a goal for himself – he wanted to be the director of public works on post.

After graduating Samson High School in 1970 and Auburn University in 1974 as a distinguished military graduate, and then serving his country for 28 years in the Army, Ed Janasky accomplished that lifetime goal when, as a colonel, he spent his final assignment as a Soldier serving as Fort Rucker's director of engineering and logistics from 2002-04.

Upon retirement from the Army, Janasky hung up his uniform and transitioned directly into the director of public works position as an Army civilian, a position he held from 2004 until his upcoming retirement April 30.

While the shedding of the logistics mission was a big, albeit welcome, change, his moving from greens to civvies proved not such a big transition, he said.

"It was the same focus, really," Janasky said. "It really helped me in my transition because I was still able to support Soldiers and families. Even though I'd retired, I was able to make a difference for the Soldiers, families, civilians and contractors that work at Fort Rucker. That was a big plus – I didn't have to go cold turkey and quit this and go do something else."

Fort Rucker has been a mainstay in Janasky's life, dating back even before that summer cutting kudzu and grass across the post.

"My dad was in the military, and he passed away when I was 7," he said. "But we had ID cards, so we'd come to Rucker to go to the commissary, the PX (post exchange) and the hospital."

But he really got to know the post by cutting the grass that summer. "All grass cutting was done in house – there were no contracts, then," he said, adding that Army civilians and the summer hires teamed up to keep the grass at bay. "It was a great job for me, that summer. I got to know Fort Rucker very well because we got to travel all over the place – I knew where all the graveyards were."



Janasky on the job.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Besides his knowing where, literally, the bodies are buried on post, it'd be hard to find someone who knows more about Fort Rucker and its facilities because the Army, in between his summer hire days and taking over the DPW mission in 2002, sent him back to Fort Rucker from 1979-82 and again from 1987-90 with the 46th Engineering Battalion.

Janasky needed that knowledge, and more, to meet the myriad of challenges he would face when taking over the DPW mission.

"DPW was in the midst of a divorce when I got here," he said. "We'd gone from an in-house workforce to an outsourced one, based off contractors. We were reducing the number of people we had significantly. There were some upset people because they felt their jobs were threatened, but we were able, working as a team, to transition over and figure out, 'OK what is our job now?'"

"Other than that hammer sitting over there," he said, gesturing towards a hammer sitting on a cabinet in his office, "I don't know if we have a hammer or screwdriver in

DPW, because we manage contracts now. We used to do the work in house – that change had just taken place and there was a lot of tension.

"We were able to work through the issues and get to the point where we were able to continue to provide value added to the installation support tier as a team – all together," Janasky added. "That's probably by far the most important thing that I can see as an accomplishment – I had some good people, some good division chiefs, and we've been able to work together to solve problems. We had some people take early retirements, going home, and some of them converted over and stayed on to work here. But instead of working in shops, they ended up overseeing the contracts to make sure the work was done correctly. We have 60 positions now – we had hundreds before. It changes how you do business."

But his biggest challenge is one the Army has faced since its creation in 1775.

"The habit to adjust for the fact that resources continually go down while require-

DIRECTOR *cont.*

Janasky with members of his family.

ments seem to continually go up, so you have to balance that," he said. "It's probably one of the greatest challenges there is – to have to balance out my workforce so no one is RIF'd (reduction in force). At one point, I had 15 overhires working for me. Today, I have none. No one was RIF'd and we didn't have to send anyone home. We worked and adjusted to get people into positions where they can still be value added. That was a challenge."

While the list of Janasky's accomplishments as the director of DPW and an explanation of his impact at Fort Rucker and beyond could fill volumes, he feels it's more

about people.

"As I look back, I'm most proud of the people I've had the opportunity to work with," he said. "The great thing is the stability of my division chiefs – we have six divisions here. We've got a very experienced team. Their experience has been the difference between a good job and a great job. They manage their people, they appreciate their people and don't take them for granted, and they've been able to work together as a team to identify the best way to solve particular issues that come up within the regulations."

And that feeling is a two-way street, as

at his going away luncheon April 23, there was some talk about Janasky's impact on every facility on Fort Rucker and even other Army programs, but the main focus of all the speakers was his personal and professional impact on them.

Perhaps retired Lt. Col. Tewanna Marks, who worked for Janasky as the deputy director of public works a few years ago, summed it up best at the luncheon when she read what she had inscribed on a plaque she got him.

"Ordinary employees, like me, become extraordinary when they are trained by awesome bosses, like you," she said.

While the kind words and sentiments at his luncheon were music to his ears, Janasky said it is time to flip the page and begin a new chapter in his life – and he'll have plenty to keep him busy.

"I've got other things I need to do with my family – I have 13 grandkids and they want to go fishing, they want me to eat lunch with them at school," he said. "Some are in Miami, some are in Georgia and some are here."

"Fort Rucker is a great place to work, a great place to visit or play my job's fantastic, my people are great – it's none of that. It's just time to move on to another stage of my life. I'll do some yardwork and gardening, some honeydos for my wife, and all three of my daughters have lists – 'Come spend a week with us, dad!'"

And it's a sweet ending, he added.

"I'm very happy with it," he said, adding that he plans to continue to reside in the area in Samson. "I've had a great run. I love Fort Rucker. It's been a great part of my life. I'll be back over to visit, and come back to do different things. I've been blessed in many, many ways. I really have no regrets."



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ATSCOM Logistics best in FORSCOM in supply category



PHOTO BY JIM HUGHES

Jeanelle Joseph, ATSCOM logistics management specialist, Col. William B. Garber III, ATSCOM and 164th TAOG commander, and CW4 John Griner, director of logistics for ATSCOM, during the ATSCOM staff meeting where Joseph received the FORSCOM Supply Excellence Award April 2.

By Jim Hughes
Fort Rucker Public Affairs

Fort Rucker's Air Traffic Services Command earned bragging rights within U.S. Army Forces Command when it received the command's Supply Excellence Award recently.

ATSCOM's logistics staff, or S4, received the honors for outstanding property book operations, according to a letter signed by Lt. Gen. Laura J. Richardson, deputy commanding general of FORSCOM.

"The preparation and selection process was keen, and represents the culmination of hard work and dedication from all of the leaders and Soldiers in your unit," Richardson wrote. "This is an outstanding achievement by you, and is a testament of your

unyielding professionalism and highly successfully supply operations."

Col. William B. Garber III, ATSCOM and 164th Theater Airfield Operations Group commander, and Jeanelle Joseph, ATSCOM logistics management specialist, both received letters from Richardson congratulating them on the accomplishment.

Garber said he's pleased that his unit is setting the example within the command.

"I am always surprised at how many regulations there are that help you achieve excellence, but are difficult to follow in their entirety," Garber said. "And this particular unit has been able to do that. You've probably heard the expression that good units have SOPs, but great units actually use them. And this is a unit that has used its SOP and it shows with the result of this award. They

were able to show FORSCOM what right looks like.

"It's not the strongest area for most units," he continued. "When you can achieve success in areas like this, commanders and senior leaders don't have to focus down as much – they can focus up and out because they know that the basics are being done correctly. We don't have to micromanage – we ask, 'How can I help you do it better?'"

Joseph, who also received a certificate of achievement from Maj. Gen. Kurt J. Ryan, deputy chief of staff G4, logistics, at FORSCOM, said she was excited about earning the award, which she previously helped the unit win in 2013, as well.

"I kind of forgot how it felt the first time around – I forgot how exciting it is for the whole command," she said, adding that the S4 hadn't competed after winning in 2013 until the 2018 competition. "We're a small team – really small – but we work really well together. It was fun – a lot of work, but it was fun. It feels good – hopefully I can motivate other people to compete and try to be the best."

She said that she feels she's successful because she likes to involve her co-workers and she doesn't procrastinate.

"If I have something I have to do, I do it – even something as simple as putting a file away. If you wait and wait and wait, and don't do your job like you're supposed to and you wait until the last minute, it becomes too hard," she said. "Success to me is doing what needs to be done and doing it when it needs to be done. Do it right the first time so you don't have to do it again.

"And working well with others," she added. "Everyone has their own skills and abilities, and by trying to do something by yourself and not including others, you actu-

ally hurt yourself. Maybe they have a point of view you could use to help you more than if you just went at it by yourself. Sometimes different points of view actually help. That's what we do here – everyone here participates."

Her supervisor, CW4 John Griner, director of logistics for ATSCOM, agrees that teamwork is key to the unit's success.

"It's great to be in an organization where you give people just a little bit of guidance and direction, and then they take what you gave them and run with it and succeed –nothing ever fails," he said. "This is an organizational award –she's just the key and integral part for that particular category."

Having Joseph on the team allows the S4 to take it to the next level, he added.

"She's always determined to be successful," Griner said. "She's a great person to supervise. I give her a small task and she turns it into something tremendous, even the smallest thing – that's her character. You don't have to tell her twice."

Joseph said the plan is to not wait five more years to earn the honor again.

"We'll be going for it again this year," she said. "We'd like to repeat."

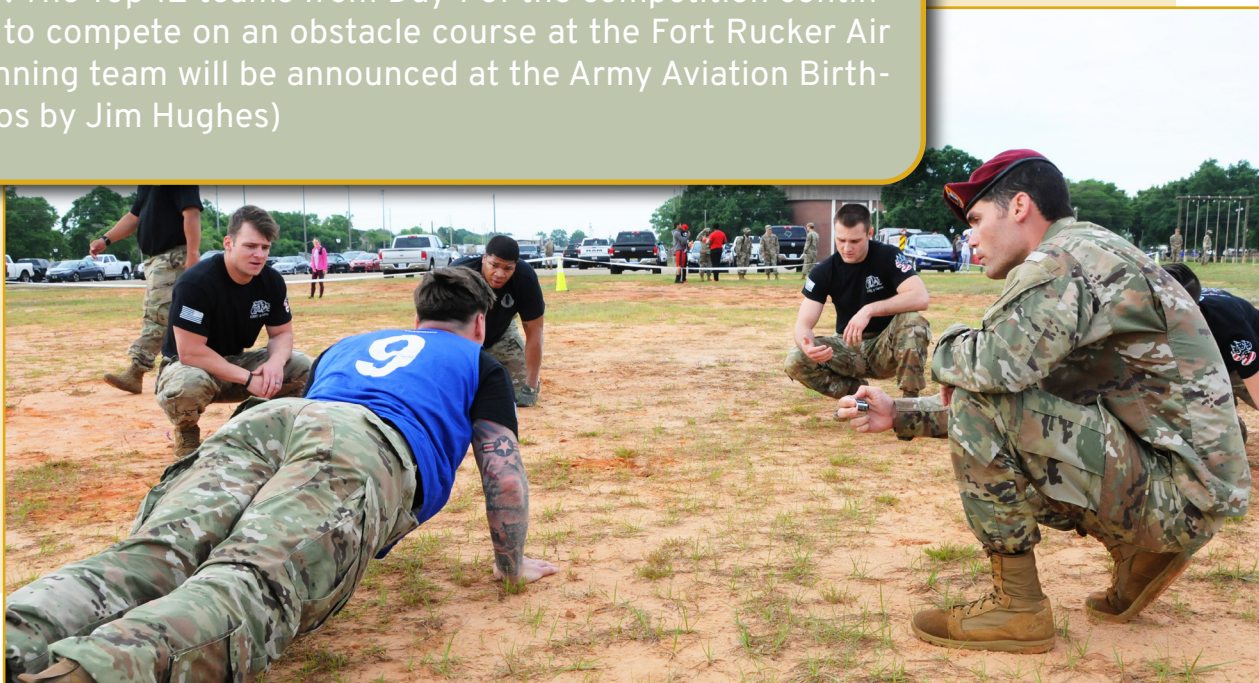
And Garber thinks they have a good shot at it.

"I actually use them (as an example for) other units within the brigade," the colonel said. "I have them come through and tour the maintenance facility, and just absorb the culture that exists over there. Even if you don't know the technical aspects of what they do, one walk-through of that facility leaves you with a sense of a culture that says, 'This is what right looks like.' It's hard to put in words, but you'll walk out and say, 'OK, I see why we do things correctly.'"



COMMANDING GENERAL'S COMMANDER'S CUP CHALLENGE TO BE THE BEST ABOVE THE BEST

Soldiers competed in five-person teams from units throughout Fort Rucker April 17-18 in the 2019 Commanding General's Commander's Cup Challenge. The teams competed April 17 in a swim event at the indoor pool in the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center. The Top 12 teams from Day 1 of the competition continued on to the next day to compete on an obstacle course at the Fort Rucker Air Assault Course. The winning team will be announced at the Army Aviation Birthday Ball April 27. (Photos by Jim Hughes)



ROTORS

Spouses tackle Fort Rucker training

By Kelly Morris
USACE Public Affairs

More than 30 spouses got a taste of what their Soldiers do every day when they participated in a special series of events on Fort Rucker designed just for them April 3.

Realistic Opportunity Training and Orientation of Rucker Spouses included a series of Army training activities that put them through the rigor of flying in the simulators at Victory Hall, completing team-building events at the Leaders Reaction Course, firing weapons in the Engagement Skills Trainer, and learning survival skills with the help of Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape instructors.

Event host Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker commanding general, said families are key to the Army's success.

"We have the finest Soldiers in the world and the greatest families in the world. We cannot do what we do without your support, and we do know also that as much as we love what we do, we can only do it as long as our family loves it. So, thank you," Gayler said to participants.

With the spouses divided into four teams, each with its own team name and motto, the

event allowed a spirit of competition among the groups, as well as an opportunity to experience training.

"The goal was to create some realistic training for spouses to get them an idea of what their Soldier goes through in training here at Fort Rucker, and to see what's going on all day. That's why we picked four fairly diverse events," said Capt. Ermine Todd, assistant operations officer for the 1-13th Aviation Regiment.

The survival training event, which seemed to be a fan favorite, involved learning basic survival skills including how to build a fire using various tools, and natural and manmade materials; how to tie knots; and how to make a shelter and stay warm in the woods.

"We have some really beautiful training areas at Fort Rucker," Todd said. "They get to come experience it and build some actual skills. I think it's a great experience for the ones that participate."

According to Todd, multiple entities across the installation came together to make the event a success-- the Noncommissioned Officer Academy, SERE school, 110th Aviation Brigade, the Directorate of Simulation and various others, including support from Fort Rucker Child and Youth Services.



PHOTOS BY KELLY MORRIS

Fort Rucker spouses test their survival skills by trying their hand at building a fire after an instructional session during Realistic Opportunity Training and Orientation of Rucker Spouses (ROTORS) Day April 3.

"The CYS supported us by providing some extended coverage for their child care. That was helpful to make sure they would have providers in the morning and afternoon, because usually they would be closed by the time this was done. That was definitely key," Todd said.

Part of the planned concurrent training included learning the "Army Song" and the "Army Aviation Song," which they were ready to sing at the event's graduation ceremony at the end of the day.

According to Michele Gayler, the event forged new friendships and a better understanding of Fort Rucker Soldiers.

"I love that it is something that exposes our spouses to what our Soldiers go through, and it helps bring them closer together, I

think, in the long run. It's a great experience. It brings together a whole group of spouses who would not have normally gotten to hang out or know each other," she said.

As a seasoned spouse, Pam McKay said she encourages others to participate alongside her in these events, and shared some advice for young spouses.

"You need to really get involved, you need to find out what they do for a living, what's their title, what's their (Military Occupational Specialty). Don't stay in the shade, in the dark, get out there and be with your spouse, go do stuff with him, go to these military training (events), learn everything you can learn," McKay said.

As for who got the most out of the event, it was a toss-up between participants and the

ROTORS *cont.*

staff, according to Gayler.

"Walking around and watching some of what you were doing, you could see they en-

joyed every bit of it. They were rooting right along with you and taking photos, having a blast. I'm glad it was fun for them as well," Gayler said.



Fort Rucker spouses work as a team to complete a challenge at the Leaders Reaction Course as part of Realistic Opportunity Training and Orientation of Rucker Spouses Day April 3.

**Breakfast served ALL DAY
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FROM DFMWR



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

PARENT DATE NIGHT

Fort Rucker parents are welcome to make plans now to drop their children with for Parent Date Night April 27 from 5 p.m. to midnight as the school age center and the child development center will take care of the babysitting. Register your children at either the school age center or the CDC, as both will be offering the Parent Date Night. The cost is \$5 per hour and must be prepaid and registered at the attending facility – no refunds. For additional information and to make a reservation, call the school age center at 255-9108 or the CDC at 255-2262.

YOUTH FISHING TOURNAMENT

Outdoor recreation will host a youth fishing tournament April 27 from 7- 11 a.m. at Parcours Lake. Entry Fee is \$15. This event is open to the public for youth ages 3-15. Live bait is permitted, but no minnows. Prizes will be awarded. Bait, snacks and a few fishing gear items will be available for purchase the morning of the event. Please bring cash for purchases. Register at ODR or MWR Central. For more information or to register, call ODR at 255-4305 or MWR Central at 255-2997.

LIFEGUARD COURSE

The lifeguard course scheduled for May 3-5 is open to patrons ages 15 and up and costs \$125 for military ID card holders and \$150 for the general public. Prerequisite on first day must be passed to enter the course. You may register at the front desk of the Fort Rucker Physical Fitness Center. The cut-off for registration is three days prior to the course start date. Candidates who take the training program are also eligible for employment with Fort Rucker DFMWR.

For more information, call 255-2296.

ATV, DIRT BIKE TRAIL RIDE

Hit the trails at ODR's ATV and Dirt Bike Trail Ride May 4 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pre-registration for this event is required. Cost is \$20. Drivers must pass the Safety Driving Test through ODR before participating. Participants must provide their own ATV or dirt bike, and also provide their own protective gear including helmets, boots, etc., that must be worn at all times. The event is open to the public, ages 16 and up. For more information, call 255-4305 or 255-2997.

STORYWALK

As part of the Army STRONG B.A.N.D.S. program and Children's Book Week, the Center Library is partnering with the fitness center to host StoryWalk. StoryWalk is an innovative and delightful way for children – and adults – to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time. Laminated pages from a children's book are attached to wooden stakes, which are installed along an outdoor path. As you stroll down the trail, you're directed to the next page in the story. StoryWalk was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont, and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg Hubbard Library. StoryWalk is a registered service mark owned by Ferguson. The event will take place May 4 from 9-11 a.m. along the Beaver Lake Trail. The event is open to authorized patrons and EFMP friendly. For more information, call 255-3885.

TAIL WAGGIN' TUTORS

Does your child struggle with reading? The Center Library can help with its next

Tail Waggin' Tutors program scheduled for May 4 from 2-3 p.m. where children can read to a furry, non-judgmental friend. The registered therapy dogs provide a safe space for children to practice and improve their reading skills. Children who can read on their own can sign up, as well. Space is limited to the first 15 registrants. For more information or to register, call 255-3885.

MILITARY SPOUSE APPRECIATION GROUP FITNESS

Since 1984, the Friday before Mother's Day has been designated as Military Spouse Appreciation Day. Fort Rucker's PFCs are offering military spouses a free group fitness class of their choice May 6-11. For more information, call 255-3794 or 255-2296.

MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT

Children ages 3-11 are invited to the Center Library for a Mother's Day craft May 7 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited to the first 35 children registered. Open to authorized patrons and EFMP friendly. For more information or to register, call 255-3885.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Fort Rucker Parent Advisory Council meetings give parents the opportunity to provide input about administrative policies and developmental programming for CYS Services and establish volunteer opportunities. PAC meetings are held quarterly from 5-6 p.m., with the next being May 7 at the youth center, Bldg. 2800. For more information, call 255-9638 or 255-0621.

SPOUSE SURVIVAL 101

Want to learn more about life at Fort Rucker? Interested in making new friends?

Then come and join Army Family Team Building for a fun, interactive day of learning. Topics will include acronyms, Army customs and courtesies, military rank, community resources and more. This workshop will be held May 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at The Landing. Free lunch and childcare will be provided. Registration deadline is May 6. For registration and childcare information, call 255-1429 or 255-9888.

WWII INFORMATION EVENT: TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

The Center Library invites everyone to the WWII informational event, "Tuskegee Airmen" May 9 at noon in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. Come hear about the significant contributions that were made by these airmen and how they changed history. This free event will be led by CW5 Christopher Braund. Open to the public and EFMP friendly. For more information, call 255-3885.

EMPLOYMENT READINESS PROGRAM WORKSHOP

The next scheduled employment readiness program workshop is scheduled for May 9 from 9-11:30 a.m. at Bldg. 5700. Patrons will meet in Suite 350 at 8:45 a.m. for paperwork and attendance prior to the session. You'll 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.

RAPID FIRE LUNCH SPECIALS

Enjoy the following Rapid Fire Lunch Specials at The Landing Zone Grille & Bar during April. All specials are \$10 and include a drink. Available from 11 a.m. to 2

DFMWR CONT.

p.m. while supplies last.

Monday: roast pork, mashed potatoes and broccoli.

Tuesday: fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, and green beans.

Wednesday: meatloaf, mashed potatoes and corn.

Thursday: roast beef, rice and field peas.

Friday: catfish, cheese grits, and fried okra.

INTERNATIONAL SOCCER CAMP REGISTRATION

Fort Rucker Youth Sports is partnering with Challenger Sports to host an international soccer camp. The program helps prepare children for soccer using safe and fun equipment to teach them the basic motor skills. Early bird registration runs now through April 27 and participants will receive a soccer jersey, camp shirt, ball and an evaluation form. After April 27, participants will receive a camp shirt, ball and an evaluation form. The camp is open to children ages 3-16.

Camp dates are May 28-31 with cost and start times dependent on participants' age: ages 3-4, \$77, 9-10 a.m.; ages 5-6, \$85, 10:30 a.m. to noon; ages 7-16, half-day camp, \$118, 9 a.m. to noon; and ages 8-16, full-day camp, \$165, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Participants need to bring sunscreen and a snack. Sports clothing with soccer cleats and shin guards are required attire. A lunch break will be provided for the full-day camp. Those participating in the full-day camp are asked to bring their own lunch. All youth must be registered with child and youth services and have a current sports physical to participate. Registration is required by May 17. People can register at parent central services or by using Webtrac. For more information, call 255-9638 or 255-2254.

CHANGES OF COMMAND

1-145TH AVIATION REGIMENT

Lt. Col. Donald Kirk accepts the 1-145th Avn. Regt. colors from Col. Jason Miller, 1st Avn. Bde. commander, during the change of command ceremony where he assumed command of the unit from Lt. Col. Kent MacGregor April 10 at Howze Field. Kirk comes to Fort Rucker after an assignment as a professor of military science at West Virginia University in Morgantown, W.V.



PHOTO BY HOLLY STERLING



PHOTO BY IIM HUGHES

1-58TH AVIATION REGIMENT AIRFIELD OPERATIONS

Lt. Col. Keith A. Haskin accepts the 1st Battalion, 58th Aviation Regiment (Airfield Operations) colors from Col. William B. Garber III, 164th Theater Airfield Operations Group and Air Traffic Services Command commander, as he assumes command from Lt. Col. Beau W. Tibbitts during a ceremony April 18 at the U.S. Army Aviation Museum on Fort Rucker.

NEWS IN BRIEF

RETIREMENT CEREMONY

Fort Rucker will host its quarterly retirement ceremony April 26 at 2 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. All are invited to attend honor the service of Fort Rucker's latest retirees.

CWOB CHANGE OF CHARTER

Fort Rucker will host a change of charter ceremony for the chief warrant officer of the Aviation Branch May 3 at 1:30 p.m. in the U.S. Army Aviation Museum.

PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Fort Rucker Religious Support Office hosts the National Prayer Breakfast May 2 from 6:30-8 a.m. at The Landing. Retired Chaplain (Col.) Alvin M. "Sonny" Moore will be the guest speaker for the event. Admission is free, but people must acquire a ticket to attend. Tickets are available at the

RSO, or from unit representatives or unit chaplains. The deadline for obtaining tickets for the event is April 25. For more information, call 255-2989 or 255-2012.

ASIAN-PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE KICKOFF

Fort Rucker will host its Asian-Pacific Islander Heritage Month kickoff event May 3 at 11:30 a.m. at the post exchange food court. All are welcome to take part in the food tasting, entertainment and educational materials.

RETIREE COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Fort Rucker Installation Retiree Council meets the first Thursday of each month in The Landing at 11:30 a.m. The meeting is an open forum and all retirees are invited to attend. Retirees are also encouraged to apply for open positions on the council. For more information, call 255-9124.



PHOTO BY JIM HUGHES

HONORING SACRIFICE

Former members of the 114th Aviation Company "Knights of the Air" unveil the monument honoring the service and sacrifices of the unit's members during the Vietnam War at a ceremony April 11 at Veterans Park on Fort Rucker. The company was based at Vinh Long Air Field, Republic of South Vietnam, from May 1963 to February 1972. During its nine years in Vietnam, the company participated in 16 combat campaigns and earned eight unit citations, and also was assigned to the 1st Aviation Brigade in 1966. After departing the Republic of South Vietnam in February 1972, the 114th Aviation Company was assigned to the Panama Canal Zone. The 114th was deactivated at Fort Clayton, Panama Canal Zone, in October 1987.

ARMY FLIER

COMMAND

Maj. Gen. William K. Gayler
Fort Rucker Commanding General

Col. Brian E. Walsh
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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